

August 15, 2000

My dear children, how the Kingdom yearns to hold you. How I wish that you would all say, "yes" to my son, to my call of mercy. Today, I send to you the gift of love. With this gift, many souls can be saved for the Kingdom of Heaven. Much sacrifice is needed for this kind of love. Only when you ask for this kind of love can you experience this ever-giving gift. So much sorrow reigns on these people of mine. Sorrow is given, and sorrow is lived. With this love, you remove not only sorrow but the effects of sorrow. My children listen to your mother, for she speaks from a heart filled with pain to see her children suffering needlessly. You have it within your reach to comfort the sorrowing, to console the sick, and to love the unwanted. By saying yes, this grace reaches your heart, your soul to do what I have asked.

Peace, peace of Jesus be with you. Thank you for being here. Know that I will bless you.

1. God's desire You:

"The Kingdom yearns to hold you."

This opening emphasizes God's desire for the salvation of every person. Rather than portraying humanity searching for God alone, it highlights that God first desires communion with us.

The language recalls passages such as:

- Luke 15 (the father awaiting the prodigal son)
- 1 Timothy 2:4, where God desires all people to be saved.

Mary directs attention not to herself but to the Kingdom and God's loving invitation.

2. The Calling:

"Say 'yes' to my Son, to my call of mercy."

The word "yes" immediately evokes Mary's own Fiat in Luke 1:38.

A Marian interpretation sees Mary inviting believers to imitate her complete surrender to Christ.

Notice the order:

- Yes to Jesus
- Yes to Mary's call, which is a call to mercy because it leads to Jesus.

Mary's mission is always Christ-centered.

3. A special grace:

"Today, I send to you the gift of love."

The "gift of love" can be understood as a special grace to participate more deeply in Christ's charity.

The message explains that this love:

- saves souls,
- requires sacrifice,
- must be requested,
- becomes an ever-giving gift.

This resembles the supernatural virtue of charity, which is received from God rather than produced merely by human effort.

4. What God is Asking:

"Much sacrifice is needed for this kind of love."

This is one of the strongest spiritual themes.

Authentic Christian love is costly.

It echoes Christ's teaching:

- taking up one's cross,
- loving enemies,
- laying down one's life for others.

Mary is describing love that imitates her Son's sacrificial love.

5. Suffering in the fallen world:

"Sorrow is given, and sorrow is lived."

This line recognizes the reality of suffering in the fallen world.

Rather than promising that suffering disappears, the message says that love transforms its effects:

"With this love, you remove not only sorrow but the effects of sorrow."

Spiritually, works of mercy can erase painful circumstances, and become an instrument of God's healing.

- loneliness,
- despair,
- bitterness,
- hopelessness,
- isolation.

Mercy can erase these pains.

6. Mary's maternal sorrow:

"She speaks from a heart filled with pain..."

This reflects Mary's traditional title as the Mother of Sorrows.

Her sorrow is not despair but compassionate participation in the sufferings of her children.

This recalls Mary's presence at the Cross in John 19:25–27, “When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.”

7. Concrete works of mercy:

“You have it within your reach”

- comfort the sorrowing,
- console the sick,
- love the unwanted.

These resemble the Church's spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

The emphasis is not on extraordinary mystical experiences but on ordinary acts of Christian charity.

8. Grace enables the mission:

"By saying yes, this grace reaches your heart, your soul..."

Mary does not suggest that people accomplish these works by natural strength alone.

Instead:

- the believer freely says yes;
- God grants grace;
- grace enables charity.

This reflects the Catholic understanding that grace precedes and strengthens our cooperation with God's will.

9. The blessing of peace

The conclusion:

"Peace, peace of Jesus be with you."

Again, the peace belongs to Jesus.

Mary points beyond herself to the peace Christ gives, recalling His words after the Resurrection in John 20:19, "On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!'"

Recognizing the Actions of Mary in this Message:

- A mother longing for her children to enter God's Kingdom.
- One who always directs people to her Son.
- An intercessor who encourages openness to grace.
- The Mother of Sorrows, sharing in humanity's suffering.
- A teacher of sacrificial love.
- One who calls believers to the works of mercy.

The Message Bottom Line:

1. Say "yes" to Jesus.
2. Ask God for the gift of supernatural love.
3. Accept the sacrifices that genuine charity requires.
4. Bring Christ's mercy to those who are sorrowing, sick, or neglected.
5. Trust that grace—not merely human effort—makes this possible.