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A PRAYER FOR THE KINGDOM REVELATOR MAGAZINE

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. We thank you for the gift of the Kingdom Revelator magazine and we ask you to touch the hearts of all the young people who will read it. We pray that you will work powerfully through the magazine to transform the lives of the readers through your Word and Wisdom. May it encourage them to grow in faith and to strive for holiness so that they will become more effective witnesses to your power and love in their lives. Holy Spirit teach us, guide us and help us to be your messengers and to spread Your Word through all generations. Amen.

SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT AND THEY SHALL BE CREATED AND YOU SHALL RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

PSALM 104:30



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KINGDOM

REVELATOR

OUR HEAVENLY PATRONESS

Our Lady Seat of Wisdom, pray for us.

OUR BISHOPS

Mar Jacob Angadiath, Bishop of the St. Thomas SyroMalabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago, USA.

Mar Joy Alappatt, Auxiliary Bishop of the St. Thomas SyroMalabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago, USA and patron of KR USA magazine.

IMPRIMATUR

Mar Joy Alappatt, Auxiliary Bishop of the St. Thomas SyroMalabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago, USA. Date: April 21, 2016

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

Rev. Fr. Xavier Khan Vattayil, Rev. Fr Soji Olikkal.

The Editorial Board wish to give all the Glory to God. Without his divine help the production of this magazine would not have been possible.

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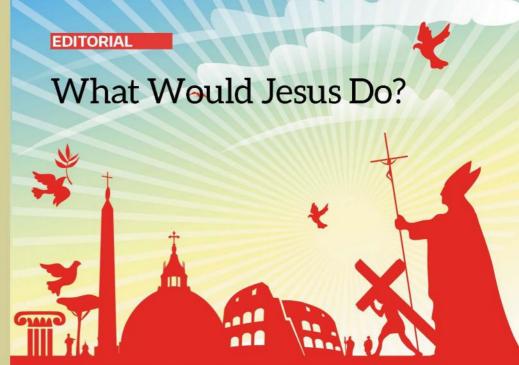
CONTACT US

If you would like to send us your personal testimony, write an original article for an upcoming issue (maximum 800 words please), submit a drawing or poem or just to contact us with feedback please e-mail: krmagusa@gmail.com.Our postal address:

KINGDOM REVELATOR USA 506 B Zenith Dr Glenview IL, 60025

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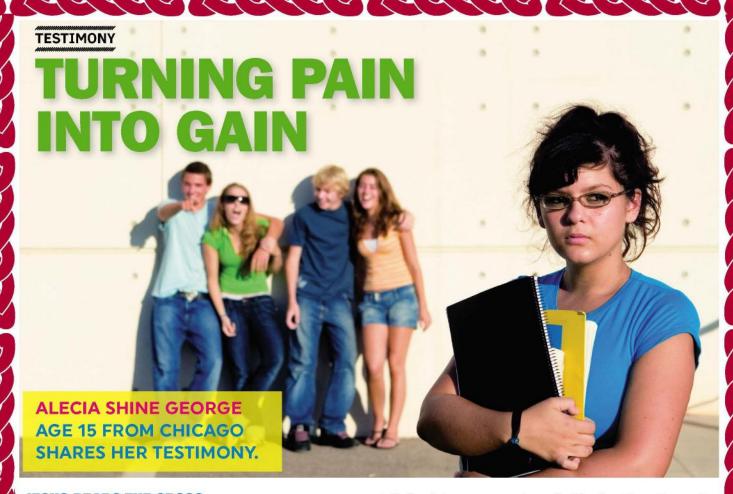


elcome to the latest edition of Kingdom Revelator, the magazine that seeks to help young people to experience more of the Kingdom of God in their lives. This month we feature two articles about the Papacy.

We have included some interesting facts about various Popes and the life story of Pope John XXIII, who was canonised on the same day as Pope John Paul II. Although he was elected as Pope less than 60 years ago his life story is less well known than the great Polish hero, Karol Wojtyła who became Pope John Paul II in 1978.

Following in the line of great Popes, Pope Francis continues to show the world how to love and be merciful to the most disadvantaged people. He surprised many people recently by making a one day visit to a refugee camp on the Greek island of Lesbos. It was heart rending to see how the refugees knelt at his feet, pleading for his help. Pope Francis was the true icon of Christ, as he tenderly embraced each one of them, listened to their stories and showed his love and compassion. He even took three Muslim Syrian refugee families back to Rome with him to start a new life in Italy. The Pope wanted to show the refugees that they were not forgotten and to give them hope that their situation would get better.

We can learn a lot from Pope Francis. Despite a packed schedule of official events, he still finds time for everyone who needs a kind word, a helping hand or a blessing. He reminds me that I should not be too busy to notice people around me who are in need and that every small act of kindness is important in giving people hope and dignity. Some Christians wear wristbands with the letters WWJD on them to remind them, "What would Jesus do?" It's a great question to ask ourselves when we encounter people who are disadvantaged. I wonder if Pope Francis has one!



JESUS BEARS THE CROSS

Jesus knows all about suffering. Think about the weight of all our sins that He, an innocent man, carried to the Cross. He never did anything wrong. All He ever did was heal the sick, perform miracles and spread love. But He chose to bear the Cross so that you and I could enter into the everlasting bliss of heaven. Luke 24:7 says, "The Son of Man must be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

BULLIED AND INSULTED

The pain and hurt that I went through is nothing compared to what Jesus suffered for me. For many years, I was bullied, picked on and insulted. The Bible says, "Rejoice when you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed." (1 Peter 4:13) At the time I didn't know Christ personally, so I didn't handle the situation very well. Instead of ignoring the bullies, I wanted to earn their friendship and be considered "popular." So I tried to copy their lifestyle. Gradually, I abandoned Christ and drifted away from Him.

CRYING INSIDE

I went through weeks of heartbreak, thinking that I wasn't loved. I began to act rebelliously, fight, and

talk back to my parents and older brother. Proverbs 12:16 says, "Fools show their anger at once, but the prudent ignore an insult." I would lock myself in my room, crying and complaining about my life. In public, when people saw me, they thought I was a happy and bright girl, but on the inside, I was just an unhappy mess. Jesus knew what I was going through, but I didn't take any notice of Him.

RETREATS

I went on a retreat when I was in the 7th grade. There they talked about God's love and it definitely touched me. But once I returned to school, the bullying and the insults became worse. St Paul said, "I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Corinthians 12:10) I went with my parents to many retreats where I would feel the power of the Holy Spirit for a while in my life but I always found myself in the same situation afterwards. When I got home I didn't really practice my faith, so it gradually diminished.

SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION

However, there was a special retreat called SOE (School of Evangelization) where Jesus touched me

in a very powerful way. One night in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, we were praising and adoring God. Everyone around me was either in tears, speaking in tongues, or surrendering themselves totally to Christ. But nothing was happening to me. All I could keep saying was, "Hallelujah." I didn't understand why I wasn't feeling anything. I was wondering about this when I suddenly realized that I didn't truly believe and love God personally. The youth leaders around me were telling us to ask for Mother Mary's intercession so I kept saying Mama, Mama. Before I knew it, I was in tears thinking of the unimaginable love of Jesus when He died on the cross for me.

If you are being bullied in any way then please tell a responsible adult, whom you can trust.

I TOOK UP MY CROSS

I still experience insults and suffer bullying to this day. Sometimes at night when I am upset and in tears, I look at a picture of Jesus and I kiss His face. Then I rededicate myself to Him and offer to take up my cross. Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone wants to become my follower, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)

MY SPECIAL GIFT

I believe that everyone is called to a special plan that God has already prepared for them and that my suffering is a special gift that Jesus has given to me. Matthew 7:13-14 says, "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. But the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it." St. Alphonsa described suffering as a way of purifying the soul. I advise you to take your suffering as a gift from God and allow it to strengthen your faith and help you to love Him more. \blacksquare





PRAYER LINE

Please send us your prayer intentions and we will pray for you.

E-Mail: krprayer@gmail.com



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