



# DIRECTION *for* OUR TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LAY APOSTLES OF JESUS CHRIST THE RETURNING KING

## Jesus, The Good Shepherd

*By Anne, A lay apostle*

*October 30, 2006*

In the church where I often pray, there is a large stained glass window above the altar on the back wall. In it is Jesus as the good shepherd. My eyes often rest on this beautiful image.

On His shoulder Jesus carries a lamb. The lamb is right up against the Lord's head, with his little face resting against the face of Jesus. The lamb fits perfectly into the shoulder and neck of the Shepherd. The lamb looks safe and comfortable and the large steady hand of the Shepherd can be seen holding the lamb securely.

I often reflect on this.

Surely the lamb was dirty and soiled, given that he was plucked from a field where he had gotten lost. Also, when a lamb is lifted from one place and taken to another, the lamb sometimes reacts badly and struggles or fights. This could result in injury to the shepherd, even unintentional injury because the animal, in its ignorance and fear, might not understand that the shepherd seeks to rescue and protect. Given the risk of injury, it would be understandable if the shepherd held the animal away from himself.

Does Jesus, the Good Shepherd, hold us away from Himself?

No. The image has accurately captured the feelings Jesus has for each one of us. Jesus pulls us in, close against Himself, even though in doing so the Lord risks injury. Isn't it true that we often wound Jesus? We wound Him intentionally, through sin, and unintentionally, through neglect and mistrust.

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JANUARY 2007

ISSUE 3

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### SPECIAL INSERT:

*Heaven Speaks to Consecrated Souls*



*Dedicated to  
Mary, Queen  
of Apostles*



# News of the Mission

Steve Logan, DFOT Vice President and Treasurer

*The mission of Direction For Our Times continues to expand throughout the world. We have also heard from the following countries, to list a few, either through book orders or bookstore inquiries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Great Britain, India, Luxembourg, Mexico, Poland. Late Summer and Fall 2006 saw a measurable increase in activities throughout the U.S., Europe and the Philippines.*

## News from DFOT/U.S.:

- Spanish translations of the Volumes and *Heaven Speaks* booklets are now completed and printed. The Spanish translation of *Climbing The Mountain* is nearing completion.
- French and Polish translations of the Volumes are in process.
- A Mission Information Packet as well as other evangelization tools are now available online on our web site [www.directionforourtimes.com](http://www.directionforourtimes.com)
- A new online prayer group registration form has been added to the website [www.directionforourtimes.com/PrayerGroup.html](http://www.directionforourtimes.com/PrayerGroup.html)
- All ten *Heaven Speaks* eBooks now completed and viewable online [www.directionforourtimes.com/onlinelibrary.html](http://www.directionforourtimes.com/onlinelibrary.html)

Anne's talks this past Summer and Fall included Covington, LA, Dallas, Detroit, New Orleans, San Antonio, Steubenville, OH, and Washington, DC. Events planned in 2007 include Clearwater, FL, Los Angeles, Louisville, KY, and Tinley Park, IL.

- Anne and Father Darragh Connolly spoke at Franciscan University of Steubenville in October.

## News From The Philippines

Anne visited the Philippines in November, 2006, speaking in Manila and Iloilo. Celebrating the Mass at the Eucharistic Day of Renewal in Manila was Cardinal Gaudencio Rosales, accompanied by diocesan and visiting priests. Attendance was estimated at three thousand. Almost a year earlier, the Cardinal (then Archbishop) had headed a group of 51 Filipinos who were among the first in the country to take the pledge of allegiance as lay apostles of Jesus Christ, the Returning King.

## News From Europe

DFOT has opened a European office in Ireland. Anne's local bishop, the Most Reverend Leo

O'Reilly, has assigned a priest from his diocese to serve full-time as Spiritual Director for DFOT. Fr. Darragh Connolly assumed his duties in late-summer this year. Among the first activities of the new office: Ireland's first Eucharistic Day of Renewal was held in early November, with an estimated 1000 persons in attendance.

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Without in any way seeking to anticipate the final and definitive judgment of the local bishop and of the Holy See (to which we owe our filial obedience of mind and heart), I wish to manifest my personal discernment concerning the nature of the messages received by "Anne," a Lay Apostle.

After an examination of the reported messages and an interview with the visionary herself, I personally believe that the messages received by "Anne" are of supernatural origin.

The message contents are in conformity with the faith and morals teachings of the Catholic Church's Magisterium and in no way violate orthodox Catholic doctrine. The phenomena of the precise manner of how the messages are transmitted (i.e., the locations and visions) are consistent with the Church's historical precedence for authentic private revelation. The spiritual fruits (cf. Mt. 12:33) of Christian faith, conversion, love, and interior peace, based particularly upon a renewed awareness of the indwelling Christ and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, have been significantly manifested in various parts of the world within a relatively brief time since the messages have been received and promulgated. Hence the principal criteria used by ecclesiastical commissions to investigate reported supernatural events (message, phenomena, and spiritual fruits) are, in my opinion, substantially satisfied in the case of "Anne's" experience.

The messages which speak of the coming of Jesus Christ, the "Returning King" do not refer to an imminent end of the world with Christ's final physical coming, but rather call for a spiritual receptivity to an ongoing spiritual return of Jesus Christ, a dynamic advent of Jesus which ushers in a time of extraordinary grace and peace for humanity (in ways similar to the Fatima promise for an eventual era of peace as a result of the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, or perhaps the "new springtime" for the Church referred to by the words of the great John Paul II).

As "Anne" has received permission from her local ordinary, Bishop Leo O'Reilly, for the spreading of her messages, and has also submitted all her writings to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, I would personally encourage, (as the Church herself permits), the prayerful reading of these messages, as they have constituted an authentic spiritual benefit for a significant number of Catholic leaders throughout the world.

Dr. Mark Miravalle  
Professor of Theology and Mariology  
Franciscan University of Steubenville  
October 13, 2006

# Eucharistic Day of Renewal in Tinley Park, 2/10/07

## Ten New Booklets Available that Day:

HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE CONSIDERING SUICIDE  
HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES  
HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE WHO ARE AWAY FROM THE FAITH  
HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE WHO ARE DYING  
HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW JESUS  
HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE TRAGEDY  
HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE WHO FEAR PURGATORY  
HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE REJECTED GOD  
HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE WHO STRUGGLE TO FORGIVE  
HEAVEN SPEAKS TO THOSE WORRYING ABOUT THE SALVATION  
OF THEIR CHILDREN

The last time Anne brought her message of the Volumes to the Chicago area (Tinley Park, IL), she addressed a large assemblage of approximately 2000 people. That was in the Spring of 2005. She has just announced that she will be speaking again in Tinley Park, during a Eucharistic Day of Renewal on February 10, 2007.

This time, with interest in the Volumes and other messages spreading rapidly month after month, the audience is anticipated to be significantly larger. In addition to other speakers, there will be a Mass and a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration. Music will be provided by Mark Forrest, international Irish tenor.

Anne has indicated that, in obedience to Heaven, her February trip will be her last U.S. visits for some time to come.

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### Event Details:

**What:** Eucharist Day of Renewal  
**When:** February 10, 2007  
**Where:** Select Holiday Inn Convention Center  
18501 S. Harlem Avenue  
Tinley Park, IL 60477  
(708) 444-1100  
**Fee:** None (no tickets required)

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### Pre-Registration Recommended and Requested

Due to the anticipated high level of interest, it is recommended that attendees register online in advance. DFOT has posted an Online Registration Form at [www.directionforourtimes.com/tinleypark.html](http://www.directionforourtimes.com/tinleypark.html).

The Convention Center is location next to the Select Holiday Inn. A limited number of discounted room rates are available. Just mention the "Eucharistic Day of Renewal sponsored by *Direction For Our Times*" when you call. Other nearby hotels and driving directions are also listed on the registration page.

# Litany of Humility

Rafael Cardinal Merry del Val (1865-1930)

*O Jesus, meek and humble of heart, Hear me.*

*From the desire of being esteemed,*

***Deliver me, Jesus***

*From the desire of being loved...*

*From the desire of being extolled ...*

*From the desire of being honored ...*

*From the desire of being praised ...*

*From the desire of being preferred to others...*

*From the desire of being consulted ...*

*From the desire of being approved ...*

*From the fear of being humiliated ...*

*From the fear of being despised...*

*From the fear of suffering rebukes ...*

*From the fear of being calumniated ...*

*From the fear of being forgotten ...*

*From the fear of being ridiculed ...*

*From the fear of being wronged ...*

*From the fear of being suspected ...*

*That others may be loved more than I,*

***Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.***

*That others may be esteemed more than I ...*

*That, in the opinion of the world,*

*others may increase and I may decrease ...*

*That others may be chosen and I set aside ...*

*That others may be praised and I unnoticed ...*

*That others may be preferred to me in everything...*

*That others may become holier than I,*

*provided that I may become as holy  
as I should...*

Anne and all lay apostles at DFOT recite this  
litany daily.

# Focus: Volume Four

Fr. John Murphy



This Volume of *Direction For Our Times As given to "Anne," a Lay Apostle* is divided into three parts.

In Part One, God the Father speaks to His children; Part Two is entitled *Heaven Speaks to Priests*, and Part Three is entitled *Jesus Speaks to Sinners*. These directions are dated from January 8, 2004 to February 22, 2004. The format will be familiar to readers of the previous Volumes. The Volume opens with an account of Anne's life, her spiritual journey to date, and the introduction concludes with a message from Jesus following the writing of the biographical information.

The first part of this Volume emphasizes Jesus Who will return as King. Because Jesus will return, an urgent decision must be made whether to serve the light or continue in the darkness. We are invited to look towards the light. We are called to participate in the joyous process of making God's Kingdom come. We are to ask God the Father for all that we need so that we see clearly that we are dependent. God is always with us in our struggles against the false gods of materialism and sensuality. We are placed in the world where we are so that Jesus can be brought where He needs to go. He calls us to make the necessary changes in our souls so that He can flow through us in an uninhibited way. This section concludes with Jesus asking us to thank Him for choosing us to serve. He has chosen the exact place to use us in His Kingdom.

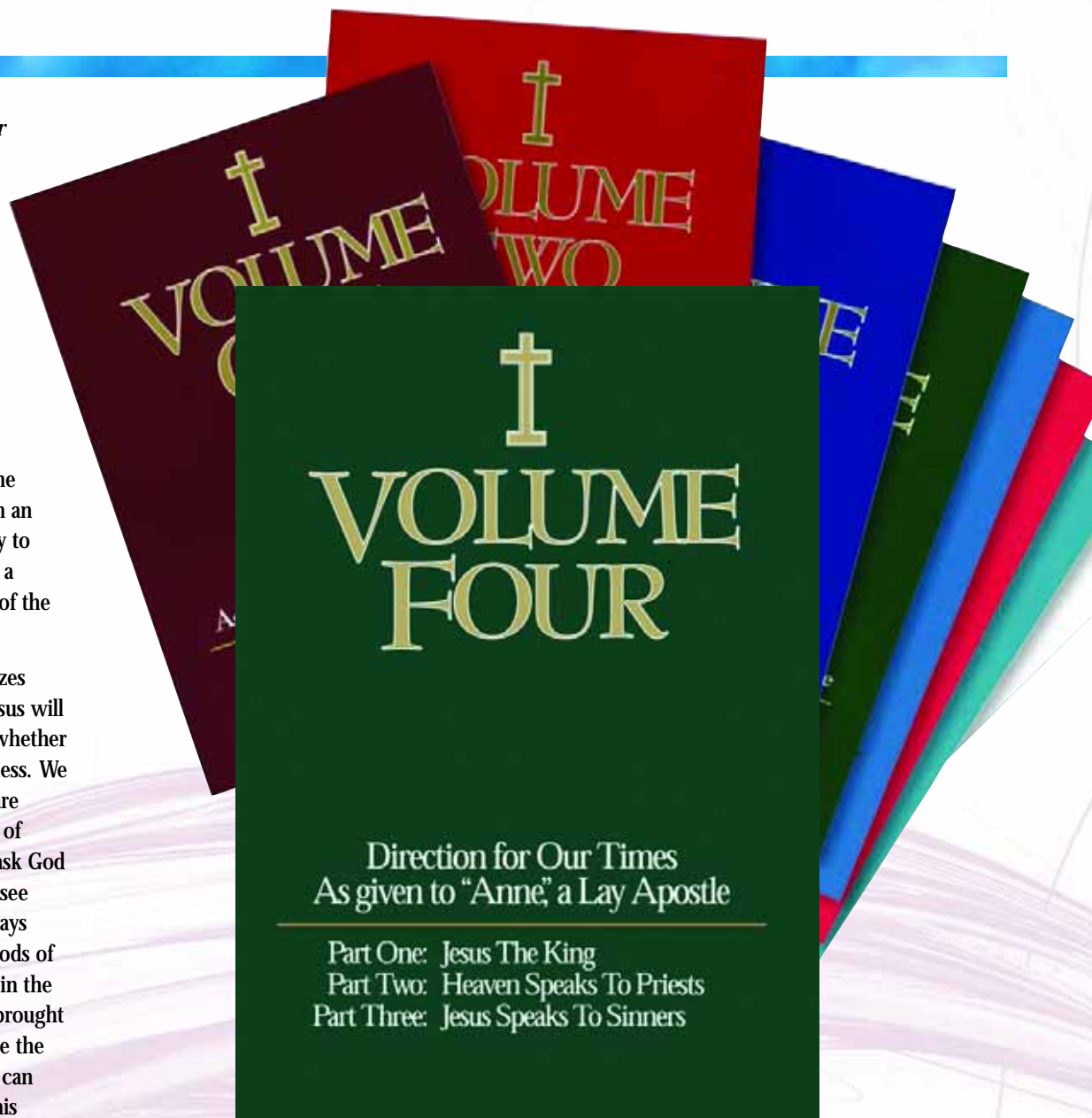
In Part Two, *Heaven Speaks to Priests*, Heaven is the abode of God, the angels and the saints. Jesus calls priests His brothers in the priesthood and does so with love and understanding. Through the priest, He leads the sheep back to the fold. If the priest is not open to divine grace then some will be left without divine sustenance. Priests should be particularly diligent about being available for the Sacrament of Penance. They should not fear to speak the

truth, for they speak with the authority of Jesus. Jesus works decisively through the priest if he is called to so work. A priest's first priority is his relationship to Jesus, so Jesus asks for a commitment to love him. Those who defended Jesus the King in His absence will receive an unimaginable reward. This section concludes, "I prepare your reward. Serve, My son. Serve."

In Part Three of the Volume, *Jesus Speaks to Sinners*. The sinner is described as "a dear soul of the Kingdom." This dearest soul belongs to Jesus Who is waiting to love. The soul unfortunately

can decide to reside in hell. However, forgiveness is always offered. Jesus comes to lead us out of the darkness. He always wants us back. He never stops hoping that we will look at Him. He continues to knock at the door of the heart. The result of our return journey is freedom and joy.

This Volume is full of encouragement and joy. The Returning Jesus is full of gentleness and hope. The Volume concludes, "Fear nothing; accept My joy and accept My light. In all quietness turn your eyes to Mine."



# My Soul Proclaims...

Joanne O'Haver, MAGNIFICAT

*MAGNIFICAT is a worldwide ministry to Catholic women. Its purpose is to help Catholic women open more and more to the Holy Spirit through a deeper commitment of their lives to Jesus as Lord and to impart the Holy Spirit to one another by their love, service, and sharing the good news of salvation. Joanne O'Haver of MAGNIFICAT, Slinger, WI, saw the connection between our Lord's work in the MAGNIFICAT ministry and His loving direction in the Volumes. Here Joanne describes her work for both ministries as a lay apostle for Jesus Christ, the Returning King:*

In April, 2005, at the MAGNIFICAT International Convention in New Orleans, the MAGNIFICAT Central Service Team introduced MAGNIFICAT women from around the world to the Volumes through the testimonies of Sr. Briege McKenna, Fr. Kevin Scallon and Archbishop Philip Hannan (Retired) of New Orleans.

The West Bend, WI chapter of Magnificat was one of the many chapters to proclaim the greatness of the Lord, introducing the Volumes at its quarterly breakfast meetings in front of 120 to 450 member guests. Terri Biertzer, coordinator

of the West Bend Chapter, notes that now women browse their "Ex-Libris: Magnificat" book ministry table in search of the Volumes, expressing their delight when they find them. The women are encouraged to pick up any Volume the Holy Spirit leads them to, and begin to read. Visibly moved and awed, most purchase some of the books right away. Ex-Libris: Magnificat is open before and after the breakfast meeting as well as during the break.

On October 19, 2006, Magnificat-West Bend brought Sr. Briege and Fr. Kevin to Wisconsin for an entire week of events that were coordinated with the archdiocese of Milwaukee, its Catholic Charismatic Renewal Office, St. Mary's Parish (Kenosha), and the National Basilica of Mary at Holy Hill, in Hubertus, WI. Hundreds of parishioners from Wisconsin and Illinois attended the various events, and many were introduced to the Volumes and Anne's other books in meetings with Sr. Briege and Fr. Kevin.



PONTORMO: Visitation 1528-29 Oil on wood, 202 x 156 cm  
San Michele, Carmignano (Florence)

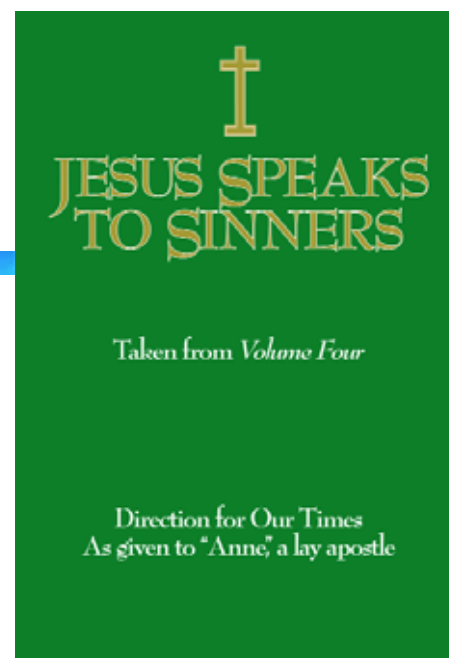
## Jesus Speaks to Sinners

A new booklet from *Direction for Our Times*

In accordance with heaven's wishes and in response to great demand, the section of Jesus Speaks to Sinners from Volume Four has been published separately and is available now.

**"Please talk to Me. Then, in turn, you will listen to Me. Then we will become friends and you will understand that no friendship on earth is as secure as the friendship between you and I."**

Jesus, February 21, 2004



# Monthly Messages

*As given to Anne, a lay apostle*

*On the first of each month, Jesus gives a message to all lay apostles through Anne.*

*To receive a copy of this message on the first of each month, sign up at our website [www.directionforourtimes.com](http://www.directionforourtimes.com) or call the office at 708-496-9300 to get on our mailing list.*

*October 1, 2006*

## **Jesus:**

My children, I am with you. Your God, your Creator, speaks this message in so many ways. In every daybreak you must hear My voice saying, 'I am with you.' When tempted toward despair because of crosses and hardships, you must hear My whisper saying, 'I am with you.' When you look at the work you must do and find it overwhelming, allow Me to move you gently into it with perfect assurance that 'I am with you.' Dearest apostles, so brave, I am with you. I do not tell you that you will be overcome. I do not tell you that you have been given work that is impossible for you to complete. Those messages do not come from Me. Instead, I tell you that you will persevere and ultimately triumph. Our mission of mercy does not falter, even though the steps of my little apostles sometimes falter. This mission pushes through the world with a steadiness that defies all attempts against it. My apostles experience fear at times. This is not a problem for Me or this mission. Fear is to be expected. Bring your fear to Me and explain to Me exactly what threatens you. If you do this, I can remove your fear. I will convince you that in My presence, with My power, everything is possible. You have an expectation of your little boat crashing against the rocks. I will never allow this. If I am steering the boat that is your work, you will be carried safely. Push on into each day with courage, understanding that while you may not be able, I am able. You may lack courage, but I have courage. You sometimes walk in darkness, but I have the light with which to see exactly where your footsteps are taking you. Dear apostles, it is a time for hard work, yes, but a time for great glory, also. Rejoice. I am with you.

*November 1, 2006*

## **Jesus:**

I am real, dear apostles. Do not worry that you have misplaced your trust. You will be rewarded for your service and commitment. The wise apostle understands that he has already been rewarded, of course. The wise apostle understands that being close to the King as a trusted servant is a reward in itself because through the proximity to the King, the servant becomes more and more noble. I am changing you if you are walking with Me. I am stretching your spiritual capabilities. My beloved lay apostles will find that the changes in their soul are constant, but gentle. There is great spiritual progress available in this time. This is My mercy and this is My plan. Through the holiness of the few, I will convert many. Be courageous while I make these changes in your soul. Be at peace. The Savior seeks to preserve His plan by calling more and more into the field of service. Rejoice when you see many responding. Understand that this plan is for all. You are called. You are listening to My direction and you are becoming holier. Through you, I call to others. Others listen and respond, and through them, I call out again, to more and more. In this way, a multitude is drawn into the safety of the family of God. Be at peace, little apostle. All is well and heaven is content that God's plan is proceeding. I will never leave you to execute My plan alone. You will always be acting with Me if you are acting for Me. Do you understand? I know that you understand because it is simple. I am with you. I will never leave you.

*December 1, 2006*

## **Jesus:**

I speak with determination today. I look at My lay apostles, serving so diligently to prepare others for My return, and I am consoled. My heart sighs with the rejection of some but also lifts in hope at the acceptance of so many. Little apostles, you are pleasing to Me. You are laboring for heaven and you are teamed with heaven. Together, we are bringing hope to those who were formerly without hope. This is the way for you, the path to holiness. I direct you in everything and you proceed along this path that I have marked out for you. All is well in your case. I want to explain to you why I speak with determination today. I am determined to push out further into the world. I desire that everyone have the light of heaven. I want confidence for all and comfort for anyone suffering. I send a great rush of grace for conversions at this time. This is a time for hearts to change. Because I desire this, a great many conversions, I am supplying all that is necessary to achieve this goal. You will find, My apostles, that many will be drawn to the truth of your mission. Accept this with profound humility. Show the world how small you are and they will see how great I am. This is the way to win souls for the Father. I am so pleased when an apostle accepts slights and insults with peace. I am pleased by this because it shows Me that you are truly accepting the call to imitate Me. It also shows Me that arrogance is receding and humility is spreading. Oh, what joy this gives to the Infant in the manger. Accepting insults in humility is a most favorable gift for the King. Truly, I look at these offerings and I rejoice. When I rejoice, graces flow unhindered and unencumbered, bathing the whole world. Never underestimate the power of you, the humble apostle, joined to Me, the determined God. Together, we are changing the world.

# A Gentle Approach

Anne, a lay apostle

## Sunday, November 12, 2006

We must be at peace when others fail to accept this mission. In my experience, I see that many people, particularly good and humble priests, reject such a mission out of hand. They do this for several reasons.

The first is that they correctly discern that many private revelations are false.

The second is that they have the mistaken idea that God is not actively involved in this period of time, that He gave us the gospels and pulled out, cutting off all direct communication with His people.

The third is that many apostles are a bit calloused by the pain of these times. They simply cannot afford to entertain the hope that God is speaking directly to them in such an encouraging and loving manner. They cannot entertain this hope because if this hope were to be dashed, if they were to find themselves tricked, they fear they would not recover. It could destroy them. Possibly they feel too vulnerable.

Father John Murphy recently noted that there are many authentic movements within the Catholic Church. Lay apostles must be comfortable being involved in one of the

many good and holy movements in our Church and allow the Lord to bring to us whomever He chooses. We offer God's mission to all and leave the results to Him.

In this light, I feel we should give the books in this mission freely but with gentleness. Do not be aggressive. The Lord will see that His books are picked up if and when a soul is disposed. If our motives are pure and we are detached from undue concern about our reputations, we will retain our peace in God's service and we will learn not to take rejection of this mission personally.

# God's Advisors

Anne, a lay apostle

Recently someone asked me why God would need advisors in heaven. In response I have to say that God does not need advisors. He allows advisors. This statement must be taken within the context of the truth which is that each soul in heaven is permanently united to Jesus. They do nothing separate from Him or from His will. They cannot work distinctly from Jesus because they are one with Him. Consequently, their evaluation and subsequent recommendations for assistance to souls down here is pleasing to Jesus and part of His plan for the Communion of Saints.

In a similar way, Jesus uses us here on earth, albeit more imperfectly. We see this each time a parish council meets, or a group of lay apostles

gathers, or indeed, even in a staff meeting at DFOT. This is also evident in any kind of intercessory prayer. We pray for others each day. If I see a soul struggling with an addiction, I ask Jesus to send graces to free the person from his addiction. As Christians on earth, we are striving to act, however imperfectly, on behalf of the Lord and in unity with His Spirit.

I'm not sure if I have expressed this adequately. To shorten the explanation, we can also draw on the reality that is the family model revealed by Scripture. We are all part of God's family, the family of God. God, the Father of this family, encourages interaction and assistance of one member to another in His Divine Will.

This benefits the whole family, and indeed characterizes the Divine Will and the Spirit which flows from heaven, to earth, and back to heaven. There are no separations, no disconnections. We are all united in God's Spirit.

We are all part of the family of God, together in this Spirit that unites us. Therefore, when a soul goes to heaven and is permanently united to God through perfect unity with Jesus, we cannot say that the soul then disconnects from those of us remaining. On the contrary, the truth is the opposite. That soul is then perfectly connected to us, the family of God, in love and fidelity which manifests in a desire to intercede for and assist us.

# Jesus, The Good Shepherd

Continued from page 1

Think for a moment. How many people do we allow to rest their faces against ours? I imagine there are not many adults with whom we are so comfortable that we allow such intimacy. Clearly we are more comfortable with a baby pressing his face against ours or a small child doing so. This is because of their innocence. We know they have no bad agenda for us. Any harm the infant does is accidental.

This is the way Jesus proceeds with each one of us. He pulls us closely against His very face. He views us as His children, His little infants. He accepts the harm we may do to Him because it is so important that we are near Him and that we are safe.

It is true that the shepherd cannot stop a lamb who struggles violently and leaps from His

arms. In this case, the Good Shepherd simply goes after the lamb, attempting again and again to bring the lamb to safety.

This image speaks to me each day. It gives me great courage and comfort. We want to be those who kiss and caress the face of Christ in return for His willingness to love us so tenderly, even with our sins and self will.

# Trust In God...Always

Anne, a lay apostle

When a cataclysmic event occurs, such as the tsunami in Asia or the hurricane in the US, people struggle in many ways. Those directly affected reel, of course, with the loss of loved ones and the physical damage and destruction. Those not directly affected struggle in another way.

How could a good God allow such a thing? Did God will the event? Did God allow the event? Why would God will something so destructive, and, on its face, so hurtful?

Many people made comments in the aftermath of the tsunami. These comments predictably reflected anger, disbelief, denial, and fear.

“A good God does not will suffering for His people.”

“My God would not do such a thing.”

“Why is God picking on poor and innocent people?”

We can examine the comments one by one but first we must state a fundamental premise that can be stipulated to by all readers. The God we know, the God we follow, the God of Scripture, Who we believe to be the only God is merciful, compassionate, and loving.

This premise is based on many things that we believe as truths. Let's look at what Scripture tells us.

God has carved us in the palm of His hand. Imagine the intimacy of creating something so personally. How precious this makes us in His eyes.

God has numbered the hairs on our heads. Again, the intimacy of God's attention to us is lovingly apparent in this line.

God sees to the birds of the air. He pledges to take care of us. When Jesus made this statement He clearly included all people in it, which would necessarily include the victims of the tsunami and hurricane and every other disaster.

Jesus says, I go to prepare a place for you, so that where I am, you also might be. Here Jesus is saying that He does not want to be without us, ever. He has gone on ahead to prepare a personal and loving reward, a home for each of

us. This is stupendous news, a truth worthy of constant rejoicing.

Yes, God loves His children and Jesus came, not to condemn or destroy, but to save. The evidence of His love is everywhere. It is in our families, the progress in our souls, direction in decisions, His forgiveness, His tolerance, His mercy, His patience and in a huge way, in the Sacraments of our Church. Jesus has not abandoned us, hoping for the best. Rather He has set up a plan whereby we use our time on earth to move always closer to Him, growing in holiness and understanding of things divine. It is not a flawed plan, my friends, but a perfect plan.

The reality of sin in no way detracts from the perfection of God's plan. God knew sin would be an issue and His plan was developed accordingly. Now we will examine the comments some people made.

*A good God does not will suffering for His people.* This is just not true. God willed suffering for His only Son and there are times when our good God wills suffering for us, His people. Jesus was sent as the model for all humanity. God most certainly willed that Jesus suffer and die on the cross. Did God do this to be cruel and cold? Did He simply withdraw His protection from our Lord saying, “Good luck with those Romans, Jesus?” Clearly not. God willed the death of His Son in an act of sublime mercy and redemption, as part of a bigger plan. He allowed the Crucifixion in order to save us and to give us a perfect example of suffering for others, for a greater purpose. We must say, based on all evidence, that our good God at times wills suffering for us, His people.

*Why is God picking on poor and innocent people?* First of all, God's idea of poor people



*“What is necessary is calmness, a trust that can only be achieved through a daily prayer regime.” Blessed Mother, Vol. 3, Pg. 47*

differs radically from ours. Secondly, neither the hurricane nor the tsunami stepped around wealthy or poor people but affected all in the path of these events. Were they evil in New Orleans region and as such deserving of tragedy? Did God strike out viciously at the region in Asia because people there were more disobedient than those in Dublin? This is ridiculous. Jesus can find disobedience and rebellion in most places. He also finds great holiness in these places. Jesus did not target innocent poor people. He seeks to teach us all how to live by the abrupt manner in which our lives can be changed or ended.

*My God, the God I know, would not do such a thing.* As there is only one God, your God is my God is their God. He's all the same God. This is a fundamental truth of our Church and to dispute it is to be in error. The difficulty here is the inability to reconcile our God of love to tragedy. This is understandable but I fear, naïve, given all available evidence. The Old Testament is loaded with examples of God sending course corrections. Has He changed? We cannot look at God as the loving parent and expect that He will leave us perpetually in error.



A good parent is in the parenting game, not standing back and hoping the children will do well without assistance.

This statement is reflective of the conflict between the two arguments, one that God is standing back and letting it all happen and the second that God is actively involved in this period of history. To say that God would not allow the hurricane is silly. He just did. Was God taking a break when the storm advanced in category and changed course? Will God be any less involved in events in the future?

Some say it is just nature. Hmm. Does God number the hairs on our heads but then abandon us to the violence of nature? I think we have to accept that whether He willed it or allowed it is irrelevant. What is relevant is what we take from it and how we allow these events to reshape or confirm our Christian commitment where necessary.

On a final note, it must be stated that Jesus felt abandoned on the cross. I am quite sure that in their grief and suffering, many people affected by the last few disasters felt temporarily abandoned.

Was Jesus actually abandoned on the cross? Of course not. Not by God and not by those of us who seek to serve Him now.

Did God abandon the people who were taken in those events or those who have been

*God willed suffering  
for His only Son and  
there are times when  
our good God wills  
suffering for us,  
His people.  
Jesus was sent  
as the model for  
all humanity.*

left suffering from those events? Again, of course not. God is with them and with us and He will be with us in every moment of the future.

I must confess to seeing a small child knocked down by the tsunami in a film clip. I nearly doubled over with the pain of this scene and the reality of that innocent child being taken in such a manner. I did not bring this to Jesus initially, but struggled, questioning God's mercy in such a reality. I sat on the side of my bed, considering.

Jesus, Who knows us intimately, spoke.

He said, "Anne. Do you know Me at all? Look at My eyes, Anne. What do you see?"

With the eyes of My soul, I gazed into the eyes of our beloved Jesus and saw what I always see: His goodness, His compassion, His immeasurable love for us.

Jesus said, "Anne, consider your smallest child. You know how much I love her. Anne, if she were in your arms and you looked at Me standing here, and I put My arms out to take her, what would you do?"

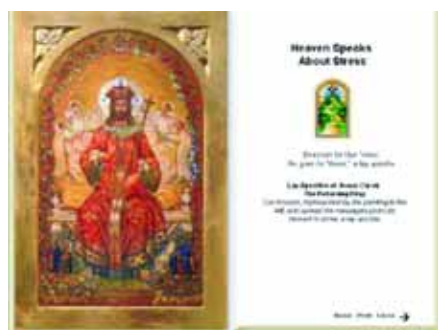
I said without hesitation, "I would give her to You, of course."

Jesus said, "Of course. Compared to placing your daughter in My arms, even letting her walk out of the room would seem unacceptably perilous. Do you understand, Anne? Those children are safe with Me. I have them. Do not grieve for the souls I have called home to Me. You, of all people, understand My mercy."

After this experience, my friends, I did not grieve for any of the victims taken. I trusted Jesus and His decisions in these matters.

I believe it would please Jesus if we, as lay apostles, practiced trusting Him in every circumstance. If we do this, we will bring St. Faustina's trust throughout the world, spreading heavenly calm to a world that badly needs to trust God.

## Heaven Speaks eBooks Now Online



We have now converted the first ten *Heaven Speaks* booklets to eBook format. Anyone who has access to a computer can now download and view the booklet messages. The eBooks are posted on our website at [www.directionforourtimes.com/onlinelibrary.html](http://www.directionforourtimes.com/onlinelibrary.html).

First you download the eBook player, which takes about 5 seconds, then click on the eBook of your choice.

# My Call to the Mission

Steve Logan, DFOT Treasurer, Vice President



*In the Fall of 2005, our little band of DFOT volunteers worked hard to execute the Lord's directives in spreading the Volumes. After a year of dedicated service, our treasurer resigned because of family commitments. We began to pray fervently for a financial professional as the mission grew by leaps and bounds. A few weeks passed and Jim Gilboy called Anne with an update. He told her a CPA from Iowa had emailed the office wondering if we could use any help managing financial matters related to the mission. Anne replied, "Hire him. Our Lady has sent him."*

*"Don't you think we ought to meet him first?" Jim asked.*

*"We can meet him but this is the man Our Lady has sent," Anne replied.*

*Here is the story of how Our Lady brought Steve Logan, our Treasurer and Vice President, to the mission:*

I want to start out by stating that I am a normal Catholic trying his best to live out his vocation as a husband and father. I have not always been a good Christian man and still struggle every day to live a good Christian life, as we all do. I went through what I would describe as a significant wake up call in the early nineties when the Lord definitely got my attention and showed me that I needed to turn back to Him.

Since that point, I have experienced a gradual conversion that has continued to strengthen. Using the analogy of the mountain of holiness that Anne speaks about, I would say I have continued up the mountain path. By the grace of God, I have not fallen back on too many occasions. I must say that I am a child of Our Lady. Everything spiritually good that has happened to me in my life I attribute to Our Lady's generosity

In early summer of 2005, Kristi, my wife, was given the Volumes by a very dear friend. At the time, I had been struggling with some personnel issues at work and was hurt by the disobedience of some of my employees. I remember lying in bed reading another spiritual book, while Kristi was reading the Volumes. She would interject about every five minutes and say, "Honey, listen to this," and then read a passage from Our Lord or Our Lady. This went on for a few days, and I was marveling at what I was hearing. I finally picked up Volume One and started reading it. I remember taking the kids to the pool and reading it by the pool. It was as if Jesus was speaking directly to me. In particular, I remember reading to be joyful always, even in the face of adversity. I took this to heart and to my job and started practicing this. I was going to be joyful in everything. What I found was that being joyful is contagious; it dispels the darkness and brings Our Lord's light. I was amazed at the difference it made with people, some of whom were not practicing Christians.

One beautiful evening, I sat out on our patio, praying the Rosary and looking up at the stars. I told the Lord that if He wanted me to do something for Him, that I would serve. As the saying goes, "Be careful what you pray for."

On the evening of August 29, 2005,

I was working with my daughter on her religion lesson. During that past week, we had received more Volumes in the mail, and there was a flier and a bi-fold with the package. The flier was about Anne coming to Chicago in September. I sat in the kitchen thinking about the mission, and had the thought that they may need financial management help. I am a CPA and thought maybe I could provide some finance assistance, as the mission was just starting out. I got up out of my chair, walked to my computer and prepared an email to Jim Gilboy. The email read as follows.

*Dear Mr. Gilboy,*

*I am in the process of reading the Volumes and my wife has read them twice. I am very moved by what Our Lord and His Mother are telling the world through Anne. For the past few months, I have felt called to use my talents for our Holy Catholic Church in some way. I am a CPA, 39 years old, the father of four children, and the Controller of the 10th largest mining company in the US (for the past seven and a half years). I enjoy my job, but have a strong urge to use my talents for our Lord. I know this sounds a little unusual, but if you need a financial professional for this great mission, I would love to talk to you. Or if you know anyone who does, please let me know.*

*Thank you and God bless you.*

*Steve Logan*

I never really thought too much more after that. I finished with my daughter's religion and went to bed. I got up the next day, as usual and went into work early. Then in mid-morning, Kristi called very excited, saying Jim Gilboy just called and wants to talk to me regarding the email I sent. He went on to say that Anne would be in Chicago in a few weeks, and she wanted to talk to me. Their treasurer had just resigned the previous week, and they had been praying asking the Lord to send a new treasurer. I was speechless. I knew deep down this was what I was supposed to do. I tried to stay calm and work through the process, but it was difficult.

When I arrived in Chicago for the conference, I was amazed at the peace I felt. I

met Anne and the management group of DFOT and was struck by the clarity Anne exhibited when discussing matters related to the mission.

We all went to dinner that evening. Anne first talked to Kristi for a period of time and then came over and spoke to me for a few minutes. We had a very nice conversation and I was struck by how peaceful she was. She told me at the end of the conversation that Our Lady had instructed her to tell me that “you have been prepared for this.” Now I knew Our Lord and Our Lady are communicating with Anne, but nothing prepares you for a statement like that. I could only imagine the look on my face at that moment.

At that point I thought that I would help out for a few months and if everything worked out, I would possibly work full-time for the mission. Later, I had the distinct thought pop into my head that when the apostles were called by Our Lord while in their fishing boats, they did not tell the Lord that they would catch up with Him in a few months when they got their personal life in order. They dropped what they were doing and followed Him. They trusted Him. I called Jane Gomulka over lunch and asked her if I could drive up on Tuesday night and meet with her and Jim on Wednesday. She agreed and we were on our way. When Wednesday arrived, I worked with Jane in the morning at the office and looked at all of the mission information. I told Jane that, based on what was happening in the mission, there was no way that this was a part-time job. This was a full-time job from what I was seeing. She called Anne and talked to her for a short period of time. She said Anne was taking the situation into prayer and would call back. Anne called back about 30 minutes later and asked to talk to me. She conveyed the following message from the Lord regarding me working for the mission:

**“You need have no hesitance in encouraging Steve to join this heavenly team. I will reward his faith abundantly and see to his family. All is well, Anne, and you should be at peace that just as I require your trust, I require the trust of the others. He will be protected. Begin the next entry in our newest work and then you may call him.”**

*Later, I had the distinct thought pop into my head that when the apostles were called by Our Lord while in their fishing boats, they did not tell the Lord that they would catch up with Him in a few months when they got their personal life in order. They dropped what they were doing and followed Him.*

I left a short time later and drove with my family to a previously planned vacation in Missouri. I showed the note to Kristi and she started crying. I knew I had a big decision to make. Do I leave all of the security I had with the company I was working for to work for a mission that was working completely on the Lord’s providence? I knew what the answer was, but it was still extremely difficult. The battle was on.

The entire trip down to Missouri (about 7 hours), I worried about what friends, family, etc., would think of me. How could they

understand? I had many thoughts going through my head, such as:

- Is this really authentic?
- I am ruining my career
- People are going to think I am crazy.
- My friends are not going to talk to us anymore.
- Our neighbors are going to ignore us and label us “the nutty family.”
- What about the annual bonus I was to be receiving in 8 weeks that I had worked so hard all year to earn? How could I give that up?

Kristi identified that I was under spiritual attack. Thank God for her. I was in such a fog that it was a struggle to do anything. I referred back to Our Lord’s message to Anne many times. It was clear Our Lord was requiring trust on my part. The decision was mine. I had complete free will, and I could say no if I wanted to. I have never prayed so intensely. I was scared, and I knew it was going to take an act of the will to resign from my job.

After many agonizing days, I decided I was going to do it. I walked into my boss’ office, a man I highly respected and loved working for, and resigned from a job I had worked my entire life to achieve, to work on our Lord’s mission as the Treasurer. People are probably thinking, my goodness, Anne received messages from Our Lady and Our Lord regarding his role in the mission and he still had problems and struggles joining the mission. The answer is yes, I struggled. As I said earlier, I am a normal human being with human weaknesses called to work on a divine mission. I clearly do not merit being a part of this, but for some reason, Our Lord picked me to play a small role in the very important mission that is Direction for Our Times. It has been over a year now and I would not change anything. It has been a joy and a high privilege to work on this mission. I will continue to serve as long as Our Lord and Our Lady will it.

## Mission Information Packet Available

DFOT makes available free information for the clergy who are interested in knowing more about the Apostolate of Jesus Christ, the Returning King. Our Mission Packet is available to any priest or bishop, and includes background information, a letter from Anne's bishop, plus a complete set of the Volumes, the *Heaven Speaks* Booklets, *Climbing The Mountain* and *The Mist of Mercy*.

Send us the name of the priest or bishop who is interested in reviewing these materials, and we will send him the entire package at no charge. Contact the DFOT office for more information.

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# Hypocrisy

*Anne, A lay apostle*

I saw a friend today. She is doing well and it heartens me. Her holiness has grown and developed, despite her difficulty with someone claiming to represent the Church who did not do so in action, only in speech. This nearly drove her away from the Catholic faith. It drove her brother away. Hypocrisy is deadly and I am at a loss as to how to combat it more directly. We could all be called hypocrites in that we preach Christ but fail to live up to Him each day. This needs more time but generally, to identify hypocrisy, look for a consistent lack of humility. If we preach Christ accurately, we also preach our own human frailty, not the human frailty of the person in front of us. I guess the hypocrites preach Christ and at the same time preach the human frailty of their listener,

forgetting the most important part of the sermon which is that Jesus loves the listener despite his failures. The impression left by a hypocrite is that he himself has few failures. The hypocrite promotes the impression that he is holy and the listener is not. The listener observes the lack of love and notes the duality of the spoken word and subsequent actions and sees that the two do not add up. The listener says, hmm, the message must be flawed because the sum is not a total of the parts. The listener then rejects the message, based on the lack of authenticity of the messenger. Jesus overcomes this by sending messengers who deliver the love of Christ with the words of Christ. We must all try to deliver the love of Christ when we deliver the words of Christ.

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