

ORIGIN AND MESSAGES OF DIVINE MERCY SHRINE OF HOLY MARY

“Do you think you will escape God’s Judgement? Or perhaps you despise His great kindness, tolerance, and patience. Surely you know that God is kind, because He is trying to lead you to repent” (Rm 2:3-4)

Strictly for Private Circulation

THE HISTORY
OF THE APPARITION
OF THE MOTHER OF DIVINE MERCY
AT THODUPUZHA

Origin and Messages of Divine Mercy Shrine of Holy Mary

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PREFACE

In the history of the Catholic Church spanning 2000 years, many divine apparitions and private revelations have taken place. The Church recognizes and approves these private revelations only with extreme caution and considerable discretion. The heritage of Faith received through Jesus Christ our one and only Saviour and from the Holy Scripture as well as through the age old tradition of the Holy Catholic Church is complete. The Church believes and unequivocally teaches that the private revelations that happen from time to time do not add anything more to the fullness of the revelations of Jesus Christ or to the invaluable treasure of Christian Faith. However the Church accepts the fact that such private revelations do take place and that they help the children of the Church to grow in the fullness of faith.

A tree is known by its fruit. Similarly the maternal Church is continuously watching the spiritual growth, spiritual conversions and the solidarity of the people of God to the body of the Church attained through private revelations. Thus the divine apparitions and revelations are subjects of continuous study by the Church. If they are found to be worthy of faith and also becomes the cause for a spiritual awakening, the tradition of the Holy Church is to give them the seal of approval. In order to do this, the Church relies on the 2000 year old tradition of the Church, the divine revelations of saints, the teachings of the Fathers of the Church and above all the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Nine year old girl named Chippy, daughter of the couple John and Regi of Puthiyidam family at Thodupuzha, was blessed with the apparitions and messages of Holy Virgin Mary from 1999 onwards. On the basis of these apparitions and messages, she

sanctified herself through intense prayer and sufferings of life. Without much delay, as instructed by the Holy Virgin, the house and property where Chippy lived as well as the chapel built in the property were handed over to the diocese of Kothamangalam. Thus on August 14th, 2006, Mar George Punnakkottil, the Bishop of Kothamangalam blessed the Chapel and offered Holy Mass. The Chapel was named “Divine Mercy Shrine of Holy Mary”.

From that day onwards, God was nurturing the Shrine to grow in a miraculous manner. Everyday hundreds of people from different parts of the country arrive here to pray and return with a spiritual enrichment. There have been hundreds of documented personal witnesses regarding the conversion of many sinners, and miraculous cure of bodily and spiritual illnesses. All these confirm the active presence and intercession of the Holy Mother.

As part of the attempt to make the revelations of Holy Virgin Mary at Thodupuzha, the subject matter of a study, the history of the revelations of the Holy Mother from the beginning and Her messages are factually narrated in this small book. In order to obtain the formal approval of the Church, long studies and observations lasting many years along with patient waiting may be required. The tradition of the Church has been such so far. It is hoped that the matters recorded here as private revelations would be beneficial for the inner purification of the people of God and to grow in love and devotion to the Holy Mother as well as to recognize and identify the depths of Divine Mercy.

Rev. Fr. George Chettoor
Rector

CONTENTS

1. The Birth and Childhood of Chippy	7
2. The Family of Chippy turns towards God	7
3. Prayer and Fasting	9
4. First Apparition of Holy Mother	11
5. Second Apparition of Holy Mother	11
6. Frequent Apparitions of Mother Mary and Her continued presence	13
7. Precaution taken to avoid errors in Messages and Apparitions	14
8. A Fellowship of those who obey the Messages of Holy Mother is formed	15
9. Holy Mother asks for a special place in the house	17
10. A separate place having water and rock is prepared outside house, as wished by Holy Mother.	24
11. Individuals and Families are sanctified according to Divine Justice	25
12. Impediment to Chippy's education	29
13. The Journey in search of a Spiritual Father for Chippy	31
14. Revelations of Divine Justice and Divine Mercy	33
15. Grotto is opened for the Public	38
16. Consecration to Divine Mercy by lighting candles in the Shrine.	39
17. Sanctification of life demanded.	42
18. Praying the Divine Mercy Rosary for the Souls consecrated to the Mercy of God.	47

19. Holy water in the pond at the feet of the statue of Holy Mother.	48
20. Holy Mother guides those who visit the Grotto, advises to follow the Messages of Holy Mother and live accordingly.	49
21 . The living presence of Holy Trinity and Holy Mother are promised in the Grotto.	51
22. Faithfulness to God and obedience to the Holy Catholic Church and Her Anointed.	55
23. The Prayer for Divine Protection taught by the Mother.	60
24. Mother asks for arranging convenience for the faithful who visits the Shrine and to give them Message of Divine Mercy for Salvation of Souls and Sanctification of Life in black and white.	60
25. Chippy's Divine experiences.	62
26. Divine Mercy Shrine of Holy Mary Thodupuzha, the Abode of Divine Mercy	67
27. Eight channels of Divine Mercy revealed through St. Faustina of Poland.	72
28. Six channels of Divine Mercy revealed through the Mother of Divine Mercy in Thodupuzha.	73
29. The business of Chippy's father, John collapses and the statues at the Grotto are damaged	75
30. The Chippy's house, property and the Grotto are entrusted to the Church as instructed by Mother.	78

1. The Birth and Childhood of Chippy

Thresia, affectionately called Chippy, was born on 25th January, 1990 as the second among the three children of John and Regi of Puthiyidam. She was baptized on 30th May. At birth she was underweight. When she was hardly four months, she became afflicted with dysentery, which persisted almost a year. At the age of one and a half, she happened to fall down from the first floor of the house. But she escaped unhurt miraculously with minor injuries. After this fall she contracted asthma which made her suffer very severely till she was almost nine years old. During this period she underwent treatments prescribed by various medical systems such as Allopathy, Homeo, Ayurveda and Naturopathy. But they failed to cure her. Due to chronic asthma, Chippy neither had the necessary height nor weight appropriate for her age. Because of constant illness she could attend school rarely. She did not even have the health required to carry her own school bag or climb steps. There were many occasions when Chippy and her parents wished that it was better Chippy succumbed to death rather than continue in this constant suffering due to illness.

When Chippy was five years old, she fell down from an auto rickshaw that was on the move and suffered injuries. On another occasion a candy she was eating got stuck in the throat, but escaped miraculously. Thus from birth onwards Chippy was grappling with suffering.

2. The Family of Chippy turns towards God

In 1993, when Chippy was 3 years old, Chippy's

mother Reji participated in a renewal retreat. The family was living in rented houses - in as many as thirteen of them, one after another till then. However, after the retreat, they could buy a new house of their own. This led to deepen their faith. Even though Reji participated in several other retreats, there was no relief for Chippy's illness. But Regi had a firm belief that Holy Mother would save her child. But Chippy's father John, a Chartered Accountant running Liquor business was immersed in studies and readings conducive to intellectual growth and lived thus with his heart away from God and Sacramental life.

Taking inspiration from a fellow Christian who came to Chippy's house, begging offering for the Church at Edathua, Regi also decided to visit hundred and one houses begging offering for the Church of Our Lady of Ransom at Vallarpadam. During this period, Regi's father N.V.Joseph Nirappel, an Abkari contractor but a teetotaller developed Liver Cirrhosis. He realized that his illness was a consequence to his Abkari business and this led to his spiritual conversion. This in turn had a great spiritual impact in the family. He decided to abandon the liquor business totally. Spending part of his wealth, he purchased land at Muthalakkodam to establish an orphanage with the name 'SNEHALAYAM' and entrusted it to the SABS congregation. This way he tried to expiate for his sins.

Regi became spiritually aware that her prayers ought to be for her husband rather than for the healing of

Chippy. She intensely prayed for her husband John, reciting rosary for thirty days. As a result, John got the opportunity to attend a week long retreat. The message he received through the counselor during the retreat was that liquor business is patently wrong. John took the decision to quit the liquor business. This decision brought more divine light into the family.

3. Prayer and Fasting

Brother George Pullampally, an acquaintance of Sr. Maria SABS, sister of Regi, was an ardent devotee of Mother Mary. He received a spiritual inspiration to pray for Chippy's healing along with five blood relations of Chippy in her house by spending a day, every month in prayer and fasting for one year. As soon as the decision was taken to start the prayer, Chippy suddenly became ill and had to be admitted in Holy Family Hospital, Muthalakodam. The first day's prayer and fasting was on 10th October, 1998. Thereafter changes in the condition of Chippy for better began to be perceived.

After the first day of prayer and fasting, Chippy began to sleep comfortably during nights without breathing difficulties. This led her father John, to grow in faith and dependence on the power of prayer in life. The realization that, when medical treatment failed, God's mercy will protect them, if they trust in His Mercy, dawned upon Chippy and her mother. So they began to lean more and more towards prayer in an intense manner.

As her health improved, Chippy began to pick up the

broken threads of her education. Returning from school, she used to play in the courtyard of the house. During this time, she used to have visions of frightening shapes and terrifying animals coming to attack her, and the moment she started praying, praising the Lord they used to vanish. Reji had difficulty in verifying the truth of what Chippy was talking, as her brother playing with her was not experiencing this.

Following the recovery from her illness Chippy and her mother were in the habit of praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet before the crucifix, when Chippy returned from school in the evening. During this time, Chippy used to have visions of different kinds. Some of these visions included dripping of blood from the wounds of Jesus on the Cross and the Holy Body itself falling into the chalice as broken pieces. On some occasions, she also experienced the images of Jesus, Holy Mother and Saints becoming alive and moving.

On February 1999, after the fifth month fasting and prayer day, when Chippy came home from school, she saw an angel as large as herself in the front courtyard of the house. The angel entered the house along with Chippy and was seen in the house for some time. On Saturday, 13th March during the sixth prayer and fasting day, there was Precious Blood anointing experience. Chippy saw the Precious Blood flowing from the crucifix enveloping the table first, then the room and thereafter the whole house. On the same day, when Chippy was coming down the stairs from the first floor, after the prayer, an Archangel came and embraced her and then disappeared.

4. The First Apparition of Holy Mother

Holy Mother appeared for the first time to Chippy on 15th March, 1999 two days after the sixth month prayer-cum-fasting day, when the Precious Blood anointing and the visit of Archangel took place. It was a rainy evening, when Chippy was coming back home from school. She saw a beautiful woman with heavenly splendor, bathed in celestial radiance of bright light, in the front courtyard. Eventhough it was raining, the hallow of light illuminating Her, scattered the rain drops. Chippy, who had visited Velankanni and Poondi, suddenly recognized that this woman of heavenly beauty was none other than the Holy Mother. She informed Regi about the presence of Holy Mother. Regi could not grasp fully what Chippy had said, as she could not see the supernatural vision. She advised Chippy to invite Holy Mother into the house. Holy Mother entered the house and sat with them on the bed in the front room. Then they recited a decade of the rosary as suggested by Chippy and sang a hymn honoring the Mother. Mother Mary smiled in great joy. But She did not say anything. And thereafter She disappeared.

5. Second Apparition of the Mother

The second apparition of Holy Mother took place in the Chapel of the Holy Family Hospital at Muthalakkodam. As Chippy's grandfather was admitted in a very serious condition in the hospital, Regi and Chippy were praying in front of the statue of Holy Mary in the Chapel. A luminous cloud burst and blossomed in front of Chippy. Holy Mother appeared in the cloud for a

short while. She smiled at Chippy and soon disappeared. When this was told to Regi, she asked Chippy to appeal to Mother Mary to cure her grandfather. As Chippy prayed for this intention, Holy Mother appeared again. At her request Holy Mother said: "**Shall save him**". To the question what should be done for this to happen, the answer was "**You are eight children. All the children together with mother shall pray to me lighting candles.**" At the same time Chippy was shown her grandfather lying crowned with flowers.

However this message could not be accomplished as some of Reji's sisters could not accept this divine message from a nine year old family member. But when Reji's father got admitted in Kolencherry hospital in an extreme condition, Regi's mother insisted all the children to pray together to Holy Mother. Thus all the children and mother lighted candles in front of the picture of Holy Mother in Kolencherry Hospital. But soon Chippy's grandfather became unconscious and died the next day. This was a shock for Regi, because she had hoped that her father would be saved from the mortal illness, as they had prayed together obeying the message of Holy Mother. When this grief was brought to the notice of Holy Mother, the Holy Virgin comforted her saying that She was referring to the salvation of his soul. During the apparition, when Holy Mother assured of saving Reji's father, the vision of her father lying crowned with flowers indicated his death.

6. Frequent Apparitions of Mother Mary and Her Continued Presence

One day, when Chippy was in prayer, Holy Mother appeared and asked: "**Can I come to your house?**" With happiness, Chippy agreed. But then She said: "**It is not enough to have your concurrence. Permission from your father, mother and brother is required.**"

When this was told to the family members, they all happily agreed. However when the consent of the family was conveyed to the Mother, She said: "**Once I come, you should not ask me to leave.**" Chippy and her family did not then understand the full import of these words. Holy Mother was foretelling the future sufferings they have to face while they cooperate with the great divine plan according to Holy Mother's messages. In future when Chippy and her family pass through the furnace of sufferings and alienated and persecuted by others, they are warned not to abandon Holy Mother.

On that day onwards, Holy Mother became the Mistress of the house intervening in the affairs of every member and guiding them through apparitions and messages. While the worldly and spiritual matters executed according to the guidance of Holy Mother achieved good results as well as divine protection, there were failures in matters which were done without consulting Holy Mother or ignoring Her advice. This made the family members ponder on the divine protection they received when obeying the messages, which inspired them to entrust all things to the Mother and live

according to the Divine Will, revealed through these messages. She trained them to seek God's Will and to submit to the Divine Will taking complete refuge in God even when it appears contrary to human reasoning. Holy Mother had given a great value for obedience.

7. Precautions taken to avoid errors in Messages and Apparitions

Anticipating the dangers of getting misguided when following the divine messages and apparitions, Holy Mother was enquired about the precautions to be taken. She advised that "**when messages are taken, Chippy and people with her should pray and praise God; while Chippy should recite the 'binding' prayer when the apparitions are taking place.**" On certain occasions of apparitions, on reciting the binding prayer taught by Holy Mary, Satan, who disguised himself as Holy Mother, was seen running away.

In order to confirm the genuinity of messages and apparitions given through Holy Mother as part of the divine plan, two other individuals who were recipients of divine messages were assigned to help Chippy. One of them is Nirmala Vadakkepurackal, who is now in spiritual services together with her husband in the Rosa Mystica Centre in America. The other person is Hena, daughter of the sister of Regi. She is the mother of two children and lives in Bangalore. Both of them cooperated with the plan of Holy Mother right from the beginning. Sometimes some messages were given in part to Chippy and the other part, either to Nirmala or Hena. Receiving messages in

this manner proved the authenticity of messages and the family members were filled with deep belief in the messages as well as the courage to obey them.

8. A Fellowship of those who obey Holy Mother's Messages is formed

Hearing about the apparitions of Holy Mother, two sisters of Regi, some of their family members and few close friends often visited Chippy's house. Many who believed in the messages of the Mother were prepared to modify their lives in consonance with the messages. But eleven families rejected the messages of the Mother without recognizing the value of the suffering implicit in the messages which were against one's selfish interests. Other few families cooperated with the plan of Holy Mother as wished by God. Instead of forming a large sized fellowship, the Mother gave shape to a small group, yet humble and obedient.

Holy Mother told that those who were chosen would be "**sanctified like gold is being purified**". She helped to sanctify those family members who travelled on the path of obedience by doing the Will of God taking up the sufferings. During this period, as instructed by the Mother, several families stayed in Chippy's house for several days. Reji's youngest sister and family lived in the chosen house for ten months as requested by Holy Mother.

At certain times, when Chippy prayed, she felt the presence of several Saints like St.Thomas the Apostle, St.

Sicily and many Holy Angels. Holy Mother used to ask: **“Children, will you help me to fill the Heaven?”** and **“Would you cooperate with me in executing the plan of God?”** Chippy was fully resolved to obey the demands of Queen of Heaven, no matter how difficult they were. The sorrow of the Mother due to the loss of souls was beyond description. When some messages were delayed in implementing, Jesus appeared and asked: **“Couldn’t you obey what my Mother tells you?”** Holy Mother used to tell everyone to obey the instructions given by Heaven.

After the grotto was transferred to the diocese, an intercession prayer group was formed, as requested by Holy Mother under the leadership of the first Rector Fr. Jose Monippally. This fellowship was formed from a chosen few who were submissive and obedient to the messages of Holy Mother. They were asked to pray not less than one and a half hours in front of the Holy Eucharist on every Sunday under the leadership of the Rector. Similarly, six people from three families who cooperated with the plans of the Mother from the very beginning got together with Fr. Rector once a week sharing thoughts about the messages of the Mother and the heavenly plans of the Queen of Heaven.

During the initial period of apparition, when family members complained about the excess of sufferings, Holy Mother’s answer was, seeing the conversions and miracles which are going to happen at the grotto in future, you would say ‘Oh! we suffered only this much!’

9. Holy Mother asks for a special place in the House

One day in the morning, as Chippy woke up, Holy Mother appeared to her wearing a green silk saree and told her 'I need a special location to stay in the house.' The importance of this demand lies in setting apart a cenacle of prayer, either a small room or a specific location for the divine presence. Later as instructed by the Mother, a statue cabin was made and fixed on the wall of the prayer room in the upper floor. Then as revealed a 2½ft size statue of Holy Mother, wearing a silk saree, was placed in the cabin. Understanding the desire of John and Regi to have a little more land near the house for cultivation, the Mother showed Chippy a place having water and a field and said: "**You would obtain not less than 5 acres of land and a house better than the one you are occupying now.**"

On another occasion, Mother said: "**I am the Queen of Heaven. Your body, mind, intellect, heart, sense organs and the house you live in must be holy.**" Impure and unholy sinful circumstances, objects related to other religious practices, and things offered to alien gods and powers, as well as things or symbols that are likely to bring in the influences of satanic forces should not be preserved in the house, establishments and places of work. Holy Mother demanded that these must be abandoned and the house and other places have to be kept holy and pure.

“Drinking liquor, smoking, chewing tobacco and consuming other intoxicating things, lending money with unjust interest are all sins. Serving liquor at home is a hindrance to the flow of God’s Grace.” The money made from such dealings is not acceptable before God, and people were asked to do penance for indulging in these things. Individuals, families and generations will have to bear the consequences of the sins, when they enjoy wealth obtained by these sinful ways. Holy Mother gave a strong warning that requital debt of many sins have to be born by the heirs who enjoy the fruits of these sinful deeds.

“Body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and must be kept holy.” Holy Mother has revealed that people who received the sign of Cross as the seal of life in Baptism, putting decorative marks like dot (Pottu or Bindhu) on the forehead and tattooing on the body is not pleasing to God. Holiness of the spirit is very important. Holy observance of the First, Second and Third Commandments would always help to ensure the holiness of spirit. Both trivial and serious violations of the First Commandment, and failure to acknowledge Jesus as the true and only one God, are mortal sins against Faith. Holy Mother also said that transgression of the First Commandment severely damages the spiritual relationship of the human spirit with God, which naturally leads the individual to other sins.

“It is not God’s Will to have cultural imitations in the liturgy and spiritual life, even if they appear

insignificant.” The Universal Church, through the Second Vatican Council, encouraged inculcation as a step to evangelization in certain countries, societies and cultures. But inculcations and cultural imitations are two different things. The origins of certain habits, practices, tradition, deeds and use of certain objects formed as part of cultural imitation when studied closely show that these came into existence as part of worship of alien gods. Anything evolved non complaint to the unique faith in God is against the faith in true and only one God. Holy Mother requested all members in Her fellowship to confess sins related to cultural imitation and remove all the objects related to these from their houses.

Through the life experiences of the members of the fellowship, Holy Mother revealed the consequences that can occur in our life by the violation of the First Commandment. When Joshi, husband of Regi's sister, while studying, started to wear a ring studded with a birthstone as advised by his friend's father who was a palmist. After attending a retreat in 1992, he realized that it was wrong and he abandoned the birth stone. But he had not confessed it. Several years later Holy Mother spoke through nine year old Chippy, who did not know the incident by telling that, **“Even though Joshi abandoned the birth stone on the ring, the powers of evil which came through it have not left him.”** On another occasion, Miss. Salamma, a spiritual councilor in Mundakkayam revealed the same thing to his mother and sister. Thereafter Joshi confessed his sin and sought absolution for it. Trusting in Divine Mercy, as directed by

Holy Mother, he did penance for the retribution of the temporal punishment of that sin.

Holy Mother revealed this incident to highlight, how serious it is, even an insignificant violation of the First Commandment. Even if we forget our old sins, we will be accountable before the Holy presence of God, unless we receive Sacramental absolution and reparation is done for the same. Giving priority in your life to anything other than your God is a transgression of the First Commandment. Believing that we will receive goodness and blessings in life through some other way other than through faith in one and only true God, Jesus Christ is a violation of the First Commandment.

Once a person came to Chippy's house asking for chrysanthus flowers to be used for the worship of an alien deity. Absent mindedly, Regi gave him permission to pluck the flowers. Chippy was playing behind the house. Without knowing about this incident, she came to Regi and said: **“Holy Mother will not give you anymore messages. There won’t be flowers anymore on your Chrysanthus either”**. Regi did not receive any more messages from Holy Mother since then. Reji became aware of her mistake and she went to attend a retreat at the Chittoor Retreat Centre. The Preacher during the retreat talked about the transgression of the First Commandment by offering flowers and other offerings to worship alien gods and also consuming the food offered to these gods, and asked the people to confess these sins. Regi acknowledged her fault and confessed. When she

returned home Holy Mother again started giving messages to Reji through Chippy. But the chrysanthus in Regi's courtyard never blossomed again.

The fault is not with chrysanthus flower or in the deed of giving flowers to somebody. Chrysanthus flower created by God is as good as any of His other creation. In Christian faith, the deed of a man is judged by God by the purity of his intention and not on the merits of his deed alone. Through this event, Holy Mother was emphasising that a Christian who lives by faith in, One and Only True God, participating directly or indirectly by giving any kind of object for worshiping god of any other faith is violation of the First Commandment. We must love the non-Christians as our own brothers and as our own selves. But a Christian should never associate himself with alien faith. Faithfulness to the One and Only True God, even in insignificant things is the fullness of keeping the First Commandment.

Chippy's brother was indifferent in studies and his education was discontinued. When this was brought to the attention of Holy Mother, She revealed that the transgression of the First Commandment by Chippy's father, John was the reason for the hindrance in the boy's education. John, who was a Chartered Accountant, was staying away from true faith in God, sacramental life and adoration of God. He was more interested in reading historical books, Hindu mythologies and literature for knowledge and intellectual faculty betterment. This meant he was giving more importance to authors and

philosophical treatises than to God and to the Word of God. Holy Mother pointed out this, as a violation of the First Commandment. In the beginning of the apparitions, whenever John is prayed over Swami Vivekanandan wearing a turban was featured in place of John. This suggested the intellectual subordination of John to Vivekanandan's teachings and Philosophy by reading complete works of Swami Vivekanandan – 8 volumes and getting attracted to it.

When John acknowledged and confessed this sin and destroyed the books and started to read the Word of God, the education of the boy could be restarted. He joined Mar Augusthinos College at Ramapuram for BBA course. After completion of the course he joined for MBA. It is necessary for parents to live in holiness for their children to walk on the straight path without getting misguided.

The spirit is sanctified and is anointed through the reading of the Word of God. Similarly, books that propagate mythology, traditional epic ideas and legendary imaginative themes are detrimental for the salvation of soul. Along with this, ideals that mask the Divinity of Jesus Christ, concepts which reject true and only one God, as well as inordinate stimulation of imagination, are all instrumental in loosing the sanctity of souls through the intellect. But Holy Mother pointed out that reading and studying those books as part of education is not wrong. People do not recognize the influence of these intellectual evils which turn man away from God.

Holy Mother pointed out that the overemphasis of the intellectual faculties, worldly knowledge and chasing after worldly recognition, without seeking the supernatural and preternatural gifts, divine knowledge and Sacramental Graces leads to great decline and fall in the spiritual life.

“Showing reverence and praying to individuals who died from our families and supposed to have led a holy life, but not approved by the Catholic Church is transgression of the First Commandment.” Many people think that their parents, ancestors, friends and relatives, who expired have gone straight to heaven. Until the Church proclaims someone a saint, we should not stop praying for them, thinking they are in heaven, nor seek their spiritual intervention by praying to them. Most appropriate thing is to pray for the Mercy of God for them. Otherwise they will forfeit the prayers which are their due.

Once a close relative of John, who was a nun and the Principal of a school, came to the grotto. This middle aged nun was having difficulty in breathing and had swelling in her legs, so much so she could hardly walk. This prayerful nun sister assumed that her mother had reached Heaven as she had gone through many sufferings before her death. So the nun sister used to pray to her mother daily. When prayed to Holy Mother surrendering the sister and her illness, sister was asked to stop praying to her mother and instead, offer her mother and all her ancestors to Divine Mercy by lighting candles at the grotto, and to recite the Divine Mercy Rosary daily for the

ancestors. The nun was asked to take bath in the Holy water at the grotto as well. Within a week the nun recovered her health.

10. A separate place having water and rock is prepared outside house as wished by Holy Mother

After some days Holy Mother said: "**I need a place to stay separate from the house, having water and rock.**" Many places were scouted; but none was found suitable. It was a fact that when we show sincerity in carrying out the unclear messages of Holy Mother, we would be given more clear revelations. It was at this time, Holy Mother expressed Her desire to have a Church built in Her name. But since a suitable place could not be found, building a grotto in the house courtyard was considered. At this point Holy Mother said "**I should not be kept behind the house.**" Thus it was decided to build a grotto with a pond inside it, in front of the house itself.

At the place specified by Holy Mother a pond was made as per the message. In the middle of the pond, a five feet tall statue of the Holy Mary standing with folded hands, another statue of Jesus in the pose of blessing those who pray to the Mother as well as a statue of Mary Magdalene carrying a basket of flowers were installed on 1st January, 2001. At the same time, as earlier requested by Holy Mother a two and a half feet statue of Holy Mary wearing a green silk saree was put in the cabin in the prayer room on the upper floor. Later Holy Mother asked to change the saree of this statue every month.

The statues of Jesus, Holy Mother and Mary Magdalene were installed at the grotto to indicate that whoever prays to the Mother would receive blessings from Jesus and any sinner who repents would receive God's mercy. Rev. Fr. Gracian of the Capuchin Congregation blessed these statues. Fr. Gracian was a visitor to the family after hearing about the apparitions right from the beginning and used to give the necessary spiritual guidance during that period.

11. Individuals and families are sanctified according to Divine Justice

Those who were selected as part of Holy Mother's apparition were sanctified individually by giving personal instructions. Some of these instructions given for personal spiritual sanctification were, sufferings incompatible to human intellect. Holy Mother trained the family members and others to be obedient to all the messages thereby implementing the Will of God. The family members were sanctified by their endurance to sufferings while carrying out the messages of Holy Mother and thus were brought closer to God.

During this period, the instructions given by Holy Mother for the sanctification of the family members were not acceptable to human logic or thinking. This brought misunderstanding and animosity among some of the relatives, friends and neighbours. Some of the instructions and sufferings were: severe fasting, reading Bible around the house, Way of the Cross on knees inside

and outside the house, travel to places specified by Holy Mother, pilgrimage to Velankanni and Poondi, swimming for hours in the river, hindrance to the education of children, speaking about Holy Mother and Her revelations sitting in a room behind closed doors, personal discipline and so on. During this period, members of this fellowship were not permitted to attend many of the programmes and celebrations held in the family circle and in the community. Holy Mother demanded acceptance and implementation of God's Will revealed through Her, even in unfavourable circumstances and to keep internal silence and peace.

A prayerful person, who felt difficulties in obeying the unlogical instructions, asked Holy Mother whether it is enough to recite rosaries instead of obeying messages. Mother pointed out a book and answered: "**Moving this book as soon as I ask, is more fruitful than reciting a thousand rosaries.**" On that day while others were going out as per Holy Mothers message, this person was asked to recite 12 complete rosaries instead of obeying that particular message. People who went on travel in the evening as directed by the Holy Mother, came back at night and slept. When they woke up in the morning, the person reciting the rosary could not complete the twelve rosaries in lieu of the travel. Thus Holy Mother taught spiritual matters through experience. She said "**obeying the messages which I reveal is easier than facing natural sufferings.**"

While complaining about sufferings, Holy Mother used to comfort by saying that "**compared to my Son's sufferings, how insignificant are these!**" When there were occasions of disobedience to Holy Mother's messages by people in the fellowship, divine visions of Chippy were blocked and untoward things happened in the absence of divine protection. There were many experiences of this kind. Holy Mother revealed that harmful things happened not as punishment by God, but due to lack of God's protection. Visions and messages were resumed only when pardon for sins were sought by praying to God the Father invoking the Divine Mercy. This led to sincere and zealous observance of the messages by the members of the family and the fellowship. Those in the fellowship were sent several times by Holy Mother for retreats, fasting for 3 days telling that this would help complete oblation of self.

Saying that "**I am disclosing the Will of God the Father,**" Holy Mother used to encourage people to obey the messages promptly and happily and also to live in hope and happiness in any hopeless situation. Holy Mother exhorted that "**You should have the faith of Abraham. Obedience is greater than sacrifice.**" She pointed out that Abraham not only believed but he obeyed what he believed. Those who happily obeyed the instructions, which appeared stupid in the eyes of the world, received fulfilment of their objectives. They also received deliverance from different kinds of bondages and relief from illnesses as well as spiritual satisfaction. It

was revealed that talking about Mother Mary was very much appealing to God the Father. There were many occasions when members of the fellowship sat in the room, behind closed doors talking about Mary, Mother of Jesus and about individuals and matters directed by Holy Mother. This led to conversions, healing from sickness and solutions to problems.

When excess sufferings were allowed, Holy Mother used to comfort with signs of divine intervention. When many found fault with the messages and tried to establish they were wrong, Holy Mother used to say: **“There would not be any obstacle for you from the Church; no one will hurt you either.”** With the exception of these two things, the family members had to bear the brunt of misunderstandings, allegations and accusations.

Along with the sufferings for the personal sanctification of the family, they were persecuted more and more in all arenas, even after the house and land were transferred to the diocese with the intention of cooperating in the divine plan for the Salvation of souls. The oppressions used to become more intense when the preparation for the celebration of feasts of the Shrine were commenced. The same situation persisted when any particular divine plan was executed in the Shrine. Mother Mary said **“sufferings are required for Divine Mercy Messages for the Salvation of Souls and Conversion of individuals, revealed through Mother Mary to be approved by the Holy Catholic Church and to be accepted all over the world.”**

While Chippy and her family members were passing through the furnace of suffering in the process of sanctification and when others were opposing them, God brought home many of His Anointed and laypersons having the gift of divine vision. God spoke through these gifted persons by giving visions and messages supporting the revelations of Holy Mother and comforting them in their sufferings. This strengthened the family members.

Holy Mother pointed out the faults of the members of the fellowship and asked them to correct their concealed vices such as hatred, duplicity, selfishness, arrogance and impurity. While emphasizing the necessity for humility and sanctity, she demanded for the practice of these virtues and regular repentent confession. She told that confession without repentance from the heart was not acceptable to God the Father. In such cases, the family members were asked to confess again with repentance. Eventhough Chippy had received her first Holy Communion, she once again received the Holy Eucharist with great devotion and preparation as requested by Holy Mother.

12. Impediment to Chippy's Education

After completing the fifth standard, Chippy's schooling has to be discontinued in connection with Holy Mother's apparitions for nearly four years. During the early childhood while Chippy was fighting for life due to severe Asthma, Regi prayed only for life of Chippy as schooling was not possible due to severe illness. When the misunderstanding in the community regarding the

impediment in the education of Chippy was brought to the notice of Holy Mother, She said to Regi, “**You asked only for the life of Chippy. But I would give her life and education.**” Although school education could not be restarted immediately, they believed and obeyed the words of the Mother. From 2003 onwards, she received private tuition at home which enabled her to write and passout the SSLC examination on March 2005, one year earlier than the children of the same age. In 2007, she passed Plus Two in first class from Marygiri CBSE school at Koothattukulam. Her graduation in B.Com. in first class was from Shantigiri College at Vazhithala in 2010. In 2011 she passed the C.A. entrance test. Now she is studying for C.A.

Holy Mother said that the present trend of parents giving importance mainly to school education and entrance examinations on Sundays without practicing Sabbath and converting Sundays as holidays by engaging in celebration and entertainment is a wrong practice of ignoring the Salvation of Souls. It was therefore, demanded that children in the fellowship should totally avoid studies on Sundays and celebrate the Sunday, as a holyday in a manner pleasing to God. “**Sunday should not be considered as a holiday. One must withdraw from learning as well as teaching and all kinds of entertainments and games must be avoided. Leaving all kinds of celebrations and similar activities, one must become involved in the activities and interests of My Son.**”

Imitating and learning the dances pleasing to deities are violations of the Commandment. Holy Mother expressed Her displeasure in sending children to such dance training centres. Holy Mother instructed that **“parents should obey the Commandments of God and lead Sacramental lives, docile to the Word of God and the Church.”**

13. The Journey in Search of a Spiritual Father for Chippy

Along with the commencement of the apparition of Holy Mother it was a never ending trail of sufferings for the family. Everybody started accusing Chippy’s parents, when she was not attending the school regularly. Many people suggested the benefit of a spiritual Father for Chippy in minimising the sufferings. Moreover Chippy was facing dismissal from the school due to lack of attendance. School authorities agreed to allow Chippy to continue schooling, if any prominent Carismatic Preacher ratified the apparition of Holy Mother. While this was brought to the attention of Holy Mother, She said **“If you get a spiritual father better than me, you can select him.”** On presenting this matter repeatedly to the Mother, She replied **“You go and search.”**

At that period Late Rev.Fr. C.J. Varkey of Kulathuvayal was conducting a retreat at Kalady Church. Family members met Rev. Father during the interval of the retreat. After praying, the Priest said that the apparitions were not divine and everybody returned home disappointed. With the help of another individual, they

approached Fr. Mathew Naickenparambil of the Divine Retreat Center. Although he did not say that the revelations were wrong, he did not get the conviction to say that they were right, either. But he did say that, if this is from God, it will endure; if it is not so, it will cease eventually. Later, after the diocese took over the grotto, Fr. Naickenparambil and his team came to the grotto and listened to the messages of Holy Mother and they returned convinced about the truth.

The sister of Chippy's mother and her husband met Rev. Fr. Joseph Kandathiparambil of the Kudakkachira Retreat Centre and discussed about apparitions of Holy Mother and the need of a spiritual father for Chippy. Fr. Joseph who comprehended the matters agreed to become the spiritual father of Chippy after taking testimony from four spiritual persons with the gift of divine messages. Learning that the Rev. Father had expressed willingness to become the spiritual father of Chippy some relatives went to the Priest and created misunderstanding by telling untruthful things about Chippy and the family. Unaware of this turn of event, Chippy and the family met Rev. Fr. Joseph. The Priest, who believed in the canards spread by the hostile relatives, rebuked and sent them away. But Holy Mother comforted the family members who were shattered in every way. Thus ended the journey in search of a spiritual father. When the grotto was taken over by the diocese, Rev. Fr. Jose Monippally became the spiritual father of Chippy as desired by Holy Mother.

14. Revelations of Divine Justice and Divine Mercy

Holy Mother taught through life experience how ‘suffering’ can glorify souls when they trust on the ‘Divine Mercy’ rather than using suffering only as a means of ‘Salvation’ based on ‘Divine Justice’.

Through every Marian apparitions Heaven gives some kind of messages, warnings or consolations to the mankind. The messages given by Holy Mother through Her apparitions in Thodupuzha is a continuation of the revelations through St. Faustina. Whereas the depths of Divine Mercy and the ways to obtain Divine Mercy were disclosed through St. Faustina, the revelations at Thodupuzha emphasized new ways of receiving Divine Mercy, the impediments in obtaining Divine Mercy and the methods to remove these impediments.

Divine Justice, Salvation of the Soul, Divine Mercy, Impediments in receiving Divine Mercy, Transgressions of Commandments, Concupiscence or inclination towards sin, Deliverance from the blockade of Divine Mercy, value of suffering, faith in and faithfulness to Jesus Christ the Lord God and the only Savior, submissiveness and obedience to the Holy Catholic Church and Her Anointed - all these were taught by the holy Virgin Mary, the Mother of Divine Mercy, through the life experiences of those in the fellowship.

During the initial stages of the Apparitions, revealing the strictness of Divine Justice as the reason for the crisis,

breakdowns and problems faced by the members of the fellowship, Holy Mother said “**I have many devotees. But the influence of sins of the ancestors who died in a sinful state without the Grace of God is preventing Me from blessing them.**” Influence of sin mentioned by Holy Mother means, ‘Concupiscence’(ccc 1264, 419) as taught by Catechism of Catholic Church. Holy Mother revealed through the life experiences of people in the fellowship that every vineal sin - even a vain word - was distasteful before the holiness of God and that the unforgiven sin and its liability can follow a person crossing generations. Even if sin is absolved in confession and the person is reconciled to God, the liability of sin must be expiated through sufferings in this world, through Holy Mass, through prayer and penitential activities. But if sanctification is not complete in this world, it is Divine Justice that purification be done after death in purgatory to expiate the liability of sin.

It is God’s love that sanctifies man through suffering and giving him back the glory which he lost through sin. Holy Mother said that sanctification through suffering is neither God’s anger nor His curse. God does not curse anyone. God’s constant Divine Nature is mercy. Curse is the state of someone being haunted by his or her accumulated unrepented sins and the aftereffects of sins. It is not given by God, but one’s own creation by his arrogance and pride. At the same time it is wrong to conclude and teach that there is no curse. Holy Mother said “**There is no sin, nor curse that cannot be expiated**

by a sinner who repents before God's mercy. Those who seek God's mercy through suffering will be sanctified seven generations forwards and backwards".

God's mercy rather than God's justice allows us to atone for the liabilities of the sin of our parents and ancestors through our suffering in this world, through Holy Mass, prayers and penitential activities. This is not ancestral curse. No sibling can isolate the good deeds of parents and ancestors and enjoy them separately. Holy Mother points out that it is divine justice to enjoy both the fruits of the good deeds as well as that of the bad deeds.

One of the easiest way of receiving the mercy of God is to remember our parents and ancestors with gratitude who are the channel for the blessings showered on us by God and to seek forgiveness for any of their sins which have not been absolved and to help them with prayers to expiate for the liabilities of their sins which have been forgiven. When asked about praying for some of the dead relatives of the members of the fellowship, Holy Mother advised to ask pardon for their sins known to the living relatives by praying the Divine Mercy Rosary for them. For example, when reciting the Divine Mercy Chaplet for this intention, pray as "**Have Mercy on(name of the person)..... (who violated - the first commandment or not attended Holy Mass on Sundays")**

Holy Mother also revealed that showing mercy to our ancestors who are undergoing purification after death, through prayer is our great responsibility. "**Man**

must be grateful to God and other human beings. The sufferings and prayers and penitential activities of the blood relatives are more beneficial when praying for the salvation of the departed souls". When we pray relying on God's mercy accepting the sufferings of our life happily, one's sufferings get simplified and become salvific, as the suffering turn out to become Sanctifying Graces for ourselves and others.

In the last few years the way Holy Spirit has acted to form Extended Family Gatherings among the faithful in the Church, particularly the Catholic Church in Kerala, where the family members of several generations of the family tree get together to remember and honour their parents and ancestors and to pray for them. This can be considered as a seal of recognition from Heaven, to the Revelations of Holy Mother in this matter. According to Holy Mother's wish, along with praying for our ancestors, we must live a life imitating the lives of Saints. In order to do this, we must set apart some time, especially during Sundays, to read the biography of Saints. Holy Mother advised to pray the 'Litany of all Saints' for their intervention during the daily family prayers.

Chippy's father John was instructed to visit the cemetery after Holy Mass and to recite the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for the souls who request prayer help and for souls for whom he is bound to pray. Similarly for getting Chippy's education in order, Holy Mother asked Chippy to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the Poor Souls in purgatory and also to offer in the Holy Mass, the

Poor Souls whom Chippy is bound to pray and who requests her prayers.

There can be three kinds of sufferings in this world. It can be due to one's own sins and liabilities of those sins; due to the sins of the forefathers and the liabilities of their sins; and lastly due to sufferings allowed for the sanctification of other souls for the Glory of God. Then Holy Mother said that, without searching for the reason for sufferings, one should humbly acknowledge their own sins, make a repentant confession and recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the ancestors after offering our living and dead family members and ancestors to the Divine Mercy lighting candles in the Shrine through the mediation of Mother of Divine Mercy.

Holy Mother asked to disregard certain wrong individual theological explanations and studies regarding ancestral sins and advised to understand matters in the light of Salvation of souls as taught by Pope through the Catechism of Catholic Church. Holy Mother has not revealed anything new. The core of the messages of Holy Mother is what is in the Treasure of Faith of the Church, in the Catechism of Catholic Church, in the documents of Vatican Council II and in the Encyclicals of the Pope, especially in the one "Eclesia in Asia".

The main impediments in obtaining Divine Mercy are violation of commandments and man's inclination towards sin. That is the reason why Holy Mother tell us to rectify the errors and sanctify ourselves and at the same time pray for Divine Mercy to save the souls of our

ancestors. When we pray like this, trusting on the Divine Mercy, the sufferings we bear as part of our sins and liabilities of the sins of our ancestors are mitigated through the shortcut of Divine Mercy, thereby we would be sanctified in this world itself and along with this, suffering of our ancestors in the purgatory will be softened and relaxed.

15. Grotto is open to the public

Regi and John prayed to the Mother for a miracle to convince the public and the authorities in the expectation of receiving some consolation in lieu of the insult and abuse they had been subjected to for obeying the messages of Holy Mother. In answer to this, they received the instruction to pray 1000 rosaries and at the completion of every full Rosary, one rosary each to be placed on the hand of the statue of the Mother. Out of these, 500 rosaries were to be recited on knees with extended hands, 250 on usual kneeling down position and 250 be recited, sitting if wished.

This recitation of Rosary began on 1st November, 2003 and was completed on 28th of the month, by the time 250 rosaries were placed on the hand of the statue. Then Holy Mother said: "**I have come not for you alone, but for the whole world. From today onwards the Grotto should be opened for the public.**" Till then no outsider was permitted to pray at the grotto. But from 28th November, 2003, it was opened to the public.

Later, as instructed by the Mother, Rosaries put on the hand of the statue of Holy Mother were given to people who came to pray at the grotto to wear on their necks. When the first 250 rosaries placed on the hand of the Mother were finished distributing, Holy Mother asked to put rosaries on the hand of the Mother Mary's statue for a whole night every day and to give them free to those who visit the Shrine. This practice is continued even today.

By wearing the rosary placed in the hands of Holy Mother, one received protection and deliverance from satanic bondages. This is one of the channel of Divine Mercy revealed at Thodupuzha. Very many testimonials are being received at the grotto in confirming this. A person suffering from epilepsy was cured of his sickness after wearing the rosary but while taking bath, he removed the rosary with the consequence that his epileptic condition returned. When this was brought to the attention of the Mother, she advised that it is better not to remove the rosary from the neck even while taking bath.

16. Consecration to Divine Mercy by lighting candles in Grotto.

As the number of people visiting the Grotto increased, Holy Mother asked that their needs be presented in prayer at the grotto by lighting candles. A small stand was installed for lighting the candles. Then Holy Mother said: "**This is not enough; much bigger stands would be required.**" Holy Mother's words were

literally proved true, when three large stands installed for lighting candles were not enough, eventually.

In January 2004, Holy Mother insisted that the people who come to pray at the grotto were to offer their ancestors up to four generations with their names personally specified to the Mercy of God the Father, through the intervention of Holy Mother. When the ancestors are offered at the grotto, one candle each for every person has to be lighted at least once. Holy Mother also instructed to formulate a Family Tree Chart to find out the ancestors up to four generations for the people coming to pray at the grotto and to give the Chart free. Since it was not known who among the dead is in need for more help through prayer, Mother pointed out that the Chart will be a great help, not to miss out anyone.

After making a sincere confession, the ancestors of four generations should be dedicated at the grotto. The people who are to be dedicated should begin with one's own self dedication followed by the life partner, children, grandchildren, godfather, godmother, the person whose name you bear, child who was lost through miscarriage, children who were intentionally aborted, babies who died during childhood, siblings, friends who passed away and those who died in hostility. One candle each should be lighted for each person at least once at the grotto. Ensure that none of the ancestors has been left out. If the name of any of the ancestors is unknown, light a candle at the grotto to have the names revealed to you.

It is also good that ancestors beyond four generations if known, also be dedicated. It is more beneficial for husbands to dedicate their own ancestors and wives theirs. Due to death or due to some unavoidable circumstances if a person cannot dedicate his ancestors, this particular person's ancestral tree should be dedicated in the Shrine by the living partner or relative. It is greatly beneficial to light candles in the Shrine for the persons whom we wish to be converted.

After dedicating the ancestors, pray for each of our petitions by lighting candles. House, home appliances, domestic animals, vehicles, places of work, employees, employer, wealth, land - all those to be placed under the divine reign of Holy Mother, should be prayed for separately, lighting candles. To accomplish special intentions, Holy Mother asked to light candles continuously in the grotto praying for the intention.

“All intentions that are prayed by lighting candles at the Grotto will be accepted in God’s presence. Those who pray here lighting candles would get the Mercy of God the Father, on the merits of the Passion of Jesus Christ”. This is a promise made by Holy Mother. To accomplish certain divine intentions related to apparition of Holy Mother, She sometimes requested to pray by submitting the intentions to Divine Mercy of God the Father by lighting specified number of candles for a specified period of time. This practice is continued today as well.

17. Demand for sanctification of Life

Sincere repentant confession has to be made before lighting candles and offering intentions at the grotto. **“Before offering intentions and prayers in God’s presence, one must sanctify oneself. As long as you persist in sin, your prayers will not be acceptable to God.”** Not only that, we must pray with a state of mind of forgiveness to others. God will forgive our sins, only if we forgive the sins of others. Those who find it difficult to forgive, must zealously pray for the grace of forgiving others by, lighting candles. Holy Mother instructed to provide a book which describes the transgressions of ten commandments for helping to prepare for and to make a sincere full confession for those who come to pray at the grotto. Holy Mother reminded that the seven capital sins stand in the way of coming close to Her and that through the reception of Holy Communion in a worthy manner, deliverance from capital sins would be obtained.

The easiest way to obtain Divine Mercy is to sanctify oneself and help to sanctify the lives of the family members who are living and dead. The messages of the Holy Mother are described in an abridged form with the title **‘Salvation of Souls and Sanctification of Life’**.

A healthy, young 32 years old man, came to the casualty department of St. Mary’s Hospital at Thodupuzha. On examination, contrary to his healthy appearance, there was some abnormal findings. X-ray was taken and it was discovered that the major artery called Aorta, originating from the heart had dangerously

expanded. Through echocardiogram Cardiologist Dr. Mathew Abraham confirmed that the young man was suffering from Aortic Arch Aneurysm. The patient was sent to Lissy Hospital in Ernakulam for further tests prior to submitting him for an emergency operation. The Cardiologist of Lissy Hospital Dr. Rony Mathew determined the fine details of the aneurysmal damage after conducting tests such as Angiogram and Aortagram. The man's blood vessel aorta could burst at anytime. To prevent this he was advised an emergency surgery opening the chest to remove the damaged blood vessel and fit him with an aortic arch graft.

The family of the patient who gave priority to God's Will submitted this problem to Holy Mother and prayed. The message from the Mother was to withhold the operation and in the meanwhile pray daily at the grotto for one hour and to obey the messages revealed at the grotto as well as to offer the ancestors of the four generations, lighting candles. After dedications of ancestors the family members were asked to pray the Divine Mercy Rosary for the ancestors.

When prayed for few days as directed by Holy Mother an important matter was noted. The father of the patient died of similar illness at a local hospital near the house. The Father of the patient developed a discomfort in the chest and within a few minutes after reaching the hospital he died short of breath, with a physical appearance of blood drained out state. When an Aortic Aneurysm ruptures, the patient dies in a blood drained out

state with severe shortness of breath and chest discomfort, however with no external evidence of blood loss of any kind. This happens because of the blood coming out from the ruptured aorta accumulates in the chest cavity. Prayers at the grotto continued and after few days it became clear that the patient's grandfather also had died of the same illness.

God revealed the reason for three individuals belonging to the three generations contracting the same illness and two of them dying of it, and the third person of the present generation afflicted by the same serious illness. The grandfather of the fourth generation, had a quarrel with his worker during the ceremonious entry into his newly constructed house. In a fit of anger he struck the worker, who fell unconscious. Thinking that the worker had died, he struck him on the chest again with the handle of a spade and buried him alive. The next three generations developed an illness on the same site where the worker was struck with the spade damaging the aorta beneath it. Two of them died and the third was on the verge of death. It was revealed that the grandfather of the fourth generation who committed the sin did not seek absolution of his sin and did not do penance for the same. This real life experience and revelation was an example of Divine Justice where the liability of the sin committed four generations earlier is being transmitted to the next three generations. This is not curse of God; but the after effect of sins as part of Divine Justice transmitted through generations for the sins committed by man.

Once these matters were revealed, Holy Mother permitted operation to be conducted. But before the operation, Holy Mother asked to offer all the four generations of the ancestors at the grotto and to say Holy Mass offering for the person who committed the homicide and for the victim, as well as for the grandfathers who died due to the illness. Thereafter at the MIOT hospital in Chennai, Dr. Bashi carried out the operation successfully. And today the young man lives in health. Through this episode and the experiences of other people, Holy Mother taught about the influence of sin and liabilities of sin that transcends generations.

Holy Mother taught that observing the ten commandments as desired by God is essential to lead a holy life. If the First Commandment is not strictly observed it can lead to violation of other Commandments. Holy Mother asked the family members to give detailed explanation about First, Second and Third Commandment violations to people who visited grotto and to give a book which tells in detail about the different ways of transgression of Commandments, guiding to prepare for a sincere and repentant Confession.

Along with giving the tithe (ten percent of your income) to the Church, all Government taxes should be paid. All government laws, which are not against the Church and laws of the Church and tradition, should be observed. The purpose of the life of a Christian ought to be Eternal Life. As sin is avoided, sinful circumstances and things which lead to sin and have the influence of sin

must also be rejected. Books, computer games, magic shows, Internet information which are obscene, raise curiosity towards the world of souls and witchcraft as well as cover up and confuse the Divinity of Jesus Christ should be abandoned. Holy Mother revealed that the reason for souls not being saved is the violation of God's Commandments and the non-reception of Sacraments, with due preparation and holiness.

A prayerful grandmother was in the habit of criticizing others. Holy Mother told her: "**Never criticize others, you should be a model for any house you stay.**" Children should be brought up with discipline pointing out their mistakes and correcting them with punishments from the first year of life onwards. The best and easiest method of bringing up children in holiness is for the parents to live in holiness. It was revealed that everybody will be given many opportunities by the Lord for conversion and those who miss these opportunities will grieve later.

Through an event it was revealed how beneficial and powerful is praying the Divine Mercy Rosary for the living, especially for those who are in their death bed. When Reji's father became too serious nearing his death, two brothers having divine messages came from Muringoor, Divine Retreat Centre and prayed for him. During the prayer Jesus told them that remission of liabilities of sin of 12 years were given to Reji's father. Hearing this message they enquired how the family members achieved this? God was revealing how

remission of liabilities of sin were obtained when the eight children prayed Divine Mercy Rosary for their father observing fast during the 50 days of Lent.

18. Praying Divine Mercy Chaplet for the souls concreted to the Mercy of God

After offering the ancestors and others by lighting candles at the grotto, Holy Mother asked to pray by reciting the Divine Mercy Chaplet for them. One Divine Mercy Chaplet for patrilineal ancestors as: **“Have mercy on me, my father and my father’s ancestors.”** Similarly, another Chaplet with the words: **“Have mercy on me, my mother, and my mother’s ancestors”**. And a third Chaplet with the words: **“Have mercy on me and my family.”** These rosaries were to be personally recited daily along with other prayers.

Holy Mother has said that **“Church accredited and revealed prayers should not be altered, added or deducted according to personal interests”** In the Chaplet of Divine Mercy revealed through St. Faustina, when we change the words of the prayer: **“Have mercy on us and on the whole world”** as described above when praying for ancestors, it should be recited personally only. **“The most beneficial prayer for the dead, after Holy Mass is the Divine Mercy Chaplet.”** Praying the Divine Mercy Rosary daily for the ancestors one for the patrilineal and the other for the matrilineal is a great channel of Divine Mercy for those who are alive. Out of six channels of Divine Mercy revealed by Holy Mother,

two of them are, offering the souls of the ancestors in the Shrine and the daily recital of the Divine Mercy Rosary for these souls.

19. Holy Water in the pond at the feet of the statue of Mother

Holy Mother revealed that the water at the feet of the statue of Holy Mother in the pond is holy. Use of this Holy water was advised by Holy Mother for illness and discomfort occurring for the members of the fellowship. Cure from illness and relief from discomfort was experienced by those who took bath and drank water. Holy Mother asked to fill the pond with water and use it after one hour. Chippy was shown the vision of light from Heaven illuminating this water and Precious Blood from the hands of Jesus flowing into it. It was revealed to Chippy that this Holy Water in the grotto was a means to obtain Divine Mercy. Holy Mother promised miraculous relief from sickness and deliverance from satanic bondages by using this Holy Water. Holy Mother also foretold that in future a spring would emerge from the pond at the feet of the statue of Holy Mother and that will be known as the '**Fountain of Divine Mercy**'.

Before the apparition of Holy Mother, when Chippy and family were living in the house, their well used to become dry every year for three months. During this period they had to buy water brought in lorry. A year after Holy Mother started appearing to Chippy there were many people living in the house. Anticipating a shortage of water, permission was sought from Holy Mother for

digging a borewell. She then said, “**There won’t be any shortage of water where Me and My Son is present**” From that day till today, hundreds of people are collecting water in bottles and jugs everyday as well as many are using it in the grotto for drinking and bathing. Yet the water in the well close to the Grotto has not dried up.

Many people give witnesses for the miraculous intervention of Holy Mother when praying and walking on the knees around the pond of the statue of Holy Mother inside the grotto. The origin of this exercise of devotion is related to Chippy’s examination at Plus Two level. Since there was an apprehension that Chippy would fail in the examination, the school authorities at first did not permit her to pay the examination fees and write the exam. Seeing the grief of Chippy, Rev.Father Principal felt sorry for the girl and permitted her to write the exam. Not expecting a pass, Holy Mother was asked what should be done for Chippy to be successful in the examination. The reply was Chippy’s father John should pray by walking on his knees five times around the pond of the statue of Holy Mother. When results were published, Chippy had miraculously passed in first class. From then onwards, praying and walking on the knees around the statue of Holy Mother became a sacrificial prayer mode.

20. Holy Mother guides those who visit the Grotto and advises to follow the Messages given and live accordingly.

During the initial period of Her apparition, Holy Mother used to give messages for the problems of people who visited the grotto. The messages were given to those who made a repentant confession and surrendered the ancestors of the four generations according to the messages given in the grotto, and praying the Divine Mercy Rosary for them daily. Through these messages the severity of the Divine Justice was revealed to the people who visited the grotto at that period by giving reasons for their failures and defects in life. But when prayed trusting in Divine Mercy the severity of Divine Justice can be softened. Thus Holy Mother, taught many spiritual truths to those in the fellowship through life experiences of others.

When a question was raised, as to what should people who are unable to come and pray at the grotto do to obtain the blessings of the Mother, Her answer was: **“An individual, who comprehend My messages and believe them from his heart, as well as puts them into practice, those that are implementable in his circumstances will be blessed and enveloped in Divine Mercy.”**

But as people began to give importance to messages without being prepared to lead a life of prayer and conversion, Holy Mother stopped giving messages to those outside the ambit of the fellowship. **“Those who visit the Grotto, believe in the Messages I have given and sanctify their life accordingly, as well as pray for souls, will certainly receive Divine Mercy and be blessed.”**

It was revealed that the messages revealed to the world by Holy Mother in Thodupuzha should only be spread from the grotto. She does not wish any other messages to be accepted in the grotto or spread from the grotto.

21. The living presence of Holy Trinity and Holy Mother are promised in the Grotto

When returning from work in the evening, Chippy's father John was asked to go straight away to the grotto before entering the house and convey all that has happened during that day and all his needs as if he is talking to an individual. This is what Holy Mother asks every visitor in the grotto to do.

When asked about providing counseling service to those people visiting the grotto with lot of pain and grievances, the answer was that, the councilor and the mediator in Grotto is Holy Mother herself. She advised that Her messages regarding '**Sanctification of life and Salvation of souls**' be explained to those visiting the grotto. Holy Mother reminded that this channel of obtaining Divine Mercy and blessings, lead people of God to conversion.

As instructed by Holy Mother, the messages were explained by the members of the fellowship to those who come to pray at the grotto. Great changes were perceived in those people and their families who believed and obeyed the messages. Lot of people started coming to Grotto in search of Holy Mother by hearing from people who received the blessings.

“This is not just a prayer house. I desire that visitors to the Grotto should talk to Me openly about their sufferings and needs as if they are talking to another person.” The presence of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit as well as the presence and intervention of the Holy Virgin Mary, the Mother of Divine Mercy would always be there at the grotto. In order to remind everyone of the true presence of Trinitarian God and Holy Mother, a lamp should be lighted for 24 hours in front of the statue of Holy Mother and the Tabernacle. Holy Mother did promise that Mother of Divine Mercy would appear at the grotto in future and those who are holy enough would be able to see Her.

In order to obtain deliverance from bondages, people were asked to pray spending more time in the grotto. Holy Mother is asking to pray silently in the grotto. On certain occasions the members of the family were asked to spend the whole night in prayer at the grotto. On 14th, 15th and 16th of every month, Holy Mother’s Divine presence will be more manifested at the grotto. On these days Chippy was shown Holy Mother wearing a green silk saree, getting down from the grotto and going to the prayer room inside the house. Accordingly night vigil were conducted on 14th, 15th and 16th at every month. But due to several impediments, this practice could not be continued.

When John’s mother was in her house in Kurumannu in a very serious condition with treatment being ineffective, she was brought to John’s house as desired by Holy Mother. As requested by Holy Mother, John’s

mother was persuaded to sit in the grotto for three hours daily. Along with this, Holy Water was given for drinking and for daily bath. Meanwhile treatment was continued. Her ancestors were surrendered to Divine Mercy in the grotto and she was helped in praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet daily for the ancestors by somebody sitting with her as she could not do it, on her own. Moreover Holy Mass was offered for her ancestors using the money from her purse as requested by Holy Mother. Thus she was saved from the clutches of death. Thereafter regaining health, she lived a prayerful life for another six years more. Through this event it was revealed to the family members, the spiritual and physical healing is gained by spending time in prayer at the grotto and obeying the messages revealed by Holy Mother.

There is no complex problem in the life of man which cannot be solved when praying seeking the intercession of Holy Mother and trusting on the Divine Mercy of God, the Father. One and only one thing is demanded by Holy Mother for this: Believe in the Messages of Holy Mother and get sanctified by obeying it and praying, trusting deeply in the Divine Mercy. This will bring about changes in personal and family lives, giving consolation to the souls of ancestors. It is Holy Mother's earnest desire that opportunities be arranged for the visitors of the grotto to learn about the messages of Divine Mercy given by Holy Mother.

After Holy Mother stopped giving messages to the visitors in the grotto, once an individual was sharing his

problems with a relative of Chippy who was in the grotto; then Holy Mother said: **“Do not listen to the problems of people visiting the Grotto or try to comfort them humanly. Let them tell Me directly about their problems and needs. Am I not the merciful Mother ? Only I can change the minds of people”**. To get our needs fulfilled Holy Mother recommends entrusting our desires to the Mother of Divine Mercy or to Divine Mercy Jesus itself or light candles in the grotto surrendering our needs.

After the grotto was taken over by the Diocese, when a proposal for starting a Marian Convention in the grotto on Saturdays was considered, Holy Mother said: **“This is not an ordinary prayer house or retreat center. The Divine plan for this place is to explain those messages revealed for the Salvation of Souls and to ensure circumstances to pray silently and arrange opportunities for making sincere Confession.”** Thus the idea for a Marian Convention was dropped.

Mr. Johny Thomas Elavinchottil from Alackode, a pancreatic cancer patient received the first healing through the intercession of Holy Mother in the Grotto. With none of the medical treatment effective, Johny’s wife, in great distress, came to the grotto and prayed with great confidence. As per advice of Holy Mother, Johny got relief from pain by drinking the Holy Water. Healing was complete after wearing the Rosary that was put on the hands of Holy Mother, offering the ancestors in the grotto

and when he started praying for them. Since then many people used to come to the grotto for praying, and started using Holy Water for drinking. Also people started wearing the Rosaries put on the hands of Holy Mother.

22. Mother demands faithfulness to God and obedience to the Holy Church and Her Anointed

Time to time, as per the instructions of Holy Mother, parish priests such as Rev. Fr. Zacharias Thudianplackal, Rev. Fr. Luke Njaralakkat and Rev. Fr. Jose Monippilly were visited and were informed of the happenings at the Grotto. As desired by Holy Mother, Rev. Fr. Thudianplackal was invited to the Grotto on an afternoon and he spent some time there. During that time many people came to pray at the Grotto. Rev. Father sought to know many things about the apparitions of Holy Mother and inquired how he could cooperate with the divine plan of Holy Mother. To this, Holy Mother gave the message: **“Father on your capacity you may not nourish it or block its if growth, it is me who is bringing it up. But if anyone asks you about this, you may say that you have been here and seen everything.”**

The subsequent parish priest Rev.Fr.Luke Njaralakkatt also came to the grotto. He too saw, listened and grasped what is happening there. Rev.Fr. Njaralakkatt attempted to arrange a meeting with the Bishop; but did not succeed. Before visiting the parish Priests candles were lighted as directed by Holy Mother. After Rev.Fr. Njaralakkatt, Rev. Fr. Jose Monippally took charge as the

vicar of the parish and Holy Mother asked the family to go to the Town Church and meet the vicar. During the meeting Rev. Father was informed about all the matters in detail. He listened peacefully and got convinced about the details of the grotto and promised to take up the matter with the diocesan authorities.

Seeing that the dining room of the house was small, John once sought permission of Holy Mother to make it larger. She then replied: "**No alterations should be made to this house. I want this house. This will become a great pilgrimage centre.**" They were asked to hand over the grotto to the Church, when She tells about this.

Once Holy Mother said that instead of placing plastic flowers at the foot of the statue of Mother natural flowers should be placed and Holy Communion should be handled by priests alone. The faithful should receive the Holy Communion only on the tongue. Holy Mother revealed that it is Her wish that people receive Holy Communion on kneel down position if possible.

Priests are the anointed representatives of Jesus Christ and if any human imperfections are noted in them, one has to pray for them rather than oppose them or try to correct them. Holy Mother said "**One should be repentant about acting or speaking against the Holy Catholic Church, Anointed Priests or the religious and should get absolution through the Sacrament of Confession. Moreover they should seek apology from a Priest and should get blessings from him as well.**" When asked about children growing in obedience to

parents, Holy Mother said: “**When parents respect the Priests, contribute to the Church, and confess regularly, their children will obey them.**” Similarly, when the employer obeys God, the employees will obey the employer.

In matters of faith, Holy Mother insisted that one should be faithful to God, even in insignificant matters. Visiting the temples of other religions, giving offerings to deities, consuming the food offered to idols, keeping or using things related to worship of other religions are violations against the First Commandment. These activities must be abandoned and acknowledge them in Confession and get absolution of the sins.

Once when a person brought to the grotto, fresh flowers, used for decorating the stage for a marriage ceremony, Holy Mother said: “**It is a humiliation to God when flowers used for another purpose and objects used for worship of alien god is offered to God or used for worship of God in christian churches.**”

“**My Anointed should understand the messages I give, obey them and proclaim them.**” Holy Mother advised to avoid praying for others by placing your hands on their head or allowing others except anointed Priests to pray for you by placing their hands on your head. Mother desires to use songs and musical instruments appropriate to the sanctity of the Holy Mass. She said that keeping the crucifix on the altar and the priest saying a few words helpful to lead the people of God to repentance before the

commencement of the Holy Mass would be highly beneficial.

Holy Mother asked six people in the fellowship to share the messages and the teachings of Holy Mother with those Anointed who showed interest in the apparitions and messages of Holy Mother. Thus in the initial stages with the permission of the Rector, many Bishops and Priests from different parts of Kerala were invited to share the messages of Holy Mother. Holy Mother was very particular that after the sharing which lasted 3 to 4 hours in the evening, the Anointed who visited the house of Holy Mother should be given food.

Holy Mother wished that the messages revealed by Her should be made known to the people of God through Her Anointed. Accordingly, the history of the apparitions of Holy Mother and Her messages were shared with several Priests and Bishops of different dioceses. She was very particular that when messages are shared, it must be told exactly in the same way as Holy Mother had taught them without any dilution or adulteration. She told that it should not be altered even if the Pope happens to ask about it. Chippy was allowed to share with the Anointed, only if they ask. Chippy was not given permission to take any messages for other people. The Will of God is that the messages of Holy Mother be shared to the faithful who visit the shrine by the nun sisters working in the shrine or by the Anointed.

When the history of the apparitions of Holy Mother and Her Messages were shared with the Anointed, deeper

understanding of the messages and the convictions about its integral link to the Teachings of the Church were revealed. During Feasts of the Shrine, when Priests selected by Holy Mother was called for Holy Mass, she often asked to select topics related to Divine Mercy for the homily. She advised to prepare a hand out on these topics selected for talks, based on the convictions given by Holy Mother, especially how these topics are related in depths to the messages of Holy Mother, Teachings of the Church and the Word of God. This hand out were sent to the speakers as advised by the Holy Mother, with the consent of the Rector of the Shrine.

Forbidding the habit of altering the prayer ‘Hail Mary’ by using the word ‘Mother’ in the place of addressing Mary and praying ‘Hail Mary’ in the poetic form, Holy Mother said **“It is unfair to change the authentic prayer revealed to St. Dominic of Spain in the 12th century and which is recognised and taught by the Church”.**

Similarly Holy Mother asked not to make any alteration in the “Litany of All Saints”, officially recognised by the Church. She asked the family members to recite the “Litany of All Saints” quite often. Stressing the importance of daily family prayer, Holy Mother said members of the family praying together devoutly, kneeling down at a specific place in the house, daily at a specific time is a channel of receiving God’s blessings for the family.

23. The Prayer for divine protection taught by Holy Mother

**God the Father, be merciful / do not punish me.
God the Son, protect me with your Precious Blood.
Wash me with Your Precious Blood. God the Holy Spirit, sanctify me / with Your Holy Fire descending from Heaven. Give me the wisdom to distinguish between good and evil. Holy Mother, protect me under Your mantle! / All Holy Angels, guard me. All Saints pray for me.**

Holy Mother asked the family members to sprinkle the Holy Water all over the house in any of these days, 14th 15th or 16th of every month. On certain occasions, Holy Mother asked the “Rosary of Tears of Blood” to be recited. She also encouraged the daily recitation of the ‘Litany of All Saints’ and to read the ‘Holy Bible’ aloud. When a boy was facing the risk of impending fits, parents were asked to say the ‘Prayer of the Cross’ for protection.

24. Mother asks for arranging convenience for the faithful who visits the Shrine and to give the Messages of Divine Mercy for Salvation of Souls and Sanctification of life in black and white.

According to the instructions of Holy Mother, twenty nine points were formed for the Sanctification of life. They were based on the messages and revelations of Holy Mother from the time of Her apparitions at

Thodupuzha and also based on the lessons taught by Holy Mother through life experience. They were written down in an abridged form and along with this, the list of things to be offered in the grotto by lighting candles by the pilgrims and the family tree chart to trace out ancestors belonging to four generations, as well as the Divine Mercy Chaplet taught by Holy Mother, to be recited personally for the ancestors, were formed and printed. This leaflet with the title "**Salvation of Souls and Sanctification of Life**" were distributed free, to those who came to the grotto, after sharing the messages with them, as requested by Holy Mother.

After the grotto was opened to the public, one room in the house was set apart for sharing the messages with the visitors. The messages were shared in turn by any one of the members of the fellowship. During the initial period, after the grotto was opened up for the public, Holy Mother used to give messages to the people visiting the grotto, for their problems in life through Nirmala, the person selected by Holy Mother. Arrangements were made to collect the water through a tap for drinking the Holy Water at the feet of the statue of Holy Mother. Along with this, bathrooms were built to take bath in the Holy Water of the grotto.

Many miraculous cures, spiritual healings and conversions were received by people, who visited the grotto hearing about the apparition of Holy Mother and obeyed the messages. Hearing the testimony of these witnesses, more and more people started to come,

leading to scarcity of space in the grotto. Earlier, when Holy Mother expressed Her desire to build a grotto, She wanted to build a chapel utilizing the entire area of the courtyard. But it did not materialize then. Due to the scarcity of adequate space in the small grotto, a larger grotto, as desired by the Mother utilizing the whole area of the courtyard was built as it is now. More rooms to take bath in Holy Water of the grotto, and a kitchen for preparing food for the bedridden patients visiting the grotto in future, were also built.

Holy Mother asked to print the 29 points that were revealed for the Sanctification of life and the family tree chart which would help to find out the ancestors of the four generations in order to offer them to Divine Mercy. She told to paste the printed chart on the outside wall of the Chapel for the benefit of the visitors and this was done.

Holy Mother desired that while entering the Chapel, people should leave the footwear outside and that women should cover their heads and cell phones should be switched off. She wanted people to be silent, and behave with devotion and godfearing manner inside and outside the Chapel. Parents were to ensure that their children behave with respect in holy places, without running around in and outside the Chapel.

25. Chippy's experiences of God

Holy Mother appears to Chippy as a living individual. Eventhough She used to appear to Chippy

clothed in the different attires of Her apparitions at Poondi, Velankanni and Medugorje, She appears wearing a green silk saree on 14th 15th and 16th of every month. It is revealed that blessings are showered here through the Holy Mother dressed in green silk saree.

Chippy used to say that words fail to describe the heavenly beauty of Holy Mother. During the initial stages, for revealing the divine plan and for Sanctification of the family members, Holy Mother used to appear many times a day without reference to any fixed time. The hindrance for Chippy's education was due to the abundance of these apparitions, divine messages and due to the responsibility to implement them. Holy Mother used to appear and give messages whenever prayed for Her counsel, praising and worshiping God. The messages given were neither symbolic nor requiring any particular discernment. It was a clear communication on what is to be done and what not to be done in simple language understandable to anyone. Holy Mother used to be silent on matters which Heaven did not want to reveal. For revealing certain messages She used to say "**Shall tell you**" indicating to wait or to ask again after a particular number of days or to light candles and pray for specific number of days before asking again.

After the Church took over the grotto whenever messages related to divine plan were revealed, Holy Mother always asked to implement them after sharing Her desires and messages with Father Rector and taking permission from him. Commenting on the abundance of

the apparitions of Holy Mother at Thodupuzha, She remarked: **“Nowhere else in the world have I appeared so repeatedly like this.”**

Even after transferring the house and property to the Church, the sufferings of Chippy and family continued unabated. Shattered in the sufferings permitted by God, without receiving any compassion or consolation from others, they found it difficult to proceed further and reached a stage of praying to be relieved from the divine plan of messages and apparitions. Devastated Chippy, while participating in a retreat at Anakkara Marian Retreat Centre on 5th July 2011, was crying desperately thinking of the burden of life’s sufferings and of the death of her grandmother, who departed for eternal rest misunderstanding the apparitions of Holy Mother and Her messages.

At that time Fr. Dominic Valammanal who was preaching from the stage, suddenly disappeared from her view. In his place Chippy saw Jesus with swollen lips and eyes hanging on the cross at Calvary and struggling with death. With the crown of thorns on the head, Jesus raised his blood covered disfigured face and struggling for breath asked: **“Don’t you feel any pain on seeing me?”** Then Jesus on the cross disappeared and Jesus of Divine Mercy appeared. Pointing the finger to one side and showing foetuses of different ages and their bodies cut into several pieces, Jesus asked: **“Don’t you feel sad looking at them?”** Pointing His finger to another side and showing many people engaged in drinking and

fighting, Jesus asked: "**Don't you feel distressed by seeing them?**" Still pointing to another side and showing poor souls in purgatory weeping and praying with extended arms and crying with intense pain, Jesus asked: "**Don't you have any difficulty in seeing them?**"

All these disappeared suddenly. Then Chippy saw Holy Mother holding a small child by the hand and walking on a beautiful landscape, talking to the child. The child was growing in age as it walked along with the Mother. When the child in infant dress, and later in skirt and blouse was closely observed, Chippy realized that the child walking with Holy Mother was none other than Chippy herself. Chippy who was walking with Holy Mother and holding Her hand, after covering some distance, freed herself from the hold of Holy Mother and started running towards a deep crevice. All of a sudden Chippy grasped the meaning of the vision, when she saw Holy Mother weeping shedding tears. Chippy realised that the child getting away from Holy Mother and running towards the deep crevice was Chippy herself who is infact trying to get seperated from the Divine Plan of Holy Mother. Realizing her mistake, Chippy prayed to Jesus and Holy Mother for forgiveness. And during that retreat she received the grace to accept sufferings with joy.

After the retreat, while Chippy was staying in a hostel in Ernakulam for her studies in C.A. one day she woke up late. Then Holy Mother came to her and asked: "**Don't you want to get up and go to the church?**" Chippy got up literally jumping out of the bed. Then Holy

Mother showed her thousands of people in a miserable state in a deep pit. Pointing out to them She asked: **“Won’t you give them to me?”** Then itself Chippy promised to do so.

Holy Mother and Jesus used to appear to Chippy when her roommates were not in the room. When Chippy returns from class in the evening, Holy Mother was seen awaiting happily for her in the room. Once when she was reciting rosary in the prayer room of the hostel with others, Jesus of Divine Mercy appeared and blessed her, placing His hand on her head.

On certain occasions, poor souls in purgatory who were total strangers, but in a pitiable and sorrowful condition used to come to her asking for prayer. They would stand there until they hear her promise of prayer. Later, they would return happily to express their gratitude for praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet for them.

At certain times, when praying before the statue of Holy Mother at the Grotto, Chippy could see Holy Mother becoming alive and at times would come forward and converse with Chippy. Holy Mother would appear quite sad when others do not approve of Her plan and also create impediments for it. During the feasts and at certain times, Holy Mother was seen very happy with great splendor. Jesus of Divine Mercy used to appear in the grotto between the altar and the statue of Holy Mother. On many occasions the presence of Holy Mother in the grotto is revealed through Her fragrance perceived by Chippy and others.

During the feast, as the procession goes through the town, Jesus and Holy Mother would be seen as filling the sky above the grotto and the entire area of Thodupuzha town. At that time the whole area would be seen brightened in a celestial light.

On certain occasions when Holy Mother appears, many Saints were also seen with Her. St. Faustina was thus seen for the first time when her firstclass Relic were brought from Poland. The Holy Relic which was brought directly from Nedumbassery Airport to Chippy's house was kept in her house for few hours as advised by Holy Mother and the Divine Mercy Chaplet was recited. When the rosary began St. Faustina suddenly appeared and participated in the rosary on her knees. This event emphasized that God likes Divine Mercy Rosary to be recited on kneeling down position. The holy Relic was brought from Chippy's house in a decorated vehicle accompanied by many vehicles and was installed in the grotto.

26. Divine Mercy Shrine of Holy Mary Thodupuzha, the Abode of Divine Mercy

God who wants to envelope man with His Mercy has opened up many channels to pour out His Mercy. These channels submissive to Holy Catholic Church are revealed through St. Faustina of Poland and later through the Mother of Divine Mercy at Thodupuzha.

From the initial period of apparitions, Holy Mother taught the family members of Chippy about the severity

of Divine Justice. Pointing out the sufferings of life and life experiences of Chippy's family and other members of the fellowship, She said that the major part of these sufferings are due to the after effect of sins and liabilities of sins originating from Divine Justice. Holy Mother taught that these sufferings should be gladly accepted for the sake of the sanctification of one's own life and of others. Along with the sanctifying sufferings of life constituted by the after effect and liabilities of ones own sin and after effect and liabilities of sins transmitted across the generations, influences of sin also occurs. Holy Mother told that in people with violation of Commandments, ancestral influences of sin becomes deep rooted, congenial for their personal sins to grow and multiply. She again said that, this influence of sin can be removed through observing the Ten Commandments, leading a Sacramental life and by sanctifying one's own life, trusting on Divine Mercy, and offering ancestors to Divine Mercy and praying for them.

After teaching about Divine Justice, Holy Mother revealed the unfathomable depth of Divine Mercy, the ways to obtain it and the impediments for obtaining Divine Mercy. The messages of Holy Mother at Thodupuzha relating to the Divine Mercy is based on the Tradition and Teachings of Catholic Church giving importance to Praise and Worship of God, based on the Ten Commandments and precepts of Church, the Word of God and Sacraments and giving reverence to Holy Mother and Saints. Holy Mother wanted to correct the

wrong knowledge and teachings that have taken root in society, which hinder the Salvation of souls.

Once, Holy Mother revealed Herself saying: **“I have appeared in Thodupuzha according to the Will of God, the Father. I am the Mother of Divine Mercy. I have come to Thodupuzha with my Son for the sake of the whole world. Salvation in its fullness is for those who depend on the Son along with His Mother.”**

When a prayerful person rejecting the messages said that they also pray daily to Virgin Mary, the reply of Holy Mother was **“Through prayer alone one cannot be saved. Pray trusting on Divine Mercy.”**

Jesus revealed through St. Faustina of Poland, the depth and fullness of Divine Mercy and 8 channels of obtaining Divine Mercy for those who are living and those on the death bed. While at Thodupuzha, the revelation through Holy Virgin Mary gave the deep knowledge of the revelation of Divine Mercy, the hindrances in receiving Divine Mercy, spiritual ways to clear up these hindrances and six channels of obtaining Divine Mercy to those who are living and dead.

The revelation of Holy Mother in Thodupuzha is a continuation of the Divine Mercy revelation through St. Faustina. Holy Mother recommended reading of St. Faustina’s Diary “Divine Mercy in my Soul” as the best way to understand the matters revealed by Holy Mother at Thodupuzha. As instructed by Holy Mother, St. Faustina’s Diary has been translated into Malayalam, and

it has been published by the Shrine under the title “Ente Antaraatmaavilecku Ozhukiyirangia Daivakaruna” (The Divine Mercy that has flowed into my soul).

Everyone had thought that the ‘Grotto’ that came up in connection with the apparitions of Holy Mother and the chapel which was rebuilt in an enlarged form would be given the name of Holy Mother. When the suggestion about naming the grotto was brought up, She said: **“Not My name, but a glowing name linked to My Son should be put”**. According to this desire of Holy Mother, the Bishop was requested to name the Shrine, **“DIVINE MERCY SHRINE OF HOLY MARY”**. His Excellency accomplished this, as wished by Holy Mother. Thereafter Holy Mother said: **“Divine Mercy Shrine of Holy Mary, the abode of Divine Mercy is a place specially chosen by God, the Father”**. Showing Her pulsating Heart to Chippy, Holy Mother said: **“I have given my Heart here.”** When asked about its meaning, She said: **“You will understand it later”**.

After the grotto was taken over by the diocese, the first Rector Fr. Jose Monippilly expressed the desire to begin a Novena. Accordingly a novena in honor of Holy Mother was scripted. When the divine Will regarding this was sought, the message from Holy Mother was to conduct a novena of Divine Mercy every Friday at the grotto. Thus according to the instruction of Holy Mother, the novena of Divine Mercy revealed to St. Faustina was started on Fridays. Holy Mother has promised the accomplishment of the needs of those who come to the

grotto and participate in the Divine Mercy novena for nine Fridays trusting in Divine Mercy. For sorting out serious matters and for immediate divine intervention, Holy Mother advised to recite the nine days of Divine Mercy novena together at a time imploring the Mercy of God.

When John and family were staying in this house, during the initial period of apparition, Holy Mother used to reveal many things that were going to happen in future. It was revealed years ago that sisters with blue belt (SABS sisters) looking after the grotto, Bishop coming and kneeling down and praying in the grotto and Priests coming down from the first floor to celebrate Holy Mass. When all these were revealed it was unimaginable to think that this would happen in an ordinary house like this. But today all these events have taken place.

Pointing out the active presence of Holy Mother in the Divine Mercy Shrine, She said: "**Nowhere else in the world is My living presence in such a way as it is here.**" The living presence of Holy Trinity in the Holy Eucharist, the anointing Glory of Grace of Jesus of Divine Mercy and the continued mediation of the Mother of Divine Mercy is promised in this Shrine. The Holy Relic of St. Faustina of Poland is also installed here. In addition to the above, 8 channels of Divine Mercy revealed through St. Faustina, and the 6 channels of Divine Mercy revealed through Holy Mother's apparition at Thodupuzha are also opened up here. Hence Divine Mercy Shrine of Holy Mary is considered the abode of Divine Mercy. Holy

Mother has promised that if anybody comes to the grotto with faith at least once, God will show mercy to him, just as Jesus promised to show mercy to those who recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet with faith at least once, as revealed to St. Faustina. This confirms that Divine Mercy Shrine is the abode of Divine Mercy.

27. Eight Channels of Divine Mercy as revealed through St. Faustina of Poland.

- 1. 3 p.m. the hour of Divine Mercy**
- 2. The Prayer of Divine Mercy**
- 3. The Divine Mercy Chaplet**
- 4. The Image of Divine Mercy**
- 5. The Novena of Divine Mercy**
- 6. The Feast of Divine Mercy**
- 7. Showing Mercy to others through words, prayer and deeds.**
- 8. The Proclamation of Divine Mercy**

- Everyday at 3 p.m. the prayer of Divine Mercy and the Divine Mercy Chaplet are conducted at the Shrine.
- A large glorious image of Divine Mercy with the signature '**Jesus I trust in you**' imprinted on it given by Jesus to St. Faustina as a channel to pour out His Mercy has been installed close to the Altar of the Shrine. It will be a great blessing to install a picture of Divine Mercy in every home for special devotion, and

if possible lighting an ever-burning lamp in front of the image indicating the divine presence.

- Five Holy Masses and novenas are conducted on every Fridays and on rest of the days one Holy Mass and novena are the schedule at the Shrine.
- The main feast of the Shrine is the Feast of Divine Mercy which is celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. This is celebrated with great devotion. The second important Feast is the Feast of the Mother of Divine Mercy which falls on 8th December.
- At the Shrine, facilities are arranged for spreading the messages of Divine Mercy and to express mercy to others. Holy Mother has revealed 29 points for Sanctification of life.
- Many Priests who visited the Shrine, understood and believed the messages of Holy Mother, proclaim the Divine Mercy.

Thus all the channels of Divine Mercy revealed through St. Faustina are open at the Shrine.

28. Six Channels of Divine Mercy as revealed through the Mother of Divine Mercy at Thodupuzha

1. Offering the four generations of patrilineal and matrilineal ancestors and the living family members to the Divine Mercy at least once through the mediation of Holy Mother by lighting one candle each for each person individually at the Grotto.

Holy Mother desired to give the family tree chart to the pilgrims to help them to find out their departed beloved ones.

2. Reciting the Divine Mercy Chaplet daily and personally as taught by Holy Mother, one each for the patrilineal and matrilineal ancestors offered to Divine Mercy.

When we offer our blood relatives to the Divine Mercy through the mediation of Holy Mother and pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet daily for them, we get liberated from the inclination to sin(Concupiscence) which prevents us from trusting in Divine Mercy. At the same time when we seek this channel of Divine Mercy we are showing mercy to our beloved ones.

- 3. Wearing the Rosary placed on the hand of the statue of Holy Mother, round the neck to invoke the protection of Divine Mercy.**
- 4. Using the Holy Water at the feet of the statue of Holy Mother for bathing and drinking to get physical and spiritual healing.**
- 5. Sanctifying life by believing and obeying the 29 points given by Holy Mother for Sanctification of life which remove the impediments for receiving and trusting in Divine Mercy.**

Most important among these is obeying the Ten Commandments in their fullness and as desired by God.

6. Visiting and praying in Divine Mercy Shrine of Holy Mary which is the abode of Divine Mercy at least once in true faith.

Holy Mother said it will be more blessing to participate in the Holy Mass and Divine Mercy Novena once a week for nine days. It is a promise by Holy Mother that one would receive the Mercy of God by visiting the Shrine and obeying the revealed facts.

29. The business of Chippy's father John collapses and the statues at the Grotto are destroyed

John was running a business of manufacturing and marketing curry powder with two partners. During the initial period of Holy Mother's apparitions, when John and the company partners obeyed the instructions of Holy Mother faithfully, their business venture spread throughout Kerala in a short span of time and became a highly profitable enterprise. But when Holy Mother attempted to sanctify them personally, they neglected and showed contempt for Her instructions. Then without any apparent reason, the business venture went into loss and became riddled with financial crisis. The partners, meanwhile, sought the reasons for the collapse of the business from an astrologer. This amounted to violation of the First Commandment. Then Holy Mother intervened and advised that, in order to save the business, the partnership has to be dissolved. She said:

“Relationships and ventures which have no spiritual unity are not pleasing to God.”

Since John was having good relationship with the partners, he could not immediately implement Holy Mother’s advice. Moreover even on hinting about it, the partners strongly objected to the idea of dissolving the partnership which was running as two units in Thodupuzha and Palghat. However as days went up, business was running into a huge loss and sensing the danger John demanded dissolution of the partnership. When the proposal for partition of business unit was unacceptable to the partners the other option was, one partner to take up the whole business and to give the other partner a compensation amount, decided according to the capital investment of the partners and the present market value of the company asset. Eventhough partners took over the company, after punishing out John, business steadily ran into great loss.

During this time, the preliminary steps in transferring the grotto to the Church was initiated. John and family decided to move out to a rented house as directed by Holy Mother. After discussing with Fr. Jose Monippally, on 7th April 2006, the family shifted residence to a rented house.

On April 19th 2006 at 6PM, the business partners came to the grotto and broke the statues of Jesus and Mary, thinking that the reason for the collapse of their

business was Holy Mother and the messages given from the grotto. Holy Mother said **“Do not react humanly or have any hatred to those who destroyed the statues in the Grotto. Their deed is not against you but against Me. Discuss with Rev.Fr. Vicar and Rev.Fr.Jose Vettiankal to decide about what steps are to be taken.”**

Before these events took place, Fr. Jose Vettiankal, the then Provincial of Kottayam Vincentian Congregation, inspired by God came to the grotto in the company of Fr. Thomas Manguthel. After getting convinced of the divine plan of Holy Mother, he had advised the family members to change residence at the earliest. Legal action was taken, as directed by the Priests. The destroyed statues were kept as such and orders were given for new statues, according to the advice of Holy Mother.

After the Grotto was transferred to the control of the Diocese, the perpetrators of the heinous act, of destroying the statues turned against Chippy and her family. They threatened to harm them, even kill them. Once they broke the glass of their car parked on a roadside. Then they went on to file false cases one after another, as many as six of them, involving each family members even including the youngest, Jaseentha.

But when the authorities dismissed these cases, they resorted to defame the family by printing out stories raising undignified and condemnable allegations and giving the printed material to sisters in convents, Priests and prominent persons in the society. When the covetous

desire to extort money from John by defaming and threatening the family did not materialise, the partners resorted to distribute this cock and bull story to the people in different places and those coming to the grotto.

As atonement for their deeds, Holy Mother asked Chippy and her family to offer them and their family in the daily Rosary and also to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Way of the Cross for them, along with offering them in the daily Holy Mass.

30. Chippy's family house, property and the Grotto are entrusted to the Church as instructed by Holy Mother.

As soon as Rev.Fr. Jose Monippally took charge as the Vicar, he was informed of the plan of Holy Mother to entrust the house, property and the grotto to the care of the Church. Rev.Fr.Vicar held preliminary discussion with the diocesan authorities. As the preparation for implementing this transfer, John and family moved to a rented house on 7th April 2006. But on 19th April, John's erstwhile business partners broke the statues in the grotto. After the destruction of the statues of the grotto, the future of the grotto appeared uncertain when only scanty people were coming to the grotto instead of hundreds coming daily previously. It is in this lamentable state of things, the grotto was taken over by the Church. Prior to the transfer, Diocesan authorities under the leadership of the Vicar General, Rev.Fr. Thomas Malekudy visited the grotto, studied the matter and got convinced about everything.

Proving that man cannot destroy the plan of God, John and family were called to Bishop's house and Bishop discussed the details of the take over with John after directly enquiring all the details.

New statues that were ordered to replace the broken statues, arrived on 25th July, 2006 and installed on 29th. As instructed by Holy Mother, a six feet tall framed picture of Jesus of Divine Mercy was installed on 13th August. The candle stands for offering ancestors and other personal needs to Divine Mercy by lighting candles, as revealed by Holy Mother were moved to another place, close to the grotto. After discussing Rev.Fr. Monippally, ceiling was fixed to the grotto and decorated appropriately for celebrating Holy Mass.

On 14th August, 2006, in the evening the Bishop of Kothamangalam Rt. Rev. Dr. George Punnakottil, in the presence of parish Priests of the Churches under the Thodupuzha Forane, religious Priests belonging to Vincentian, CMI and Capuchin societies, religious members of SABS, FCC, SH, CMC, SD congregations and very many faithful, blessed the grotto and the house. His Excellency after celebrating Holy Mass officially took over the grotto and named it "DIVINE MERCY SHRINE OF HOLY MARY"

Rev.Fr. Jose Monippilly Vicar of Thodupuzha Town Church became the first Rector of the Shrine and he took leadership in running the activities of the Shrine according to the divine plan of Holy Mother. Four nuns

belonging to SABS congregation stayed in the house adjacent to the Shrine and looked after the daily chores of the Shrine and the requirements of the pilgrims. After Fr. Monippilly, Rev. Fr. George Chettoor took charge as the Rector on 5th July 2011 and later Rev. Fr. Jose Puthoor as assistant Rector. The sisters who were staying in the house adjacent to the Shrine moved to another house close by and both priests are now staying in the house close to the Shrine.

“From one generation to another he shows mercy to those who honour him” (Lk. 1:50)

“But before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes, I will send you the prophet Elijah. He will bring fathers and children together again, otherwise I would have to come and destroy your country” (Mal 4:5-6)

HOLY SERVICES IN THE SHRINE

Monday - Thursday

6.00 am	Holy Mass, Novena
6.00 pm	Holy Rosary, Holy Mass

Friday

5.45 am		Holy Mass, Divine Mercy Novena
7.30 am		
9.30 am		
11.30 am		
3.00 pm		
5.00 pm		
7.00 pm		English Holy Mass, English Novena

Saturday

6.00 am	Holy Mass, Novena
10.00 am	Holy Mass, Novena
5.00 pm	Holy Mass, Novena

Sunday

5.00 pm

Holy Mass

Every First Sundays of month

5.00 pm

Holy Mass,
Eucharistic Adoration
Divine Mercy Message

Rev. Fr. Jose Pothoor
Rector

Rev. Fr. George Maleparambil
Asst. Rector

