Mensajera DE LA RECONCILIACIÓN

April – May – June 2017 2017 I Volumen 06 No. 24

The Newsletter of the Betania Foundation

Words of the Vice-President of the **Betania Foundation**

Dear Betania Communities:

I send all of you a fraternal embrace. Despite the violent events that have been taking place in our country lately, which have claimed the lives of more than 70 people, we continue to be seeds of peace and reconciliation. After Easter, among some of this quarter's activities we had the anniversary of the Betania Foundation and Choir, the celebration of the Feast of the Divine Mercy, the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima in the Sanctuary of Betania, the Solemnity of Pentecost, works of mercy of distributing food among the indigents of the streets of Caracas by the foundation's youth group, the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity and, this past Sunday, the celebration of the Solemnity of Corpus Christi with procession and the participation of the Betania Choir. At the present time, we are in need of your prayers for our country Venezuela, reaffirming what our Servant of God Maria Esperanza emphasized: "Prayer is the column of light that enlightens man in the midst of the darkness of night."

May God bless you,

Maria Coromoto Bianchini Marrero

The Feast of the Divine Mercy Was Celebrated with the Betania Choir

Monsignor Ovidio Perez Morales celebrating the Holy Mass of the Feast of Jesus of the Divine Mercy

The Feast of Jesus of the Divine Mercy was celebrated on April 23. On this occasion, the Betania Choir was invited to participate during the 12:00 m. Mass, in the chapel of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, at Lomas de La Lagunita. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Emeritus Ovidio Perez Morales. During the homily, Bishop Perez said that the Divine Mercy is a devotion focused on the mercy and power of God. That is why we must pray for Venezuela so Jesus of the Divine Mercy will bring justice and peace to the country.

The Sanctuary of Betania Celebrated the 100 Years of the First Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima

Father Alfredo Enrique Aular Aponte, the Consecrated Sister Saray Gatas, young pilgrims and members of the Betania Foundation in the Sanctuary of Betania

On May 13, 2017, the 100th anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima was celebrated in the Sanctuary of Betania, with a Mass celebrated by the Parish Vicar of Ocumare del Tuy, Father Alfredo Enrique Aular Aponte, in the company of the Consecrated Sister Saray Gatas, 136 young ones, pilgrims and members of the Betania Foundation.

Mrs. Maria Gracia Bianchini Gebran and her sister, Mrs. Maria Auxiliadora Bianchini Leon, shared their experience of how they saw the Blessed Virgin Mary on March 25, in 1984. They also sang songs and gave them a guided tour.

Young People of the Betania Foundation Cheer Up the Streets of Caracas

Members of the Betania Foundation Youth Department ready to go out to the streets of Caracas

On Saturday, June 3 members of the Betania Foundation Youth Department and friends, joined the initiative of feeding the needy. The idea originated when some young adults of Betania saw families with great necessities in the streets of Caracas. This is why they organized themselves to go to different parts of Caracas, in order to cheer up 100 souls by giving them a nutritious and tasty lunch with dessert. Among the comments of those most in need were: "I knew that today God was going to bring me a dish of food", "God bless you," while others wept, laughed and looked up to heaven, thanking Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The activity culminated successfully and filled the young adults of Betania with immense love, for having shared with Jesus; as they confessed to feeling moved when they made those that they met in the streets that day feel happy.

25TH APPARITION
JULY 16, 1989
6:30 P.M.

Excerpt of a Message of Our Lady Given to *Mrs. Maria Esperanza Bianchini*

[…] Yes, sons and daughters, behold my announcement to the world: There is a place on Earth where all my children may take refuge, hidden in the blessed mountain, seeking the treasures of God preparing themselves […] to understand clearly that only in the seclusion of prayer, living with simplicity and humility, they shall defend themselves from the violence of men on Earth. […] Behold, living in community you shall learn much, forgive very much and even more, love all your brothers and sisters […]! I keep you! Mother of Mount Carmel

Words of the Vice-Postulator

Queridos amigos de Betania:

It is easy to see that our human family is very divided at this time in history. There seems to be no practical solution to the conflicts throughout the world. Political, social, financial, military, diplomatic, pedagogical and psychological proposals are not improving the situation. Things only seem to get worse. It is now time that we turn to the solution that Maria Esperanza and many others have championed: the family rosary. The answer is peace in the world through family prayer. We must rally everyone we know to initiate a great family rosary campaign, just like Fr. Patrick Payton used to promote. As the family is healed, so too will society be healed. May I strongly urge that every family resolve to pray the family rosary daily, without fail. Our Lady will triumph, but she is waiting for our response.

With blessings,
Fr. Tim Byerley

PRAYER FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF MARIA ESPERANZA

Merciful Father, You blessed Maria Esperanza with an abundance of spiritual gifts for the consolation of your people. She served You aswife, mother, and missionary to promote the unity of the family and the reconciliation of all peoples. You enabled her to be the central figure in the manifestations of the Virgin Mary, under the title of Reconciler of all Peoples and Nations, in Betania. Grant us the grace to follow her example of humility, hope, and unconditional love. Through the intercession of your servant, Maria Esperanza, we pray for the healing and reconciliation of our families, and for the fraternal unity of the entire human family. Especially, we beseech You to grant us the favors we now request (mention your intentions here) through the merits and prayers of your servant. Likewise, we humbly implore that she be inscribed in the Church's catalogue of saints, as a universal model of the beatitudes.We pray all this according to your holy will, cherished by your servant until the end, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

With the ecclesiastical approval of Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski of Metuchen, New Jersey, December 4, 2009

For more information or to report a miracle go to: www.mariaesperanza.org and/or www.betania.org.ve

Reflections of the Servant of God Maria Esperanza Bianchini

Meeting with the Youth
Residence of the Perez family
San Isidro, Buenos Aires, Argentina
(Continuation.)

A young girl: What can we do when we feel lost and do not find our way?

Mrs. Maria Esperanza Bianchini: This is a good question. Look, daughter, a while ago I said: Humility is the crystal bridge that leads us to Heaven. And now I repeat this. With humility, with heartfelt generosity, calling ourselves to order, preventing mistakes, so we do not get into trouble in the middle of our way; the kind of trouble of being pushed from here to there. Do you understand what I am saying? Let me see you better.

We have to be very strong. Sometimes it is painful to be strong, it is tough, but many times we have to be strong, in order to obtain the achievements we want in regard to a renewed spirituality, with an open heart to grace, with a clear mind – nothing will stop us – an open mind so grace that will enter with great humility and touch the heart. Once grace touches the heart, that heart overflows with joy, humility, patience, fear of God of not offending him, and with immense charity; charity that overflows in continuous joy. It is something that makes you feel so happy, daughter.

A young girl: What is our mission? What does the Virgin want us to do?

Mrs. Maria Esperanza Bianchini: To fulfill your duties with your family. First, your family – the greatest thing is your family; the Blessed Sacrament and your family – to love your family, to be understanding, human. To not get angry for no reason. Always trying to leave difficult moments aside; softening tense moments. Always trying to set things straight, looking for generosity with great humility, doing the best to make peace. If someone is resentful of you because something happened, pretend nothing is wrong, follow your way and do not look at him or her in the face. "I did not see any of that." Always smile, my love, youth has to smile continuously. Laughter is very beautiful; a smile is very nice.

Spiritual Maxims of the Servant of God Maria Esperanza Bianchini

The initiation of a disciple is his identification with the Divine Master.

To be an apostle is to endure in all environments.

To be an apostle is the most beautiful thing; sacrifice is required, self-control is required, as well as great spirituality and the desire of serving constantly without feeling tired.

Chronological Data on Maria Esperanza

• On November 27, 1977, the day of the Miraculous Medal, the Blessed Mother appeared to Mrs. Maria Esperanza again.

• On December 8, 1977, a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes was placed in the grotto of the Sanctuary of Betania and the blue butterfly was seen, as a manifestation the Virgin Mary had foretold to Mrs. Maria Esperanza.

Pope Francis: "A New, Diverse and Unified People: the Universal Church"

The Solemnity of Pentecost was celebrated on June 4, 2017 the feast in which the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the apostles and other disciples gathered together in prayer with the Blessed Mother in the Upper Room is remembered.

Pope Francis presided at Mass in St Peter's Square, Rome, Italy. From there, he recalled that the Holy Spirit came down from heaven in the form of "tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues". (Acts 2:3-4).

His Holiness explained that "the word of God describes the working of the Spirit: first he rests on each and then brings all of them together in fellowship. To each he gives a gift, and then gathers them all into unity. In other words, the same Spirit creates diversity and unity, and in this way forms a new, diverse and unified people: the universal Church."*

**Radio Vaticana. (2017). Pope Francis. Homily 06-04-2017. Vatican City. Taken from: http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2017/06/04/pope_francis_homily_for_pentecost,_2017/1316876*

AGENDA

Concerts

Saint Rosalia Parish Church, Caracas
April 9, 2017; 11:00 a.m.
Holy Mass, Palm Sunday

La Caridad del Cobre Church, Santa Paula
April 10, 2017; 6:00 p.m.
Holy Mass, Holy Monday

Church of the Holy Family of Nazareth and St. Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer, La Tahona
April 12, 2017; 6:30 p.m.
Holy Mass, Holy Wednesday

Sanctuary of Betania
April 13, 2017; 2:00 p.m.
Holy Mass, Holy Thursday

Sanctuary of Betania
April 14, 2017; 2:00 p.m.
Liturgy of the Word and adoration of the Holy Cross, Good Friday

Saint Anne Church, La Lagunita
April 15, 2017; 6:30 p.m.
Holy Mass, Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil

Chapel Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lomas de La Lagunita
April 23, 2017; 12:00 m.
Holy Mass, Feast of the Divine Mercy

Monastery of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Joseph, Los Chorros
April 30, 2017; 11:00 a.m.
Holy Mass, 60th anniversary of the Discalced Carmelites in Venezuela

Eastern Cemetery, La Guairita
May 12, 2017; 3:00 p.m.
Liturgy of the Word and participation

Saint Rosalia of Palermo Church, El Hatillo
May 14, 2017; 12:00 m.
Holy Mass, Mother's Day

Eastern Cemetery, La Guairita
May 15, 2017; 1:00 p.m.
Participation

Saint Bernardine of Siena Church, San Bernardino
May 20, 2017; 4:00 p.m.
Holy Mass, Saint Bernardine of Siena's Day

Eastern Cemetery, La Guairita
May 26, 2017; 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.
Participation and Holy Mass

House of the Ambassador of Italy in Venezuela, Country Club
June 2, 2017; 11:00 a.m.
Holy Mass, 71st anniversary of the Italian Republic

La Caridad del Cobre Church, Santa Paula
June 11, 2017; 12:00 m.
Holy Mass, Solemnity of the Holy Trinity

Saint Anne Church, La Lagunita
June 18, 2017; 1:00 p.m.
Holy Mass, Solemnity of Corpus Christi and Father's Day

Church of the Holy Family of Nazareth and St. Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer, La Tahona
June 26, 2017; 6:30 p.m.
Solemn Mass, St. Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer's Day

Eventos

The Holy Family of Nazareth and St. Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer Church, La Tahona
April 3, 2017; 6:30 p.m.
Holy Mass, Third month of the passing to the house of the Father of the President of the Betania Foundation, Mr. Geo Bianchini

April 19, 2017
Commemoration of the 38th anniversary of the Betania Foundation and the 36th anniversary of the Betania Choir

The Holy Family of Nazareth and St. Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer Church, La Tahona
May 3, 2017; 6:30 p.m.
Holy Mass, Fourth month of the passing to the house of the Father of the President of the Betania Foundation, Mr. Geo Bianchini

San Jose de los Altos Chapel
May 27, 2017; 10:00 a.m.
Holy Mass

Eastern Cemetery, La Guairita
May 28, 2017; 3:00 p.m.
Rosary and words at the tomb of the Servant of God Maria Esperanza Medrano Bianchini and the President of the Betania Foundation, Mr. Geo Bianchini

Caracas
June 3, 2017; 9:00 a.m.
Distribution of 100 lunches to the needy in the streets of Caracas by the Betania Foundation Youth Department

The Holy Family of Nazareth and St. Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer, La Tahona and Saint Anne, La Lagunita Churches
June 3, 2017; 6:30 p.m.
Holy Mass, Fifth month of the passing to the house of the Father of the President of the Betania Foundation, Mr. Geo Bianchini

Finca Betania
June 4, 2017; 1:00 p.m.
Meeting of the Betania Foundation

La Estancia del Senor Residence
June 10, 2017; 4:00 p.m.
Betania Foundation Youth Meeting

Pilgrimages

April 19-28; 2017; Representatives and pilgrims of Betania XVI, Vandalia, IL, USA.

May 7, 2017; Group of consecrated women, professors of the Andes Institute, Caracas; Group of young missionaries of Regnun Christi, Caracas

May 13, 2017; Youth group preparing for their Confirmation, Ocumare del Tuy

May 27, 2017; Students and relatives, San Antonio school, Ocumare del Tuy

PETICIONES

Petitions of the Communities

Let us pray for the necessities of our Holy Church and of the world, and especially for our brothers and sisters who have the following requests:

In Thanksgiving:

Carias family, Rizzo family, Martin family and Fernandez family.

For the Health of:

Betania I: Julio Marquez, Naida Castilla, Maria Jesus, Trystan, Mrs. Fuenmayor, Gabriel Ayala, Vitalina Escalante, Josefa Otero, Maria Mota, Noralys Hernandez, Alfonso Arvelo, Aldo Martelacci, Maria Alexandra Garcia, Ana Lugo, Norma, Mariela de Jesus, Fabiola, Mary Carmen, Mathias, Pio Bianchini, Fabiola Pena, Jose Gasiva, Lissette Leal, Lola Marquez, Manuel Tavares, Jose Abreu, Yaneth, Nestor Rivas, Vicente Salazar, Lalita, Hugo Luciani, Pedro Antonuccio, Casto Machado, Florencio Guzman, Georgette, Carlos Wallis, Pablo Suegro, Rosaura Cristancho, Eleazar Pico, Mathias Hernandez, Ramon Terrelles, Ramon and Vanessa Marrero. **Betania III:** Fletcher Thomas, Quigley and Andrea Simpsom. **Betania V:** Melba Basmeson, Esteban y Kenny. **Betania VI:** Alicia, Clara, Diana, Susie, Pucky, Jorge Letcher, Camila, Pablo Sierra, Martin Aramburu, Connie and Chatin. **Betania VIII:** Eduardo.

For the cancer patients:

Betania I: Ali Sua, Omar Bonelli, Maria Esparrinha, Ena Dillon, Yudith Rojas, Sorel, Marisol, Madalena Cravo, Daniel Uribe, María Baptista and Argenis Perez. **Betania V:** Cecilia Villa. **Betania VI:** Vicky Fleing and Chiara Herrera. **Betania XIV:** Sean McLaughlin.

Petitions for the deceased:

Betania I: Matheus Pena, Daysi Gonzalez, Diego Bedolla, Manuel Cachutt, Alberto Sanchez, Rodolfo Izaguirre, Jesus Valois, Manuel Caldera, Luismer Marin, Elias Matta, Daniel Picote, Carmen Estrella, Fabrizio Mendoza, Nora Martinez, Stephen, Jose Ugalde, Raquel, Rafael Hernandez, Omar Bonelli and Kenyer Dominguez. **Betania V:** Esteban. **Betania VI:** Fede, Mateo Rush and Susana. **Betania XII:** Gerald Duggan. **Betania XIV:** Conrad. **Betania XVII:** Kimm.

Urgent intentions:

Betania I: Leany Pereira, Evie Garrido, Niurka Ponce, Francia Carias, Sergio Contreras, Bruno Ibarra, Maria Esperanza Bianchini, Juana Vallecillos, Jose Granados, Carlos Marrero, Fernando Perez, Carmen, Titina, Victoria Bello, Monica Luciani, Maite Cilleruelo, Garcia family and Ana Souto. **Betania VI:** Connie. **Betania XIV:** Merle McGann

Special Intentions:

For the entire Church, Pope Francis, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, all the bishops, priests and religious that form part of our Betania family, especially those who work for the Cause of Maria Esperanza.
For the religious who are persecuted, for those who have doubts.
For the Cause of Beatification of Maria Esperanza and for Father Timothy Byerley who gives it impulse.
For all the Communities of Betania around the world.
For priestly and religious vocations.
For the rulers of all the countries of the world, and for those who have political and economic power, so they may all have the well-being of the nations at heart.
For peace in the Middle East and the whole world.
For all the victims that were killed during protests in April, May and June in Caracas and the rest of Venezuela.
For families, for couples that are going through a crisis, so the Blessed Virgin and Saint Joseph may lead them through the path of the Holy Family of Nazareth.
For the Bianchini family, so the Holy Spirit may always guide their steps, and God may grant them grace, health and strength to continue working for God and the Blessed Virgin.

Father of Goodness, listen to our prayer and grant unto your servants, who trust in You, the gift of your grace to embrace your love in unity, and reach with your mercy, after this life, the eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Informative **Table**
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