

MARIA ESPERANZA – SERVANT OF GOD
& LONG ISLAND, NY *By Fino Giordano*

HOW IT ALL BEGAN



*Maria Esperanza,
Servant of God &
Fino - St. Patrick's, NYC*

One of my interests over the past 40 years has been investigating Marian apparitions and the life of Our Blessed Mother. For me, meeting a real live visionary from a church-approved site where Our Holy Mother appeared is a very big deal.

THE CONFERENCE

In November 1993 a friend of mine, Sister Margaret Sims from Betania II in Massachusetts, hosted a Marian conference in Lowell, Massachusetts.

The key speaker at the conference was Maria Esperanza, the seer from the **church-approved site**, "Betania," near Caracas, Venezuela. This was an opportunity for me to see and hear what a visionary from an approved site had to say. I have entertained a few **alleged** seers from Medjugorje and Australia in my home. I have met others from the Bronx, Ohio, Maryland, Russia and Italy. These seers **are not** from apparition sites that have been approved by the church **nor** have they been condemned!

I drove from Long Island, New York to Lowell, Massachusetts, thinking that this would be like visiting St. Bernadette of Lourdes, the children from Fatima, Juan Diego from Guadalupe, Mexico or even St. Catherine Laboure of the Miraculous Medal or other saints.

When I arrived in Lowell and attended the conference, I

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DO YOU APPRECIATE THE HOLY EUCHARIST?



Eucharistic Miracle

A consecrated Host began to bleed on December 8, 1998, in Betania, Venezuela, a site approved by the church. This is where mystic Maria Esperanza and hundreds of others witnessed the appearance of Our Holy Mother as Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Our Lady of Lourdes, and especially as Our Lady, Reconciler of All Nations.

After the miraculous Host was authenticated, the local bishop had it taken to the Augustinian nuns in Los Teques, near Caracas, Venezuela for safekeeping, visitation and adoration by pilgrims. This past March, a group from Our Mother Queen of Peace-Betania XIII visited Betania I, the home of Maria Esperanza. We later traveled to the Augustinian convent to adore the Eucharist Miracle.

Reflection: "My children," said the Cure of Ars, "I often think that most of the Christians who are lost are lost for want of instruction; they do not know their religion well."

Our Mother Queen of Peace-Betania XIII is trying to end that dilemma.

St. Teresa of Avila urged her daughters not to rush out after Mass but to treasure the opportunity for thanksgiving: "Let us detain ourselves lovingly with Jesus," she said, "and not waste the hour that follows Communion." St. Teresa says that during communion Jesus



St. Teresa of Avila

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PLEASE NOTE THE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

St. Francis of Assisi Church, Clay Pitts Rd, Greenlawn, NY
Dates begin with the Rosary 7pm, Short Update, Mass 7:35pm
followed by refreshments and OMQoP- BetaniaXIII religious articles.

Monday, March 9

Monday, April 13

Monday, May 11

Wednesday, June 24 (Our Mother Queen of Peace)

Monday, July 13

Monday, August 10

Monday, September 14 (Our Mother Queen of Peace 30th Anniversary)

Monday, October 12



Information Church - 631.757.7435
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HOW IT ALL BEGAN

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listened very attentively to what Maria Esperanza had to say through an interpreter. Remember, Maria had not yet been given the church title, Servant of God. Many speakers gave witness to experiencing alleged phenomena that surrounded the life of Maria. I remember one witness, a non-believing physician, was soon converted after meeting Maria. He is now the coordinator of Betania VII in Lima, Peru.



*Maria's Husband
Geo Bianchini,
Maria Esperanza & Fimo -
Shrine of Mother Cabrini*

After Maria spoke, she made her way through the auditorium which was filled to capacity. She was walking slowly through the crowd on the other side of the auditorium from where I stood. Suddenly she changed direction and came to where I was standing. People were rushing to speak to her or touch her as they did two thousand years ago to Our Lord. I was too shy to do that then or even today.

Suddenly, and to my bewilderment, Maria stood right in front of me and her eyes met mine. She literally studied me and then asked Sister Margaret to introduce me to her. That was it - she then walked away. We never exchanged one word! Years later, Carlos Marrero Bornn who is married to Maria Coromoto, one of Maria Esperanza's daughters, explained to me that Maria does this often. What she is really doing is "scanning you." She reads you and your heart. When I heard this, I could only think that God must have interceded for me by putting a purifying filter system between Maria Esperanza and me. The following morning I returned to Long Island.

THE PHONE CALL

Two days later I received a phone call from the family of Maria. They said Maria would like me to arrange a meeting with the people of Long Island so she might deliver her message of peace, family unity and holiness with special attention to youth. At the same time, she proposed to bring the Angelic Betania Choir for our enjoyment. I had about four days to make the arrangements. *Maria had visited Long Island several times in the past and had a special love for Long Island.*

I made many phone calls and then called Father Arthur Anderson at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Brookville, N.Y. (*he is now deceased*). In the past Father had helped me bring Ivan, the seer from Medjugorje, to speak at St. Paul's and now I was asking him for another favor. He was so kind and gracious with his approval and consent.

We had no time to advertise, so I networked by telephone through the members of Our Mother Queen of Peace. The special day arrived in November 1993 and the church was filled to capacity. Some of you who are reading this may have been there. That evening many people witnessed the alleged

phenomenon which is not unusual when Maria Esperanza visits an area. The aroma of roses was noticed by many who attended; and yet others didn't detect it. In the November 2010 issue of our newsletter, we printed a witness experience of a mother and the alleged miracle birth of her baby girl after Maria blessed her on that evening.

www.OurMotherQueenofPeace.com

A SECOND PHONE CALL

The following day I received a phone call from a family member of Maria Esperanza with the following request: "Fino, could you spend the day with Maria and her family tomorrow?" Of course I said "Yes!" I was at their hotel in NYC the following morning.

That whole day Maria either held my hand or we were arm and arm as we visited St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Shrine of Mother Cabrini; finally the whole family and I went to a New York City restaurant for dinner.

The picture at the beginning of this article is of Maria giving me advice outside St. Patrick's Cathedral, as she did all that day. What she was saying here was, "*Fino, you must keep one foot in heaven and one foot on earth. If you try to keep both feet in heaven you will become a fanatic and that is not good.*" I answered Maria, "My problem is that I change feet." I do not know if Maria knew what I meant at the time but I am sure she does now. It was my way of saying at times both my feet hit the earth and I become too worldly and it is confession time.

After visiting Mother Cabrini's Shrine we proceeded to dinner at a restaurant in New York City. (*Maria had a strong devotion to Mother Cabrini. That is a whole story in itself.*) It would take too many pages to relate all that happened that day, including all that happened at dinner that evening.

AFTER DINNER

When I returned home that evening, I did not sleep well at all, nor the following night. I struggled to remove everything that happened that day from my mind and memory, especially prophesy related to me by Maria. I told myself this is all **private revelation** and I am not obligated to believe any of it. It could all be a mistake plus who am I but a sinner without any credentials. I was literally trying not to believe the seer of a church-approved apparition site. We are only required to believe **Public Revelation (...the Bible, the precepts of the Church as defined by our Pope and the Magisterium)**.

In all the years I have been studying apparitions, I concluded that 99.99% of all alleged apparitions are false. Some truly seem authentic and I have been fooled. That taught me a good lesson. The Great Deceiver is just that, a great liar. If you spend much of your time reading about alleged apparitions and their prophecies, you must double that amount of time in prayer and in reading the Bible, the lives of the saints or perhaps the very interesting Catholic Catechism, *Libera Editrice Vaticana*. As one confessor said to me, "Satan will do all he can to keep you away from the truth by using very attractive counterfeit apparitions, **writings** and seers. Don't fall for it!"

Unfortunately, I frequently receive enticing emails which are so well-written, often including pictures of Jesus Christ, His

Holy Mother, the angels or saints with a prayer attached, which I am instructed to recite and send on to x amount of people, and within a certain amount of time “I will receive all kinds of blessings.” This is another tactic of the Devil,



FR. Edward McDonough

SUPERSTITION. Please read your Catechism. People who send these emails mean well but do not understand the deception or their Faith very well. We live in an era of “fast everything” - fast food, fast answer from God, etc... Please do not confuse these chain letters and emails with a legitimate novena where God’s will is at the center of the prayer.

These thoughts were running through my mind during the time following the day and evening I spent

with Maria. Maria Esperanza, Servant of God, is not a servant of Satan; my anxiety was not from God. On the third day I received a phone call from a priest friend from the Boston area, Father Edward McDonough, CSSR, the famous healing priest. (*deceased Feb. 16, 2008.*) Father asked, “Fino, I understand you spent a day with Maria Esperanza, what did you think? She spent time with me when she was in Boston.”

I told him everything you just read. I was anxious, a bit frightened and uncomfortable. He said to me, “I felt the same way!” Father’s answer comforted me and I immediately felt somewhat normal again. Here we have a saintly, very humble healing priest who had the same reactions as me, a struggling member of the laity. I was able to sleep better that night.

Remember now, this all happened twenty two years ago. I believe everything was the work of the Holy Spirit right to this present day. We have received thousands of letters over the years asking for prayers and so many have been happily answered. Others are now asking when and where the Betania XIII sanctuary will be located.

Once God sends us the proper benefactors through Our Holy Mother and Maria Esperanza, we will look for a location on Long Island. The sanctuary will establish the charism of all the Betanias in the world; the healing of families, especially for children and fraternal reconciliation, all accomplished in the spirit of humility and joy. I hope to have a kitchen for the poor, a chapel or church dedicated to God the Father, dormitories for retreats, and a replica of the final home of Our Holy Mother on earth, as in Ephesus, Turkey, built on the property also.

Once the Betania XIII Center has the funds and is ready to be constructed on Long Island, it will only be with the full approval and blessings of our bishop. Pray for this to happen soon: so many families are seeking spiritual assistance.

DO YOUR APPRECIATE THE HOLY EUCHARIST?

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remains in the soul as on a throne of grace, and says to the soul, “What do you want that I should do to you?” as if saying, “O Christian soul, I come for the express purpose of giving you my graces. Ask what you wish and you shall obtain it.”

Once Saint Philip Neri noticed that a parishioner usually left the church immediately after receiving Holy Communion. To correct him, he told two acolytes to accompany the man with lighted candles as he walked home. The people in the streets stared in surprise. When the man returned to St. Philip to ask

why, St. Philip replied, “We have to pay proper respect to Our Lord, Whom you are carrying away with you. Since you neglect to adore Him, I sent two acolytes to take your place.” Realizing his fault, the man knelt and made proper thanksgiving after Holy Communion.

Note: Jesus Christ literally remains within us for about 15 minutes after we receive Holy Communion. We become a



St Faustina

tabernacle for our creator, as Our Holy Mother’s womb was a tabernacle for the Son of God.

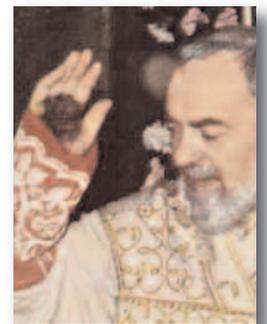
St. Faustina Kowalska said that she received a private revelation from Jesus who told her: “My great delight is to unite Myself with souls...When I come to a human heart in communion, My hands are filled with graces which I want to give to souls. But souls do not pay attention to Me: they leave Me to Myself and busy themselves with other things. They do not recognize love. They treat Me as a dead object.”

St. Magdalena de Pazzi said, “The minutes that follow Communion are the most precious we have in our lives.”

St. Louis de Montfort wrote, “I would not give up this hour of Thanksgiving even for an hour of Paradise.”

St. Josemaria Escriva: “We give thanks to God our Lord for the wonderful way He has given Himself up for us. Imagine, the Word made flesh has come to us as our food!...Inside us, inside our littleness, lies the Creator of heaven and earth!”

St. Padre Pio, canonized June 16, 2002, wrote: “When Mass was over I remained with Jesus in thanksgiving. Oh how sweet was the colloquy with paradise that



Eucharistic Miracle



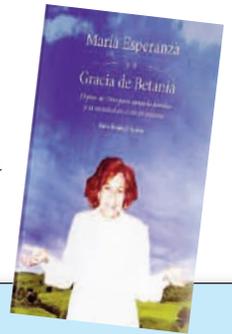
Maria Esperanza

morning! It was such that, although I want to tell you all about it, I cannot...the Heart of Jesus and my own (allow me to use the expression) were fused. No longer were two hearts beating but only one. My own heart had disappeared, as a drop of water is lost in the ocean. Jesus was its paradise, its king. My joy was so intense and deep that I could bear it no more and tears of happiness poured down my cheeks.”

Maria Esperanza, Servant of God, after receiving Holy Communion, begged Jesus, “Jesus, You are in my chest, make me a better person, change my life, enlighten my mind, strengthen my heart, enkindle it with love for all my brothers on earth. Help me share with everyone, regardless of how they come to me or where they come from. What is important is to open our hearts to those who need us and come seeking moral support in their spiritual needs. Amen.”

Co-Authors: Joe Pritchard and Fino Giordano

The new book of the Life of the Mystic Maria Esperanza, by Father Timothy Byerley will be available at all of our meetings.



ALLEGED MESSAGES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - MEDJUGORJE

January 25, 2015 *“Today I call you to live your vocation of prayer. Now as never before, Satan wants to suffocate man and his soul by his contagious wind of hatred and unrest. In many hearts there is no joy because there is no God or prayer. Hatred and war are growing from day to day. I am calling you, little children to; begin a new, with enthusiasm the walk of holiness, and love. I have come among you because of this. Together let us love and have forgiveness for all those who know and want to love only with human love and not with that immeasurable love of God, to which God calls you. Little children may hope in a better tomorrow always be in your hearts. Thank you for having responded to my call.”*

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