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ARCIVESCOVO  
di TRANI - BARLETTA - BISCEGLIE  
TITOLARE di NAZARETH

Prot. N. 182/12/C3

**COMMUNICATION n° 3**  
**About the process of Beatification and Canonization**  
**of the Servant of God *LUISA PICCARRETA***

Addressing the many who, in different ways in the world, are interested in the Servant of God *Luisa Piccarreta* and the spirituality of *Living in the Divine Will*, I like to update what I have previously reported on several occasions, and above all in the *Communications* of April 23, 2007 and of May 30, 2008.

The diffusion in the world of the figure and writings of the Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta has grown considerably in recent years, reaching new nations in all continents. Letters from Bishops, priests, and lay persons alike give proof of this, as well as the record of visitors to the places related to Luisa in Corato.

The joy of witnessing the growth of this reality is accompanied by the concern to extend to all a heartfelt **appeal for unity** and the mutual esteem, rejecting "quarreling and jealousy" as one who waits for the advent of the "fullness of day" (Rm 13:11-14). If we live in the light of the Divine Will we cannot but cultivate in ourselves the fruits of mutual Charity, for "anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness," (1 Jn 2:9).

I still observe with sorrow that "the doctrine of the Divine Will has not always been presented in a correct and respectful way, according to the doctrine and the Magisterium of the Church, putting remarks in the mouth of Luisa that are not even implicitly found in her writings. This provokes a trauma in consciences and even confusion and rejection among the people and by some Priests and Bishops" (*Letter* of March 9, 2006).

Therefore, it is my duty to point out some directions in a way that is clear for all.

**Current state of the Cause**

1. Actor of the process of Beatification and Canonization is the "Association *Luisa Piccarreta - Little Children of the Divine Will*" of Corato, that with its new statute dated June 13, 2010, I wanted to constitute as a Public Association of the Faithful due to its particular ecclesial significance.
2. I have given the Association a mandate in 2006 to constitute the *Secretariat of the Cause of Beatification of the Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta*, as an organism of liaison, support and information at the service of the many who in various ways are interested in the Cause itself, with the further task of opening dialogue with other Dioceses, persons, groups, and associations. "The Archdiocese and the Association will use *exclusively* the Secretariat to receive and answer any request made to them" (*Communication* of April 23, 2007). Therefore, no person or Association in the world can issue official notice apart from this Secretariat. *I forbid anyone from attempting to do so in my name.*
3. In 1994, with the *non obstat* of the Holy See was opened the Diocesan Inquiry into the life, virtues and fame of sanctity. This was concluded on October 29, 2005 with the transmission of



the Proceedings to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints and the nomination of Dr. Silvia Monica Correale as Postulator and Rev. Fr. Sabino Amedeo Lattanzio as Vice-postulator. The Congregation subsequently has communicated to me that “before proceeding *any further*, an examination of the writings of the Servant of God will be done, in order to clarify difficulties of a theological nature.”

4. In the prayerful anticipation of the outcome of this examination, I wish to address *all those who claim that these writings contain doctrinal errors*. This, to date, has never been endorsed by any pronouncement by the Holy See, nor personally by myself. I would like to note that in this way, in addition to anticipate the legitimate judgment of the Church, these persons cause scandal to the faithful who are spiritually nourished by said writings, originating also suspicion of those of us who are zealous in the pursuit of the Cause. In the anticipation of the judgment by competent Authority, I invite you to make more serious and in-depth meditations and reflections in your personal reading on these writings in light of Sacred Scripture, Tradition, and the Magisterium of the Church.
5. Furthermore, I wish to reiterate that if the writings of the Servant of God are read by people as to lead to the formation of one or more groups, this should not occur against the will of the Ordinary of the Place. Likewise, I recall what I have already communicated: “Neither the Archdiocese nor the Association nor the Secretariat has delegated any person, group or other association, in any way, to represent them outside of their legitimate locations, to spread knowledge about the life, thought and writings of the Servant of God or to make any decision in their names. From the moment that the Diocesan Inquiry was begun, the Archdiocese has never officially designated any Theologian or Censor for the writing of Luisa. Likewise, it has never nominated any official translator of the writings from Italian into any other language” (*Communication* of April 23, 2007).

### Preparation of the *typical edition* of the writings

6. “As I have already expressed at the conclusion of the diocesan phase of the Cause, it is my desire, after having heard the opinion of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, to present *a typical and critical edition of the writings* in order to provide the faithful with a trustworthy text of the writings of Luisa Piccarreta. So I repeat, the said writings are *exclusively* the property of the Archdiocese” (Letter to Bishops of October 14, 2006). To accomplish this demanding work that requires a certain kind of competence, I shall avail myself of a team of experts chosen in agreement with the Postulation.
7. Nevertheless, I must mention the growing and unchecked flood of transcriptions, translations and publications both through print and the internet. At any rate, “seeing the delicacy of the current phase of the proceedings, any and every publication of the writings is *absolutely* forbidden at this time. Anyone who acts against this is disobedient and greatly harms the cause of the Servant of God.” (*Communication* of May 30, 2008). All effort must be invested in avoiding all “leaks” of publications of any kind.

### Groups of the Divine Will

8. “It is with great joy that I receive the news that more and more of the groups that are inspired by the Divine Will are strengthening their community links with their diocesan Bishops, so creating that indispensable communion within the local Church and so allowing any possible tension or division to be overcome” (*Communication* of May 30, 2008). I reiterate, therefore, that “initiatives that are taken in reference with the spirituality of Luisa, for example conferences, spiritual retreats, prayer meetings, etc., must be authorized by one’s Bishop in

order to give serenity to the participants” (Letter of November 24, 2003).

9. Necessary prudence cannot lessen the ardor of those who feel compelled to spread the knowledge of the sanctity of life of the Servant of God, or of those who recommend the reading of her writings, or of those who encourage the faithful prayer for her beatification. All this not only is not prohibited, rather very much desirable. I also invite you to “reinforce the unity and communion among the dioceses in which individuals, groups and associations inspired by the Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta, and who know her writings, are to be found” (Final Communication of October 28, 2005).

#### **What is asked of those familiar with Luisa Piccarreta**

1. To pray for the Beatification of the Servant of God, that the Most Holy Trinity might be glorified and be diffuse the Reign of the Divine Will.
2. To send to the Postulation, through the Secretariat the testimonies and all else that regards the Servant of God, together with the economic donations needed today more than ever, for the work of the “*typical edition*” of the writings of Luisa.
3. To create a network of links between the several groups united with their Bishop, and our own Archdiocese, to make visible, ever more the great family of the *Divine Will*, established in the bond of unity, of the ecclesial communion and of the commitment of the new evangelization for the tradition of faith.

With great friendship and warmth, I greet and bless you all.

Trani, November 1st, 2012



  
✠ Giovan Battista Pichierri  
Archbishop