

April 1, 2013

Dear Friends of Blessed Margaret,

Christus resurrexit, sicut dixit, Alleluia! With this exultant greeting of the angel to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, I wish you a happy Easter with the same wonderful news: "He has been raised just as He said" (Mt 28:6)! Alleluia!

Blessed are all who see our Risen Lord through eyes of faith. On Divine Mercy Sunday, the last day of the great Easter Octave, we hear the Lord's words to St. Thomas, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29). My prayer for you and all the Guild Members is that you may see with ever deeper faith the great paschal mysteries that always take place at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Physical sight does not guarantee true vision, as we so often see with the Pharisees in the Gospels, nor does a physical impairment suggest a lack of spiritual insight. This is clear in the example of Blessed Margaret of Castello, who was born blind but had a clarity of spiritual sight that allowed her to read souls and perceive God's image in everyone. Little Margaret's spiritual vision pierced the mundane world that her dimmed eyes could not, peering into divine realities. Now she sees the Beatific Vision unveiled, enjoying the presence of her Beloved, yet all the while interceding on our behalf.

Confident in the many miracles at her intercession, I include your intentions in the special nine-day Novena of Masses in Bl. Margaret's honor that beginning on April 5 and concludes on her feast day, April 13. Please find the enclosed request form and return envelope if you wish to add your specific intentions to be placed in her Shrine before our relic of her precious and incorrupt heart.

Please join your prayers with ours. I also ask you once again to please pray for Blessed Margaret's canonization. It was the insistence of the people of the Città di Castello at her funeral that God acknowledged her holiness by the miraculous healing of a young crippled girl. May the Lord hear our fervent requests for Blessed Margaret's recognition and grant a miracle that meets all the conditions necessary for her canonization.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your prayers and support for the work of the Guild and Shrine of Blessed Margaret of Castello. Please know of my prayers and those of all the Dominican Friars as we continue to celebrate our Lord's resurrection during this holy season of Easter. *Christus resurrexit, sicut dixit, Alleluia!*

With my paschal blessing,



Rev. Michael Mary Dosch, O.P.
Shrine and Guild Director