



# COMMUNIO IN CHRISTO

*Our Life -  
Our Works*

Digital Spiritual Letter No. 8, 15 February 2021

*Theme:*


Christianity – a religion  
of truth and love

## SEAT IN LIFE

At the time Mother Marie Therese wrote the following reflection she had detected lots of deception and seduction within the Church. An Abbess/Superior and her convent had let themselves fascinated by a woman with alleged stigmata, whose closeness towards God was however just cleverly pretended and whose charism was fallacious. Thanks to her capacity for discernment, Mother Marie Therese immediately detected the fraud and false acting of the religious woman and reported it very openly to both the Abbess and the „stigmatized“ woman.

It was that ability to look deeply into people's souls which was given to Mother Marie Therese through the charism that the Superior General Karl-Heinz Haus as her spiritual guide could witness in her encounter with fellow human beings.

Mother Marie Therese had a personal encounter with that alleged blessed person who had come to Mechernich and asked her: „Mother Marie Therese, I am urged to enter your order, but what is God's will?“ Mother Marie Therese replied: „The will of God is not what



you want.“ „Then I will have to join a contemplative order.“ It was the order headed by the above mentioned Abbess. And this is what happened. Half a year later the Abbess called Mother Marie Therese and said: „We have trouble getting along with our new sister. She is so nervous. Can you help us?“

Mother Marie Therese helped by offering the lady a place in her senior citizen and care facility “House Effata“ in Blankenheim. Meanwhile she made clear to the woman in a personal conversation that her statements about what God had supposedly told her were obviously false.

## » THE WILL OF GOD IS NOT WHAT YOU WANT. «

It was not easy for the person to bear. She felt that she was being seen through, and at the same time she felt that she was living with Mother Marie Therese in the presence of a called person who had completely recognized all of this.

Half a year later she suddenly had disappeared over night. After Mother Marie Therese had died she showed up again at the Communio admitting that it had been her greatest mistake to leave Blankenheim and Mother Marie Therese. She asked the Superior General: „Would you be willing to accept me again?“ He agreed. That’s when the woman returned to Blankenheim. She died in total peace with God and following a solemn Holy Mass celebrated by three priests she found her last resting place on the Blankenheim cemetery.



## REFLECTION OF MOTHER MARIE THERESE

*The world's shortsightedness embraces me  
and you wave at me  
to show me the great eternity.  
Life, so limited in years,  
inclined to forget too soon,  
makes disappear from memory  
what was not true.*

*How great the love inherits to your nature.  
Our life nourishes from your death,  
our nothingness enters into the future  
and reaches the horizon,  
the incomprehensible dimension of your truth.  
And in vain do we separate today from tomorrow.*

*If your life had not become part of ours,  
we would have no idea  
of how to change from selfishness to altruism.  
You reveal in the midst of your Church,  
that she is a religion of truth and love.*

*I confess to you, o God,  
to create awe before man.  
For in the heart there is a treasure  
which faces contradiction,  
which arises from the Spirit and turns home,  
that supports human beings and  
that wants to give something to human beings:  
his truth.*

*Received from heaven its view surpasses  
anything that is human  
and that has been given its dignity by God to turn to people.  
O God, so dearly loved,*

*judged according to ones own untruthfulness.  
The light of vocation awakens my soul.*

*For you are so real, so loving your kindness.  
I kneel down,  
Your truth, the luring dove of your love,  
is the fulfilment of the law  
The consequence is not destruction, but testimony.  
If the Church was neither truth nor love,  
it would be lifeless.  
It teaches us to recognize ourselves.  
I now strengthen myself in your heart,  
so that I may have confidence.  
For You are calling me to turn to you.  
Glory be to you, o God, for this blessed hour.*

It is difficult for me to pass on my experiences and observations. Before the encounter with the truth lures me, a different encounter gives rise for a reflection which penetrates into the depth of the Christian life. Momentary circumstances generate a hunger to encounter the truth, so as not to go mad at the untruthfulness that confronted me.

I must be an advocate of God's voice which demands that I have to live the consequence of the truth and testify to it, no matter what the risk. The more I feel restricted by external conflicts, the more I feel urged to break through everything that limits any development. My heart will not be content with accepting bad habits because of some superior love, but it will passionately want to implement its talents. Will anyone then have the right to ask me to give in without resistance and to extinguish my thirst for God's honor or people's happiness?



In order to witness God by virtue of my vocation, it is God's existence that I recognize first in the encounter with people. The Gospel tells me what people lack or what I can possibly learn from them. The more so my heart is wounded when the other person remains undiscerning for the truth, follows his old habits, justifies himself all the time and uses his restlessness for a reproach against his Savior. A true Christian will have greatness not only in the future, but already here on earth.

I said that a reflection is always the result of an experience. I am convinced that is the only way I can live up to my vocation. What I experience is never an encounter with people but a battle between God and the devil. You cannot imagine how great the pain is when I am confronted with arrogance. The teaching of the Church passed on has helped me to look at the example of Jesus.

God takes me away from this pain. The nature of his unfathomable love is revealed. An incredible quiet covers the rhythm of my heart before being besieged by unrest. For no one can deny that God is present and that my soul breaks through a new era. I feel how that love gives its warmth, its greatness in humility, patience, poverty and understanding. I immerse into the truth which is in a constant fight with lie. There are quite some voices always opposing the truth.

I stand before God's universal power, that makes me frighteningly aware of my nothingness. This encounter is not interrupted by the temptation of using words of justification. The light hits the malice of our earth, it hits the existence of the evil.

*I pray:*

*O, I am afraid, o God,  
to doubt the devil's wile.*

*How shamefully clever his lie,  
his contradiction of the truth,*

*his fighting so hopelessly surrendered to the will,  
where arrogance prevails as a human desire.*

*And the ego surrenders to you,  
readiness is my will  
to fulfill the purification.*

*The cross directing so dominantly,  
tears away from the lie.*

*Alas, how insane then completion is:  
there is neither guilt nor confession of guilt.*

*The sincere person wishes to  
testify to the truth.*

*His life is the word that turned into deeds,  
always confessing you anew,  
allying with your cross,*

*asking for grace and imploring strength  
so that the prophecy may be fulfilled in him.*

*Today you will be with me in paradise.*

*How a human being, one who is nothing,  
now becomes a precious stone by God's grace.*

*The silence of those being persecuted,  
the word of comfort where people suffer,  
the warm hand that makes disappear mourning,  
the consequent love that against all aggression  
reacts with maturity,*

*The look of love melts away hidden pain,  
the humble confession of guilt gains freedom.*

*O God, the faith in you enlivens the alertness  
to honor you as the winner.*

*I saw the greatness of your grace with your eyes.*

*Seized by your kindness I dare to say:*

*I love you!*

In our century the spirit of the time shows signs of vast soul distress. My reflection is based on my experience with what is Unchristian. Are we Christians not able to form a community? Is hatred so vastly inherited in our hearts that we have become constant liars?

Does our faith not empower us to create unity in love? Why do we not become vividly aware, that the day will come when God's omnipotence will shine before the entire world. Then, even today we will evaluate every injustice as justice and truth will really mean truth. What has become violence and lies today, will then become love and truth. If we believe in God today, we will never deny the existence of the devil. This time is programmed to untruthfulness. Selfishness and arrogance create a chaos of lies. The worst part is that they are not being recognized as such.

It is true that Christianity has its dark sides and the darker the more visible. People disdain the truth because of their own shortcomings. Realize that the truth is the best remedy. Never deny yourself, or your nothingness. Show the nobility that overcomes what is weak to rise to the truth itself. Do not be ashamed of making amends. Again and again I stand in awe of the generosity of God's love. Never refuse the comfort of self-knowledge, for it possesses the divine power of receiving love.

We will have to fight a lot and for a long time to overcome ourselves and to totally surrender to the will of God. And when you are always anew given grace, humbly accept it and think of the love always flowing towards you. The faith of a Christian is the acknowledgement of the death of Christ who died not just because of our holiness but

also because of our guilt. The truth is the confession of guilt where he reveals himself as the one who is hopeful.

*If you long for knowing God, look for the truth.  
Do not hide, what gives you joy,  
hurry out of this world and escape for the future,  
where God is waiting for you.  
If you long for being free,  
put aside your selfishness,  
ban all prejudice,  
open your heart to the poor,  
look for the oppressed,  
be unselfish, devoted to God.  
Escape prosperity.*

*O God,  
my heart rises up, so that love can flow,  
so that I can talk about it,  
so ignored, abused  
and what I am used for.  
Be the light in my pain.  
May you be my longing  
for being with you.  
For you are my will,  
which I obey.  
You are the truth that sets me free.  
You are the love  
that forces me.  
You are the source  
from which I draw.  
You are the sun  
that warms me.  
And if disunity of your Church pains me,  
if the lovelessness within her  
suffocates me,  
may you give me the faith,  
that one day she will rise from the dark,  
that your kindness and truth will be revealed  
and that I may enter the promised inheritance,*



*in your kingdom,  
to honor your divine power,  
for my salvation and for eternal life. Amen*

(Taken from: **Mutter Marie Therese**,  
Der befreiende Gott – Die Deutung des Charismas,  
(The liberating God – interpreting the charism),  
Haibach, 1988, pp. 43 ff.)

## COMMENTARY

**by the Superior General Karl-Heinz Haus**

The reflections of Mother Marie Therese, written down in books and other writings, are always based on something she experienced. To the person knowing about the very concrete experience in each case the text opens more deeply and he or she is able to assign it to a word of the Holy Scripture and to draw their personal conclusions from it.

„I am convinced,“ said Mother Marie Therese, “that there is a correlation between what one experiences and the Holy Scripture which together shine as knowledge and love on our way to God. I have experienced both. My experiences form the basis for accepting and believing in my explanation of the Holy Scripture so that all criticism is being dispersed.“ (the original text uses the word destroy).

“My religious attitude,“ continues Mother Marie Therese, „does not differ from yours, so you may read my words just like an interesting report that otherwise is no concern of yours. No, with my reflection I am raising the question for you whether you might not re-find your own experiences in mine.“

And further she says, addressing to you and me as readers of these lines and reflection: “Should this reflection as well as the previous ones in my books become some kind of soul-searching and result in changing your behavior towards your fellow beings, reading





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the Holy Scripture also for you will become a daily prayer.”<sup>1</sup>

Today’s reflection is about an experience with untruth and lie which happen to be found in people seemingly particularly divinely gifted and who openly communicate it and show it in external signs like e. g. stigmata on hands and feet. Such people are mostly convinced that God himself had spoken to them and that he gives certain orders to a third party.

The Church has known more than just one single case of such

„stigmata“ and alleged “divine orders“ which may be nothing but lies and mostly it is hard to sense them, especially when they are being protected by authorities within the Church and confirmed as being real.

The present story unfolded its own drama. It was not about people but about a duel between God and the devil. Those who got to know Mother Marie Therese and her extraordinary charism are not surprised that the solution of this drama is but a relentless love of truth as was characteristic for Mother Marie Therese who faces the truth and who tries to reveal the unreal and the lie in which this world lives.

“Believe me,“ said Mother Marie Therese to all who are immediately enthusiastic, „when you have made the encounter with one who seems to be graced with external signs such as stigmata, you should be aware that it is not the extraordinary that is decisive, but that it is love that confirms holiness.

1 Taken from: Sr. Marie Therese, *Das Wort Gottes als Offenbarung* (The word of God as revelation – my experiences), Aschaffenburg, 1980, p. 5.

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