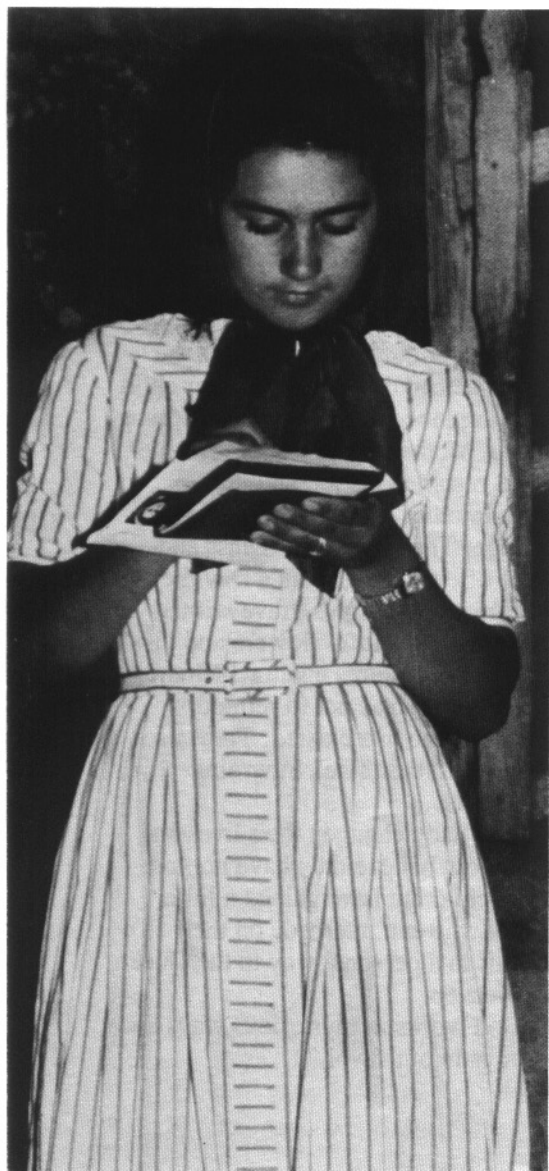


"You must talk to the world about Mary"

Compiled by Irene Dutra

After a locution from Our Lord in 1966 (see the April-June 1989 issue of GARABANDAL), Conchita left the convent in Pamplona where she had been preparing for religious life and re-entered the world to take up her apostolate. Through the years, while living out her vocation of wife and mother, Conchita has obeyed the Lord's request to "talk to the world about Mary." She has spoken and written words of encouragement and guidance to Garabandal supporters and given occasional interviews. Most of all, however, she has helped spread the message through the witness of her life. Here are some of Conchita's statements about how one can fulfill the message that Mary gave at Garabandal.



Living and Spreading the Message

"Let us give thanks to God for having chosen us to help our fellowman find the road of true peace with a joyful destination through the messages that Our Mother has given us. Let us pray much, receive Jesus in the Eucharist frequently, and do penance so that God, Our Lord, is reflected in our lives and we are always able to project His Presence."¹

* * *

"Do all to complete and spread the message, not necessarily as the message of Garabandal but as the wish of the Blessed Mother. Prayer, penance and sacrifice, visit the Blessed Sacrament, pray for priests. Do not be concerned about the time. If you are not received as Garabandalists, bring the message as from the Blessed Mother, even without the word Garabandal. Think about the passion of Jesus. In these times the best book you can have is the Bible. Read it every day."²

* * *

During the apparitions and after, Conchita wrote notes of consolation, encouragement, guidance or instruction always bearing in mind the message Our Lady gave her for the whole world.

"...the Virgin wants you to help her in converting the world, and to evade the anger of God upon us, sinners. She relies upon you, so that by your example and your sacrifice, you will serve as an example to others... who have not had the graces you have had in understanding her messages. She asks you to have a great spirit of repentance, sacrifice and prayer. Without these weapons, we could do nothing. We have not much time, but it is sufficient to escape the great chastisement, and to satisfy the Sacred Heart of Our Mother."³

The Blessed Sacrament

"It is in the Blessed Sacrament that you will find enough strength to begin the life which the Virgin constantly demands of you. Visit the Blessed Sacrament often. Empty your heart of the worldly things that prevent you from listening to God."⁴

* * *

"...I want to stress the fact that we should often visit the most Holy Sacrament. He will fill you with the graces and the strength to carry to the world the messages of Our Mother, and to live them in our daily lives. The best way for us to help one another is for each of us to live in the most perfect way that we can, and in order to do that, Jesus waits for us in the Blessed Sacrament to give us the strength and the light to continue on the road to happiness."⁵

* * *

"[That which offends Our Lord the most is] indifference. When we are in church we talk with one another and do not think who it is in the tabernacle. If the pope or the president were sitting in this room would you waste time to talk to me or to someone else? No, your attention would be on the great person present. In too

many ways people forget that it is Jesus on the altar and in the tabernacle. We must believe in faith that it is He. Besides daily Mass and Communion and the rosary, we must go often to pay a visit to Our Lord in the churches where He is alone."⁶

The Priesthood

"[Our Lady] told us about the worth of a priest. She compared him with an angel and said that if we saw an angel and a priest, we should acknowledge the priest first, or fall on our knees in front of the priest rather than the angel. She said that it was because the priest consecrated, because he held Jesus Christ in his hands and the angel did not."⁷

* * *

"I want to say about the priests, and for all people, that things are going badly; there is confusion in the Church, and many priests are doing wrong. The bad example they give us is due to lack of prayer and lack of sacrifice."⁸

* * *

"Let us pray a lot for priests. We ourselves are to blame for many of the priests who are on the road to perdition, because we do not pray enough, because we do not sacrifice ourselves, and also because we should be giving the example to those priests who are consecrated to the Blessed Virgin. At first they wanted to give themselves to God and to the Blessed Virgin but they were not able to realize their objective because they did not have sufficient strength nor enough friends to help them. We have to help those priests, who may be far away or close to us, that they may rise and pursue their course."⁹

Obedience to the Pope

"I wish to tell you that in these days

we are awaiting another guide, the Holy Father, whom the Lord is sending us. Our security in our Catholic, apostolic, Roman religion comes from following the words of the Pope, the successor of Saint Peter. Let us support him with our prayers, sacrifices, fidelity and obedience."¹⁰

* * *

"Today, we have many ways to know what the Pope is saying, such as good Catholic magazines and newspapers. And we must listen to him. There is no excuse for not knowing what is required. Some people today are not obeying for different reasons: misunderstanding teachings, being misinformed and, of course, others simply do not care... for Roman Catholics it is very simple; we do as the Pope directs."¹¹

Daily Duty and Sacrifice

"I don't know what the Virgin meant [when she said, "But first we must lead good lives."] I understand it to be a life lived moment by moment offering everything to God: living like a Christian the way our conscience tells us... Everyone—in their religion, in their environment, in their family, in their job—knows how to be good because, I believe, each person has his own conscience and God speaks to each one through his conscience."¹²

* * *

(When Conchita was single and working as a nurse) "[I fulfill the message] by doing my work to the best of my abilities. I treat the patients the way I should—You can fulfill the message anywhere. You can always be good and praise God."¹³

* * *

(After Conchita's marriage) "It is not important what your vocation is; the



The Virgin told Conchita, "I do not come only for you. I come for all my children, with the desire of bringing them to Our hearts."

message can be fulfilled in any state. I can fulfill the message in my everyday life. The sacrifices of the married state are a little different from those of the single state, but the effect for the soul is the same. Each day I offer to God all the little things."¹⁴

* * *

"Motherhood in New York is hard, very hard—much harder than in the village where so many help. It is hard, too, that Patrick must work evenings because we have so much ground to make up. Bills are a great worry; we never know if we will have anything left... In America, raising children is a twenty-four hour day, and you have to give them everything [of the faith to counteract outside pressures]"¹⁵

* * *

"What would give the Virgin great happiness is a very difficult thing for me. That is to live each moment of the day doing everything for God."¹⁶ □

1. GARABANDAL, April-June, 1985, p.4.
2. NEEDLES, Spring, 1974, p.17.
3. Ibid, May 1971, p.2.
4. Ibid.
5. GARABANDAL, April-June, 1987, p.26.
6. NEEDLES, Spring, 1974, p.17.
7. GARABANDAL, January-March, 1981, p.30.
8. NEEDLES, Spring 1975, p.13.
9. Message to workers of Our Lady, August 7, 1971.
10. NEEDLES, October, 1978, p.10.
11. MIRACLE AT GARABANDAL, p.122.
12. GARABANDAL, October-December, 1982, p.2.
13. Ibid, January-March, 1983, p.21.
14. NEEDLES, Spring, 1974, p.17.
15. GARABANDAL, April-June, 1982, p.7.
16. Ibid, January-March, 1983, p.21.

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