

APPARITIONS OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN IN
PEÑABLANCA

My Testimony

Rev. Father Miguel Contardo Egaña

Santiago - Chile - 1998

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IMPRIMATUR, NIHIL, OBSTAT.

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I humbly submit to obedience to our Holy Mother the Catholic, Apostolic and Roman Church.

REV. FATHER MIGUEL CONTARDO EGAÑA

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OUR LADY OF PEÑABLANCA



"I am the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God ".

"I am the White Lady of Peace".

Miraculous photograph of our Lady of Peñablanca taken on August 1984, and definitions given by the Blessed Virgin about Herself in the apparitions of Peñablanca.

Dedication:

"To my brother priests, to the true Peñablanquinos and in particular to the representative of Christ on Earth, His Holiness Pope John Paul II, I dedicate this book."

1. PROLOGUE

The first appearance of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca took place on the 12th of June 1983. Her last appearance was on June 12th 1988. Therefore, 10 years have already elapsed between these two dates and the publication of this book.

This perspective allows me not only to express my testimony as an eye-witness of the situations experienced at the time, but also to emphatically state that the devotion of the people to the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca is still alive in Chile and abroad, which given the time elapsed, is of enormous importance. It should be remembered that the ecclesiastical authorities of the time submitted the authenticity of these apparitions to the judgment of time, publicly pointing out that if they were the work of God nothing and no one would be able to prevent the devotion of the people to the apparitions and that it would endure in time.

Two special reasons have led me to publish this book.

First and foremost is the express wish and gentle mandate of Our Lady who repeatedly asked that we give testimony of our experiences in Peñablanca and to make known the wonders that the Lord sends to us through our Blessed Mother.

The second reason is to collaborate with possible future researchers sent by the Holy See to inquire with reliability, completeness, respect and love into the events that occurred in this corner of Chile.

There is also a third reason, a more intimate one: personal gratitude to the Mother of God and our Mother for the many benefits and gifts bestowed upon all those who attended and witnessed the graces shed by God upon this country and the entire world.

It is very difficult for me to bare my soul and express my feelings because of my reserved nature, but in all conscience I am bound to do it, because as the testimony comes from a Priest of the Lord, it may help to better clarify future, important research.

This work constitutes a complement to the eyewitness accounts of these supernatural manifestations written by Architect Mr. Alvaro Barros, Engineer Mr. Alejandro Cifuentes, Doctor Alan Rojas and Mrs. María Luisa Paredes de Jojot, all chosen by the Blessed Virgin for this enterprise.

Given the existence of these books which contain extensive descriptions of the apparitions and in particular the transcript of the messages given by the Blessed Virgin,

it is not required that I further explain them here. Therefore, I include only those messages that I have deemed are especially relevant for the purpose of this testimony.

With much affection I set down these experiences dedicated to my Blessed Mother, the White Lady of Peace and to Her Divine Son, Jesus, our Older Brother.

I would not want anyone to be misled about what I narrate in this testimony. Some may look for a certain degree of resentment because of what I have experienced. Nothing could be further from the truth. Thank God I do not hold the slightest grudge against anyone, to the contrary, from the bottom of my heart I thank all those who in one way or another participated in these events, as they permitted me to test my faith and testify before the Lord and the Blessed Virgin my devotion to them.

Notwithstanding the above, in the following chapter "Introduction", with the greatest possible openness I set down my position in view of the criticisms that were made about the authenticity of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca.

At the same time in the subsequent chapter "Clarifications", I refer expressly to what in my opinion is the truth about certain allegations made of the apparitions, especially whether the Church forbade attendance to the Peñablanca shrine as many priests have affirmed to their parishioners.

Everything for the Greater Glory of God and Glorification of Our Lady.

Rev. Father Miguel Contardo Egaña

June 12, 1988

2. INTRODUCTION

The reader, as those of us who witnessed these events, will experience conflicting emotions with this narrative. On the one hand the wonder of the existence of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in our country, and on the other, the disbelief and tenacious opposition from some Church authorities and from part of the clergy to even consider conducting a serious, in depth investigation of these apparitions.

It is amazing that without consistent arguments but rather with arguments that border on the absurd the countless supernatural events that occurred in Peñablanca, endorsed by photographs, videos, recordings and the testimony of thousands of witnesses, particularly from converts were simply ignored.

Were we to understand that all of these events were considered to be false with no explanation given to date of how they might have naturally occurred? They were simply dismissed without a logical explanation. At the same time one would have to assume that the testimony of tens of thousands was the product of their imagination, or that they were somehow tricked by means of technical effects, which is implicitly questioning the powers of reasoning of all these people. Given the conditions under which these supernatural phenomena occurred could anyone in his right mind consider it possible to deceive so many people? And finally, as if all the above wasn't enough, why did they ignore or disregard the existence of an infinite number of conversions. Do conversions mean nothing?

In any case, it is not the first time that many years are needed for an official acceptance of the existence of a supernatural occurrence such as this one.

The veracity of the events that occurred at Peñablanca was questioned because some people suffered injuries to their eyesight when they looked at the Sun. In my opinion it is clear that these should be attributed to the perhaps imprecise instructions imparted on occasions to the crowd of tens of thousands, considering the difficulties of communication that this entailed. But, above all these injuries occurred because of the recklessness and contention of those who insisted on doing things at times that were not the ones specified by the Blessed Virgin.

In the particular case of Peñablanca the behavior of the seer after the apparition ended helped to create a sense of skepticism.

Unfortunately, it was not taken into account that this was a further test of faith and that the seer acted in accordance with the free will that we all have. It is senseless to

think that just because a person has been a seer his destiny is mapped out for him and that he necessarily has to behave in a certain manner. He can choose his own path even though it may appear to be completely wrong, without his behavior making his previous performance as a seer less reliable.

One should not lose proportions, distorting what is really important for something entirely of secondary importance, as is the behavior of the seer after his participation as such.

I believe that it is even more meritorious for those who despite this terrible test of faith have continued to believe in the apparitions.

10 years have passed since the last appearance of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca and the flame of faith continues to burn in this sanctuary to which many faithful, both Chilean and foreign, flock to. It is exciting to contemplate those who, notwithstanding all the tests of faith to which the Peñablanca apparitions have been subject, continue to believe. Conversions and infinity of confessions by those who have been away from religion for many years are permanently occurring.

I think that this reality must bring priest to an in depth meditation. Priests who thought that what happened in Peñablanca would not stand the test of time. Who to reaffirm their unbelief pointed out that according to them these supernatural phenomena attributed to the Virgin were false, and therefore not the work of God, and that they would not stand the test of time. To the contrary, stated the authorities of the clergy back then, if indeed it was the work of God, then nothing, nor no one could prevent the devotion of the people to the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Peñablanca from remaining alive.

And so it has been, and I think that each one of the Chilean priests should, on his own, and in the solitude of his conscience and his personal commitment to the Lord, rethink his position on the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca. One should never forget that each one will have to account for his actions and the influence of his acts upon the redemption of the souls of his parishioners, and that humility is the virtue most appreciated by Our Lady.

Fray Justo Pérez de Urbel, OSB, in his book "Life of Christ", (Rialp Publications, SA, Madrid, Fourth Edition, p. 215), says: "The Apostles will spread throughout Earth to purify it, to illuminate it, to be living standards of that program that arose overlooking the Lake of Gennesaret. Their mission is sublime but woe to them if they cower, if they are unfaithful to their vocation and if by allowing their strength to vacillate, they become the motive of ruin and loss of the men whom they are to save!"

The Blessed Virgin Herself sent a message to priests in one of the apparitions in Peñablanca: "*Speak to them my son and shout it without fear because in the end they will be the victims of the souls that they have lost*".

I ask myself: Is there a greater motive for regret for the men and women of our country than that of loosing the opportunity of having their pastors guide and lead them towards the light that Our Lady especially projected on this Earth with Her apparitions?

Fortunately, the mercy of Our Lord Jesus Christ is immense, and I am certain that both He and the Blessed Virgin will, with great joy, receive in their arms those priests who, depositing their former attitudes, give faith and proclaim to their parishioners the recognition of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca and heed Her messages.

As She pointed out, there will come the day when all of Chile will recognize the veracity of these events. Towards this I wish to contribute with this book, giving my testimony with the utmost humility.

3. CLARIFICATIONS

Before I begin to describe the events that occurred in the apparitions which I witnessed, I consider that it is essential for me to make clear to the reader of this Testimony what in my opinion is the truth about certain allegations that were made, as well as what is the correct interpretation and scope of what the ecclesiastical authorities of the time stated.

(As source for this chapter I have resorted to the book “Luz y Sombra en Peñablanca” (Light and Shadow in Peñablanca) written by Engineer Alejandro Cifuentes Bezanilla (R.I.P.), with whom I both worked and prayed in Peñablanca. I have also used the writings of Dr. Alan Rojas Canala (R.I.P.), one of the great pillars chosen by the Blessed Virgin for this work in Peñablanca. Both were great friends and spiritual brothers, and I think that from heaven they continue to help us).

In particular I want to specify with the utmost clarity whether what the faithful have heard from many priests during these past years is true or false: that the Church forbade attendance to the sanctuary of Peñablanca.

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC REVELATIONS

Public revelation is contained in the Bible and Tradition, which is the Word of God. Private revelation is also the Word of God especially that which He communicates through the Blessed Virgin Mary: both sources of revelation complement themselves; there cannot be, and there must not be, contradictions between them. There are many coincidences between messages transmitted in Peñablanca and the Holy Bible, some of which She Herself has pointed out.

PRONOUNCEMENTS OF THE BISHOP OF VALPARAISO IN 1983

Shortly after the Peñablanca events began in 1983, the Bishop of Valparaíso, Archbishop, Monsignor Francisco de Borja Valenzuela asked Father Jaime Fernández Montero to initiate an investigation into the apparitions. He in turn appointed a larger Commission that began to work in mid-September, 1983. Increasingly more people were going to the Hill with more than a hundred thousand people attending on September 29th. The apparitions continued with messages of great importance.

Suddenly something unexpected happened. On October 6th, 1983, without any explanation whatsoever Msgr. Valenzuela issued his first pronouncement with respect to the reality of the apparitions, expressing a "strongly critical position" (those were his words). Shortly afterwards he appointed a second Commission. In a new pronouncement Msgr. Valenzuela, without providing any explanation, definitively ruled out all supernatural reality of what was happening, attributing it to a fraudulent origin.

AUTHORITY OF THE CHURCH

It is not our intention to question the authority of the Church, but in the case of the apparitions at Peñablanca mistakes were made in the investigations and it is evident that these were incomplete.

As Catholics we have not only the right but also a duty to point out these circumstances; this has already been done through several communications to the ecclesiastical authorities, and in some writings that have been published. To date no

concrete answers have been obtained, so with all due respect and submission, one must continue to insist.

By way of an example, one may ask oneself:

- Why did the Bishopric of Valparaíso accept the findings of the first Commission when it came to light that she was influenced by complaints that bordered on fantasy, which with inconceivable irresponsibility were never even investigated?
- Why did this same Bishopric appoint a second Commission formed by persons who because of their professions and training (philosophy and biology teachers) were not suitable to emit conclusions about the authenticity of these apparitions?
- Why did this Bishopric have so much influence over the rest of the Chilean clergy making it unnecessary for other Dioceses to require a further investigation, since they were all aware that it was affecting all the faithful and not only those from the Dioceses of Valparaíso?

DAMNING HYPOTHESES THAT HAVE BEEN FORMULATED

Some damning hypotheses have been formulated to explain what happened. Reading them once may appreciate the errors and the lack of seriousness with which they were emitted:

a) INVENTIONS OF THE SEER.

It has been said that the seer either invented the messages, obtained them from the Bible or from other known apparitions. This would mean that the boy would need to have an exceptional memory, histrionic conditions, knowledge of apparitions, etc. To the contrary, one can clearly see that the seer is a completely ordinary boy, uncultured and with little education. Whosoever reads the messages and dialogues and stops to consider all the extraordinary happenings that have taken place can but exclaim that this hypothesis is “impossible”. It is really very doubtful that there could be someone in the world able to carry out for 5 years what one has heard and seen the boy do even with every help possible. Furthermore, should this be true, what reason could he have for keeping up such a deception when it could so easily be brought to light?

b) PARANORMAL PHENOMENA.

It is then put forward that the boy has paranormal conditions: the phenomena would then fall into the field of parapsychology, a relatively recent science whose aim is to explain mental phenomena that science is unable to explain. Parapsychology has so far explained nothing. It has merely verified that these phenomena do exist, has classified them and has made attempts to submit them to experimentation.

To state that the phenomenon can be explained by means of parapsychology is to explain nothing and is in reality to evade the search for truth. Also, it turns out that the ecstasies of the boy have nothing to do with paranormal trances. There is nothing to indicate that such occurrences have happened on other occasions unless they have actually been verified as supernatural phenomena and are being subjected to study. On the other hand, if the phenomenon were effectively of the paranormal type, its occurrence would require the involvement of others and would not come only from the boy. Those who have raised this hypothesis have been content merely to propose it, only expressing that this could be a plausible explanation, but no one has really studied it, and even less tried to verify it.

c) **STIGMAS CAUSED BY HYSTERIA.**

The hypothesis of hysteria has been put forward to explain the phenomenon of the stigmata: it has been stated that a hysterical person might be able to self inflict the injuries by mere suggestion. No evidence is given in this respect, no explanation is given as to how the wounds disappear in two hours or less, no explanation is given of how the seer can discuss his experiences just after his alleged hysterical attacks; in truth, the medical examinations of the seer indicate no symptoms of hysteria nor does he have any medical history of hysteria. Even when the first Commission of inquiry raised this hypothesis it realized its inability to raise a second explanation, which certainly demonstrates the weakness of this argument.

d) **FRAUD BY A PERSON OR PERSONS**

The most widespread explanation points towards a fraud perpetrated by a person or persons.

However, more than ten years after the apparitions have ended no one has been able to identify the perpetrator or perpetrators of the alleged fraud, or explain how it was carried out. And the most amazing thing is that if this were a fraud, a highly reprehensible fact from every point of view; it would have involved the use of elements so sophisticated that it would have been uncovered long ago; it would have meant the sacrilegious use of the name of Our Lady, a horrible spiritual crime. What reason would there be for this not to be publicly denounced and the perpetrators subjected to the most severe judgment because of the seriousness of the deception? The reason is very simple: the fraud only exists in the minds of those who do not want to accept the message of Peñablanca.

No one has been able to locate the authors of the alleged fraud; however the hypotheses are far from few. Below are some of the most popular:

1. The hypothesis preferred by many was that the Government or some Government Agency in office at the time. Preferably the C.N.I. with the involvement of the Chilean Navy was responsible for the alleged fraud. The reason: to distract public opinion from the serious social and economic problems of the time.

It is common knowledge that the first Commission received a denouncement concerning this theory and that owing to the apathy and laziness so common to us, it was accepted immediately as truth without even a cursory investigation, analysis or research into the matter. Furthermore, the complaint of fraud under this hypothesis was made almost 15 years ago and the apparitions continued for a further five years, therefore, it makes no sense that an organization would continue to trick everyone after having been exposed. There would be no motive to continue to do so.

It is now known that this hypothesis was discarded but this was not made public and many people, especially priests, still believe this explanation and continue to repeat it with incredible ignorance not to say bad faith, preventing many souls entrusted to them to gain the wonderful spiritual gifts that the Virgin bestows upon those who visit Her at the Sanctuary of Peñablanca.

2. Others argue that the matter was business related. According to them a group was profiting by taking advantage of the religious feelings of believers. Once again, if this were true, then it should have been reported immediately. Then why was it not? For the simple reason that those who subscribed to, or supported this theory had no proof. It is true that request for funds have and are being made of the faithful who believe in the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca, but all donations without exception had to be deposited into a bank account and all income, expenditures and investments recorded, clearly showing on what the money is spent, e.g., the construction and maintenance of the shrine and the purchase of materials for broadcasts. There are no cash deposit/alms boxes on the Hill and no one is authorized to ask for money.
3. Still others listed as authors of the alleged fraud organizations or groups of believers that somehow disagreed with the hierarchy of the Church, e.g.: Fiducia, the followers of Archbishop Lefebvre, the Fundamentalists, the Millenarians, etc. The reason being the coincidence of a given message with positions held by these groups. The truth is that the Doctrine of the Church is very ample and extensive and no one, even the greatest enemies of the Church, can help but agree on some points with her: more so those that only differ from the Doctrine of Church in some contingent matter or some aspect of

liturgy or of the interpretation of certain passages of the Bible. Even the atheistic Marxism or Freemasonry in some of its tenets and purposes match certain teachings of Christianity. In truth, as we have already established, there is nothing in the messages of Peñablanca contrary to the Doctrine of Christ or the teachings of the Holy Church, and the very fact that many different origins are attributed, indicate that there is in fact only one single origin: the messages are the Word of God.

Those who propose this hypothesis are merely content to propose it. They do not ask, nor do they appear to have any interest in asking what motives could a group of people have for perpetrating such a fraud, nor have they bothered to locate the perpetrators to determine how they are operating. Accusations made so lightly have not the slightest value.

e) DEMONIC ORIGIN.

It has been put forward that the messages are demonic in origin. Every lie, every fraud has without a doubt a demonic origin. Especially in a case like this in which the Blessed name of Mary is being used to mislead the faithful; consequently, any of the above hypotheses would also fit. But as we have already established these assumptions have no basis. It is clear that many who have examined the facts, especially priests, have come to realize that it is not, nor can it be, a lie or a fraud of the seer; then what is the possible explanation? Very simple, everything is demonic: the ecstasies of the boy, the phenomena that occur, the messages, the cures and the conversions to the Catholic faith. It is the Devil that is simulating an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary. For what purpose? To confuse the faithful and bring about divisions within the Church.

Those who propose this explanation do so in private; they fear appearing ridiculous before the non Catholic masses, and also before the many who call themselves Catholic but who do not believe in either the Devil or Hell. In this regard it is worth mentioning that there are quite a few priests who do not believe; or argue that God's mercy is so great that He would never allow anyone to be condemned; they forget His righteousness and Justice and everything that Christ Himself has taught us, and by denying the punishment, they are indirectly denying the existence of the Devil.

Furthermore, those who sustain this hypothesis quote passages from the Gospel in which Christ alerts us to the action of the Devil. What can one possibly say to this? Some of the reasons, which in my opinion discard this hypothesis, are listed below:

- I. We must remember that these same arguments were used by the Pharisees to disqualify Christ; not wanting to recognize in Him the promised Messiah, and finding no explanation for the miracles they attributed a demonic origin to them. Well known is the response of Christ; the same applies in this case, particularly taking into account the following:

- II. By their fruits ye shall know them". It is Christ Himself who gives us the criteria for discernment. We have already pointed out the great number of conversions as the principal result of these events. Even the Bishop of Valparaíso in office at the time, in an interview to a journalist (November 1983) acknowledged that the faithful had become more pious. The vast majority of those attending the Hill lived a more Christian life. Many prayer meetings, thousands of people praying the Holy Rosary on a daily basis, many the entire fifteen mysteries. Visits to the Blessed Sacrament, continuous vigils on the hill with hundreds spending the night in prayer, singing, meditating, sometimes even three nights in a row. The daily attendance of Holy Mass, Holy Communion with previous confession became a custom. It was a call of alert that had dug deep into many consciences.
- III. The messages that have been heard on the Hill are deeply Christian in content. There is nothing in them that opposes what constitutes the reservoir of our faith. What has been heard in Peñablanca is in essence the same thing heard in La Salette, Lourdes, in Fatima and in many other places that the Holy Church recognizes as actual visits of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- IV. At the request of the Blessed Virgin a shrine has been built on the Hill. It is the result of the effort and sacrifice of thousands and thousands of persons who have accomplished this by overcoming a multitude of difficulties, with no support whatsoever from the Hierarchy of the Church. The shrine is kept with much sacrifice. Those who visit it never tire of mentioning the peace they feel there; the action of the Devil on the other hand solely produces uneasiness, fear and anguish.
- V. Is it possible to make the devil call the faithful to prayer, to suggest sacrifice, penance and Confession, to ask we keep the Commandments, to remind us of all the duties of a Christian in particular the virtues of charity and humility, to strongly call to attention those who stray from the ways of God?

f) PROVOKE A SCHISM WITHIN THE CHURCH.

Another theory proposes that the purpose of all of this is to bring about a schism within the Church. Those who sustain this hypothesis claim that the Devil can do all this and more if the end result can cause more harm than good. And to what end? Nothing less than to produce a schism within the Church. If this really were the case, there would perhaps be reasons to believe in the possibility of demonic action although every indication points otherwise. But it turns out that the hypothesis of a schism is completely absurd, as outlined below:

- I. The faithful who advocate the reality of Peñablanca have never thought of separating from the Church. Continuous prayer is offered in the shrine for the hierarchy of the Holy Church and for priests. The messages of the Blessed Virgin Mary do not in the least oppose the teachings of the Holy Church nor do they oppose what our Holy Father the Pope preaches incessantly throughout the world. What the Blessed Virgin requests in Her messages in Peñablanca is a return to the practice of

piety placing emphasis on the fulfillment of God's law and the practice of all the virtues.

- II. Perhaps a more controversial point is that of obedience. However, there has never been a call to disobey the Pastors, quite the contrary. What has happened is that mere recommendations have been interpreted as prohibitions. How could one prohibit anyone from expressing his love and veneration for the Blessed Virgin Mary in whatever place and under whatever circumstances one may choose to do so. However, some priests have exaggerated and misinterpreting some recommendations as prohibitions have without any power or right banned their parishioners from visiting the Peñablanca shrine. The faithful have in turn increased the confusion by providing argument after argument based on whimsical fallacies and apprehensions that have become true legends, each one more aberrant and fantastic than the other.

In this respect we must be emphatic: the hierarchy of the Church has never imposed a ban prohibiting visits to the sanctuary of Peñablanca to pray. Furthermore, Holy Mass is officiated on the first Saturday of each month by a chaplain especially appointed by the ecclesiastical hierarchy and by the express wishes of the Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso in office at the time, H.E. Cardinal Jorge Medina Estévez, an authorization which has since been extended by Monsignor Francisco Javier Errázuriz Ossa, his successor as Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso and current Archbishop of Santiago.

The first priest to celebrate Mass at the sanctuary of Peñablanca was Monsignor Gonzalo Duarte García de Cortázar. Cardinal Medina climb the Hill praying the Stations of the Cross to attend this first Holy Mass officiated in the shrine.

Accordingly, those who without any authority prohibit are acting against the Church itself, which not only does not prohibit but also sends priests to celebrate Holy Mass in this sanctuary. Furthermore, all the priests, whether Chilean or not, can go to the Hill to hear Confession, naturally with the due license to do so.

It should be noted that most of the priests who have visited the Hill are amazed by the peace and the fervor experienced there. Conversion continues to occur and many who had been away return to the Church repentant and with a new zeal. Is this dividing the Church? To the contrary, the sanctuary of Peñablanca, the Chilean Mount Carmel, unites and elevates like its summits.

Therefore, the thesis that there is a ban on visiting the sanctuary of Peñablanca is absolutely false. Priests who insist on saying this to their parishioners are in fact hurting them. They are taking on the responsibility that this entails.

- III. The schisms in the Church have always been due to matters of faith and dogmas; those who have led them have almost always been persons of the cloth, including

many Bishops. A schism because some believe and others do not believe in an apparition of the Blessed Virgin would be completely absurd. There have been many cases like this around the world and there has never been a schism for this reason.

IV. -That some may cause a schism because inspired by these manifestations of the Blessed Virgin Mary, they try, in total concordance with the Holy Father, the Pope, to spread a message that puts a stop to a set of practices that tend to separate man from God, that tend to dissociate the family, is something that has no basis or grounds.

SLANDERS IN THE MEDIA.

Slanders printed in some newspapers that many gullible persons have accepted:

(a) THE USE OF LASER BEAMS

In one of Her apparitions the Blessed Virgin Mary sent Her heavenly blessings in the form of rays and lights which filled us all with peace and joy. There was a journalist present who saw these signs of grace and then wrote an article stating that they were produced by laser beams.

I think that to state such nonsense one should assume that the tens of thousands who witnessed this phenomenon were unable to realize what the journalist ascertained. This statement, which was never technically proven, fell on fertile ground of the many avid to find some justification to tear down the supernatural character of the phenomenon. Hence, anything in sight such as a cable etc., immediately gave credence to the most incredible assumptions such as the laser theory. Furthermore, it was considered unnecessary to offer any proof, it was just necessary to have a little imagination and fling about any explanation possible.

(b) DISTORTED MESSAGES.

Many misrepresented the messages in a more theological sense, saying that the Blessed Virgin had said: "I am the Alpha and the Omega", a phrase taken from Scripture referring to Our Lord, a heresy that the Blessed Virgin never uttered about Herself.

(c) USE OF MOCKERY AND IRONY.

Certain newspapers employed mockery and irony to report the apparitions. Ridicule and humiliation are some of the weapons that the Devil employed to discredit the apparitions in the minds of the faithful. It is a weapon whose blade strikes very deep into the soul. I believe that led by their own journalistic ambitions in which the commercial aspect apparently took precedence and because of the bickering among

themselves, irresponsible journalists caused much damage. Many were influenced by the jokes and ironies and gave up visiting Peñablanca altogether, or what is worse still, stopped attending for fear of ridicule. May God forgive them. We pray for all those who were affected by these humiliations.

(d) TRICK PHOTOGRAPHY.

Many of the wonderful photographs taken by the faithful at the sanctuary were labeled trick photographs without even having been seen or examined. However, no explanation of how they were taken was ever put forth, particularly because the photographs were taken by thousands of different persons and each one would have had to come up with a different trick. It should be noted that several tens of thousands saw the supernatural phenomena that was being photographed.

(e) FIGURES IN THE SKY MADE BY AIRCRAFT.

It was even stated that Navy planes from the nearby Navy Base El Belloto, which is relatively close to Peñablanca, sprayed special gases to form the image of the Blessed Virgin in the sky. It all started because a priest commented: "I believe that it is just how airplanes write in the sky, in the same way they could do other things". The statement was taken to be an affirmation from the priest, although he probably said it as a joke. And then other detractors claimed that the Church had confirmed the statement. And that is how this story spread. Laughable explanations like this were assumed by many to be true.

CRITICISM FROM PRIESTS

Priests who believed and visited the site of the apparitions of Peñablanca were unjustly and very harshly criticized. Hurtful almost slanderous expressions issued forth from the mouths of priest in the pulpit and radio. Each one of them knows that the affected priests have already forgiven them from the bottom of their hearts and that they pray for them.

With the utmost humility I ask these priests to meditate on what is directly applicable to them in Chapters 2 and 3 of this Testimony that they may appreciate the significance of their actions regarding the attitude that their parishioners have adopted towards the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca.

THE PRESENCE OF THE DEVIL.

It is necessary to establish that the Devil has indeed been present at this apparition although not in the manner that some claim but with the obvious purpose of

destroying the apparition, of preventing the message from reaching the faithful, and there is no doubt that in large measure he has succeeded, at least until now. In the course of events he has acted through deception, lies, adulation, fear of the ridicule and many other of his tricks, giving rise to some of the negative events that have taken place.

All of this more than constitutes evidence to the contrary, it is perhaps the most evident proof that the Blessed Virgin has visited us, sparking the logical reaction of Her mortal enemy.

And this, as we have stated, has happened in all the manifestations of the Blessed Virgin Mary, even in those recognized as authentic by the Holy Church. As you can see there is no shortage of explanations to destroy the possibility of the supernatural origin of the events; but the mere fact that so many different and contradictory hypotheses have been mentioned to explain what happened is further proof that the real origin of the events is very different to that which these explanations pretend.

THE ICHTHUS.

The fish (ICHTHUS) as a sign of Our Lord Jesus Christ has been used since ancient times. After the Ascension of our Lord, early Christians noted that in Greek and in Latin the word fish, (ICHTHUS) was an anagram referring to Jesus. The individual letters make up a confessional statement of Christians, "Jesus Christ Son of God, Savior" That is, each letter of the word ICHTHUS (fish), is the first letter of a word that denotes the Master: I (Iesus), C (Cristus), T (Theos-God), U (Uius - son), S (Soter-savior). ICHTHUS means: Jesus Christ Son of God, Savior.

On various opportunities during the apparitions the Blessed Virgin has earnestly requested that the ICHTHUS be placed on the doors of homes. This is described in detail in the books I mentioned about the apparitions of Peñablanca.

Believe it or not, some renowned members of the clergy mocked this unawares that the ICHTHUS is depicted in many churches and altars. Unfortunately, by expressing their views publicly through mass media they aggravated the situation and confused many Catholics.

I think that even though 15 years have elapsed since the Blessed Virgin gave this message in Peñablanca, it has become increasingly necessary for families to place their

homes under divine protection and comply with the Blessed Virgin's request to place the Ichthus on the doors of their homes.

One really has to be very bold to mock messages about the Ichthus given by the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca:

- *"An Ichthus which is the sign of Christianity should be placed on each door".*
- *"Those who have the ichthus with faith fear not, you will be saved".*
- *"The second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ is close at hand, prepare and be vigilant".*
- *"It is a symbol of our Lord Jesus Christ which means: I am with Him and will be forever, world without end".*
- *"Place the ichthus on the doors of your homes without being afraid because the time of the decisive battle has arrived: those who are with God and those who are against Him".*

THE GIFT OF FAITH.

To believe reasons are not enough, reads a profound thought on this subject. For he who believes no reason is necessary; for he who does not believe no reason is sufficient. Faith is a free gift, but it only comes to those who are willing to receive it. And it is God who dispenses this gift.

4. ANOTHER WITNESS IN 1983.

In August of 1983 a seminarian from the Obra Misionera de la Transfiguración (Transfiguration Missionary Work) informed me that a boy named Miguel Ángel had seen the Blessed Virgin. A lady had taken the child to meet with the Father Superior of the Congregation, who, unable to meet with him had sent him to Father Luis Fernández, the Parish Priest of Nuestra Señora Madre de la Iglesia de Quilpué (Our Lady Mother of the Church of Quilpué). This priest received him with a natural skepticism but cordially heard him out.

The matter interested me greatly and therefore when I learned from the same seminarian that in September there would be another manifestation of Our Lady, on August 31st I travelled to Quilpué to visit Father Luis to obtain detailed information from him.

That day I met Miguel Ángel. He was with some other children that belonged to the Eucharistic Crusade Movement. He was waiting for Father Luis who that day would

explain and introduce him to the Movement. He looked like any normal boy; nothing drew attention to his appearance.

We arranged to meet next day at 9:30 a.m. at the place of the apparitions. Together with some catechists we were going to cordon off the site to keep the crowds in order as the media was publicizing these events.

I was experiencing great peace and inner joy because I sensed that something very special and supernatural was being concocted in accordance to the wise designs of the Lord.

A rugged landscape of gentle slopes and peaceful solitude, away from the hustle and bustle, with a feeling of freshness and a gentle breeze that penetrated our entire being.

"This is the place", said Father Luis when we reached a hollow almost at the summit of the beautiful and solitary hill. At a distance were visible the towns of Peñablanca and Villa Alemana. The Hill bordered both locations of the Fifth Region.

First we prayed to Our Lord and the Blessed Virgin Mary and around 10:30 a.m., the catechists began their work. We proceeded to place stakes and cordon off the site where Our Lady communicated with the seer. Then from several points, men, women and children gradually ascended the hill. I encountered many people from Santiago who had come to see the place of these apparitions for themselves.

On that September 1st 1983, around ten thousand persons congregated on that hill in Peñablanca. Near noon a loud explosion was heard. It was similar to the noise produced by an aircraft when it breaks the sound barrier. The human sea began to chant with excitement and exclamations of joy: "The Virgin, the Virgin".

The Sun began to spin on its axis emitting bright colors that did not bother the eyes. Some people who had attended the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin to Mama Rosa in San Damiano, Italy, said that what they were seeing was very similar to what they had seen in San Damiano several years back. I experienced great peace and internal joy, which resulted in a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord and His Mother. The sublime spectacle lasted for over one hour. Fraternal conversations and prayer among the attendees. In the distance I spotted the seer, the large crowd hiding him from sight. Many approached and greeted him with gentle and affectionate words.

It was a full and exciting day. A great thanksgiving day. Our Lady would next be coming on Saturday, September 3rd. I had a previous engagement in Santiago to conduct a Marian Cenacle and celebrate Mass at the Church on the San Cristobal Hill and so I would not be able to come.

The apparition following that was announced for September 8th, Feast of the Nativity of our Lady.

Once again I climbed the Hill in the company of Father Luis who asked me to recite the Rosary with the enormous crowd of pilgrims ascending. I managed to observe the seer from afar. Many people surrounded him. A few moments later he fell into ecstasy and began to chant several songs of praise.

I retreated to a quieter place to pray in peace and thank the Lord for so many blessings.

A few minutes had gone by when I saw people running towards me, among them the figure of Miguel Ángel in ecstasy. I tried to move aside to let them pass but he veered towards me, stopped right in front of me, and said: "Kneel". I did so; those who had followed him did likewise. He turned to them and said: "No, only the Priest". Then he laid his hands on my head for a few moments. I felt inundated with a great peace and joy, very difficult to express.

Moments later he informed me that the Blessed Virgin had blessed me and continued on his way downhill. I remained in deep and intimate thought, thanking the Blessed Virgin Mary with all my heart and soul.

The hill slowly depopulated and I descended in still gratitude to the Divine Providence who bestows so many joys upon Her ungrateful children.

On September 12th I again visited Peñablanca, and with a few devoted catechists led the Rosary. Miguel Ángel accompanied by some people approached and fell into ecstasy. Many people had come, especially from Santiago and Viña del Mar. Someone had brought a beautiful image of Our Lady of Fatima on a simple pedestal. Close to 2 o'clock the Virgin requested a procession and as there was a bit of disorder I took charge and organize the procession downhill. We had no idea where we were headed as the entire time the seer walked gazing up at the sky. I remember that we descended and crossed the railway line, praying rosaries and singing. Despite seeing him in ecstasy, I asked: "Where are we going?" "I don't know", he replied, "She is leading us". Finally, after walking for over an hour we reached a site in which there was a beautiful Grotto of Lourdes.

Some of us were able to sit down. A girl sang Schubert's Ave Maria. About half an hour later the procession started its way back to the Hill. I was exhausted and as I was preparing to continue our walk someone approached and requested I hear his confession, then another and still another, consequently I was unable to move.

Later I learnt that back on the Hill the Blessed Virgin had requested that those who wished to become Her Missionaries raise their hands. Also that many of the candles that the people carried lit and turn off in a sort of friendly game that was enormously pleasing to the devotees.

The next apparition was set for September 24th, Feast of Our Lady of Mercedes. I attended and mingled with the crowd to better observe the events.

The Virgin asked pilgrims for a metal fence to enclose the site where She appeared, stating that She would make a present of 150 meters of Paradise and that the gate should be ready by September 29th.

Everything that transpired with the miraculous fence is recounted in detail by the protagonist himself, Alejandro Cifuentes Bezanilla.

Our Lady requested that we descend in a slow and orderly procession to a chapel dedicated to the Sacred Heart located at the foot of the hill, to honor Her Divine Son. After our visit to Jesus we again ascended the hill in perfect order.

A friendly chat about intimate things followed between the seer and Our Lady. The Blessed Virgin urged women to cover their heads with a veil to receive Holy Communion, as was done in days gone by. Many nuns from different congregations were standing next to the seer. He made all the priests present bless the place because some were saying that the apparition was the work of the Devil.

Among many things the Blessed Virgin said to the seer: *"Miguel Ángel, you will have to suffer much because of what they say about you. Offer it as a sacrifice in reparation for the offenses to My Son"*.

On September 29, the Hill was packed with pilgrims, curious people even journalists and photographers. According to information released by the police department around one hundred thousand had gathered at the top and slopes of the beautiful hill. Also present were many children from schools from Santiago with their teachers. Everything was very orderly. That day there was also a procession to a Church in Villa Alemana. It lasted several hours, with much fervor and contagious enthusiasm. We felt no fatigue or hunger despite being on our feet for many hours without food. These events are narrated by Alvaro Barros in his book "I am the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God" and by María Luisa Paredes in her book "If You Do As I Say There Will be Peace... Otherwise". The enormous crowd that had gathered that day for the feast day of Saint Michael the Archangel will forever remember what happened.

As a result of the investigation entrusted to Father Jaime Fernández Montero on October 7th the Bishopric of Valparaíso emitted its first prohibition. It was the reason that I remained praying in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament to offer that sacrifice of obedience to the Lord.

The press published the Decree of the Bishopric. I carefully read it after prolonged prayer before the Blessed Sacrament asking the Holy Spirit to enlighten me. With joy I realized that it entailed no prohibition for the faithful or priests. The syllogism in the Decree made a logical and arbitrary conclusion that had nothing to do with previous premises. Furthermore, no person can forbid the praying of the Holy Rosary or any other prayer in or at any place.

Prohibiting prayer or meditation on the Hill would be an abuse of Spiritual Power. Now, if what was being banned was the celebration of Holy Mass it would be a different matter. But no priest had ever thought of officiating Holy Mass on the Hill without permission.

The final part of the Decree read: "I urge you however, to a serious effort at discernment even in the presence of alleged extraordinary signs". With the help of God I was making an effort at clear discernment, and arrived at a "clear and evident" conclusion that the Blessed Virgin was there, manifesting herself with utmost love. And therefore with conviction and without the slightest intention of disobeying, I joyfully attended the apparition of October 24th.

It is deplorable that many people do not know how to discern and cannot differentiate a ban from a mere exhortation, or from a simply personal wish from a superior. The sad thing is that they are leading their flock to despise the loving favors that Our Mother wants to bestow upon us. How many times did the Blessed Virgin utter the same sentence: *"Many Priests, Bishops and Cardinals are on the path of perdition bringing many souls with them"*. We need to pray that they see and live the Truth of the facts and that if they have acted in haste, that they humbly ponder and amend plans.

On October 13th Father Luis Fernández forbade Miguel Angel to go to the Hill as a sacrifice of obedience. The Blessed Virgin rewarded him by appearing to him in the Sacristy of the Parish our Lady Mother of the Church.

The next appointment was for October 24th. On that day for the first time the seer received Holy Communion before those who were present. Unfortunately, I was not able to see this. However, Miguel Ángel had previously told me that he was going to receive Holy Communion that day and that people would be able to witness the prodigy.

The next day Mrs. Mónica Díaz de Finat, a Social Worker, Miguel Ángel another lady and I set off to carefully investigate all the places and the persons with whom Miguel Ángel had lived with. We finally arrived at a neighborhood in the city of San Bernardo where we met Mrs. Emelina who had cared for and protected him during the early years of his life when he lived in Curicó. Mrs. Emelina, a very charitable and pious soul had run a home for children. She cared for them and guided them with much love. It was a most joyous reunion for both of them. They were so happy to see each other again after so many years. Mrs. Emelina gave us much information for this first investigation.

Several events occurred at this time. One being the ban prohibiting Father Luis Fernández to have Miguel Ángel reside in his Parish. Miguel Ángel had to move to the house of another person until a home could be found for him. Soon after the charitable Aravena Elliott family from Santiago took him in. They welcomed him with much love and selflessness, with a view to adopting him. The adoption never came to pass but he lived with them for a year and a half.

The last apparition of 1983 took place on December 29th. The Blessed Virgin revealed the new name of "The White Lady of Peace".

Previously, when Miguel Ángel at the request of Father Luis Fernández, had asked the Blessed Virgin what Her name was She had replied: "I am the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God". This name, which at first glance seems rather complicated, holds deep theological meaning. It was the main reason for this blessed Priest to be convinced of the veracity of this apparition. This Priest asked himself: Is it possible that so ignorant and primitive a child as Miguel Ángel could give such a reply?

Now the Blessed Virgin was giving us another name: "The White Lady of Peace", easily understandable by ordinary people in a so poetic and beautiful manner.

In Spain alone there are more than a thousand different names for the Queen of Heaven.

That day Miguel Ángel asked Our Lady who would be his Spiritual Director, and the sweet Mother replied: *"Tell Miguelito it is to be him"*. As is logical, Miguel Ángel did not understand and exclaimed: "Me, how?"

And the Virgin said: *"No, my favorite son Miguelito"*. And he exclaimed: "Oh! Father Contardo". And she said: *"Yes, my son"*.

In this regard, it should be noted that the Blessed Mother calls Priests "My favorite sons".

After this episode, Miguel Ángel in his usual way of expressing himself said to me: "Hey, Our Lady says that you are to be my Spiritual Director".

I was very impressed with these words from Our Lady and thank Her for so much delicacy and love. We agreed to meet once a week to talk about this matter.

This was the last apparition of 1983. I would have never imagined that I was going to be present and take part in these special events that deeply marked my life; like an indelible imprint of God's infinite Mercy. Like many peñablanquinos I can say from the bottom of my heart that my life took a huge turn, dividing it into two parts: before the apparitions, and after the apparitions. Naturally this is a way of expressing myself

because the reception of the Sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Penance, Holy Communion and most particularly the Order of Priesthood, have been, without a doubt the most important events in my life. But this particular Marian touch has left a mark, as I said before, almost indelible, and a way of focusing that is so precious that it is impossible to describe in human language

5. APPARITIONS OF 1984

In the first months of the year new and fantastic events occurred during the apparitions as the Blessed Virgin repeatedly sent us Her blessings in the form of rays of light, especially at night. They illuminated the entire hill with beautiful flashes that did not harm our eyes but filled us with inexpressible joy.

Some journalists from the daily "The Star" of Valparaíso interviewed Father Luis at the parish of our Lady Mother of the Church. Among the numerous photos that had been given to him two that I had taken in September of 1983 caught their attention, and without delay they published them on the front page, pointing out that they had been taken by me and that they were of supernatural origin. This was enough to anger the Bishop, Archbishop of Valparaíso who phoned Father Sergio Hurtado Salas, Superior of our Residence in Valparaíso at the time, and told him that if I continued to publish photographs I was going to be suspend "divinis". Dear Father Hurtado believed Monsignor was joking and laughingly recounted the anecdote to me. I thought the same thing. But a few days later he spoke with our Provincial, Father Fernando Montes, and asked that I be removed from Valparaíso. Not wishing to upset the Archbishop Bishop I was moved to the residence of the Retreat House of Padre Hurtado but was not forbidden to go to the Hill. At the time I was the acting Spiritual Director for the Seminary of San Rafael, of several schools in Valparaíso and Viña del Mar, as well as being the National Director of the Eucharistic Crusade, posts that I had to resign with an aching soul, since I had been guiding so many spiritual children for over ten years. I was even forbidden to express my thanks for a farewell Mass celebrated in my honor in the Colegio San Rafael de Viña. And thus I moved to my new residence in Padre Hurtado.

I remember that on March 12th, around seven p.m. Pablo Errázuriz, Alejandro Cifuentes, his wife Cecilia Hurtado and Alvaro Barros with his wife Fanny MacIntosh came to the Padre Hurtado Retreat House to pick me up and take me to the apparition of the Blessed Virgin. There were about ten thousand people. The apparition had already begun when we arrived so we had trouble finding a spot where we could see the garden of the Virgin from all sides. Beautiful rays of blessing began to fall. In the darkness, illuminated only by the lights of the candles held by those present, Miguel Ángel in ecstasy was occasionally giving out messages. When suddenly the voice of Catechist Raúl Providel was heard saying: "Let Father Miguel Contardo approach because the Blessed Virgin wants to bless him". The crowd was so dense that it was really hard to make one's way to the garden. My heart began pounding wildly while I quickly tried to reach the garden that was surrounded by the fence and very far away

from where I was. I could hardly move because of the crowd. Moments later over the speakers came the same message: "Let Father Miguel Contardo approach because the Virgin wants to bless him".

Step by step I finally arrived, opened the garden gate and entered. Father Manuel Salinas, Parish Priest of Los Vilos was there with the children chosen by the Blessed Virgin. Miguel Ángel in ecstasy with his hands cupped in front of him, and his eyes fixed on the sky, invited me to place my feet on his hands. I was assisted up into his hands and held so that I did not fall. Once my feet were in place he lifted me with such ease that it seemed he was lifting a feather. I found myself between Heaven and Earth. At that moment the heavens opened and multi colored rays, like a cataract of blessings rained upon me. The rays came from everywhere and it seemed like I was connected to a plug in the sky because I lit-up. The spectacle was so impressive that people could not hold back and began to applaud and voice exclamations and blessing to God. The only thing I could say with all my soul was: "Thank you Lord, thank you Mother. Forgive".

Miguel Ángel told me later that above me was Our Blessed Mother with Her young Son in Her arms, and suspended in front of the mouth of the Child Jesus, a sword. He looked radiant and snow-white. Both kissed me on the forehead. After that heavenly moment I prostrated myself on the ground in deep adoration.

Miguel Ángel asked for a lighted candle that he held under his chin for some time without his neck suffering any damage. He handed me the candle that I still keep as a treasure. Later, upon close examination, I discovered that the sperm had formed three crosses like those on Mount Calvary; there was a ladder, two standing figures in the likeness of the Blessed Virgin and Saint John and, as if embracing the Cross, a figure like that of Mary Magdalene. It looked like an artist had sculpted it. That Calvary was also a spiritual warning.

A few days later the Father Provincial sent for me and told me that I had made a fool of myself in front of all these people and that he forbade me to go to Villa Alemana. I obeyed the order and remained in that huge and solitary Retreat House leading a contemplative life in great inner peace, offering everything to the Blessed Virgin in reparation and atonement for the offenses to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

OCOA

I was in quiet retreat at the Padre Hurtado Retreat House when Miguel Ángel phoned me from Santiago and in that very peculiar way he had of expressing himself said:

"Hey, the Virgin wants you to go to Ocoa to conduct a retreat and we are on our way to fetch you".

"And where is Ocoa?"

"Don't you worry".

It was Saturday, March 31st. There was only a Coadjutor Brother in the House to whom I explained my trip and he understood perfectly. Jorge Aravena, his wife Lucy Elliott, his brother-in-law and Miguel Ángel picked me up. No one knew how to get there; nevertheless we set off confident that the Blessed Virgin would guide us.

We finally arrive at the time appointed by the Blessed Virgin. In my heart I kept thinking Ocoa isn't Peñablanca, and I did not think that an apparition would occur, just a short mission or talk, and so I took with me only the indispensable, and my Breviary. I was cheerful and confident and an inner strength led me to that unknown site.

Ocoa is a small village located on the banks of the Aconcagua River in the province of San Felipe.

As soon as we arrived Miguel Ángel ran out of the car to explore the village. Men, women and children were amazed at seeing so many visitors from Santiago and the Fifth Region descending upon their lonely village. Almost everyone left their homes to come see what was happening.

Miguel Ángel in ecstasy ran down the street until he reached the square. He walked round it, turned, ran back, and at that moment a wonderful miracle occurred. The Blessed Host descended from Heaven and slowly reached his lips while he was still running. Next to Miguel Ángel was Oscar Pérez and a startled radio journalist from Viña del Mar who was narrating what he was seeing. "Miguel Ángel with the Host, Miguel Ángel with the Host," he kept repeating.

Almost the entire village came to see with their own eyes what was occurring, praising God. Some shouted with enthusiasm and fervor. In spite of everything there was no disorder. A couple of policemen stood by in silent admiration.

I remained by the car as the crowd kept pushing against me, and as best I could I got hold of the camera and tried to photograph the seer, but because I was so nervous I only managed to photograph his back. To my astonishment when I had the

photographs developed a few days later they showed Miguel Angel front-side with the Blessed Host in front of him.

I thanked the Lord for showing me such delicacy, for giving me the opportunity of testifying through photographs what would not be accepted from by lips should anyone think I was exaggerating.

Several people also took photographs that clearly showed the Blessed Host on the lips of Miguel Angel.

This miracle moved the people of Ocoa in such a manner that without us realizing it the Mission had already begun with excellent results.

After a while Miguel Ángel got hold of a megaphone and standing on one of the benches in the plaza he addressed the bystanders: "You have witness the miracle that has just taken place, the Lord has come in the Consecrated Host. It is now time that you cleanse your souls laden with sins with a good and sincere confession. A Missionary Priest has come and he will be hearing confessions."

I went to stand next to Miguel Ángel and addressed the crowd: "Those of you who wish to clean your souls, who want to confess, I will be right here in one of the benches of this plaza because the Chapel is locked". I then sat down in a corner. Immediately, a man who had been away from God for years and years approached to confess his sins. That man was weeping like a small child. He made a splendid confession and left radiant with happiness and in peace. There followed another and then another and still another, until the Sun began to set and night fell. I confessed repentant people throughout the night and into the early hours of the morning. The Mission run its course guided by the hand of the Lord. A kind soul handed me a blanket to warm me. When I finished I was able to stretch out for about two hours on a mattress in a modest house, packed with people, who had charitably offered me shelter.

Next day was Sunday, so I managed to get someone to take me to the nearby town of Hijuelas to ask the parish priest for permission to celebrate Holy Mass in the Chapel. He was very pleased and gave me the address of the person responsible for the Chapel. From nine a.m. until 1 p.m. I heard confessions and then celebrated Holy Mass. Guided by the Holy Spirit some people turned into improvised Catechists, teaching the correct way of going to confession and some basic elementary catechism. Already news of what was happening had reached Santiago, Viña del Mar and some neighboring villages. Many came to see this mission requested by the Blessed Virgin.

I was in awe with the effective and sensitive way that Our Lady was arranging everything. Well-made confessions with much repentance followed one after another. In such a short time the inhabitants of this village learned things that under other

circumstances would have taken them months and months to memorize, and what is more important, to experience. The Grace of the Holy Spirit manifested itself in its entire splendor in these souls so distant from the Lord.

The next appointment would be the following week at the same place.

I was taken back to Retreat House where I was temporarily residing, an enormous mansion that was once full of young Jesuit seminarians.

OTHER SUPERNATURAL MANIFESTATIONS IN OCOA

I thanked Our Lord for being able, as a priest, to witness these manifestations from the Blessed Virgin. I could not go to Peñablanca but now by divine permission the apparitions moved to this poor village so bereft of priests, where I had not been prohibited to go.

Many were the wonders that we witnessed and lived in Ocoa that I remember with great affection and gratitude. On Sunday, April 8th another Eucharistic Miracle occurred. The multiplication of the Holy Hosts. The miracle of the multiplication of the loaves is recounted in the Gospel of that day. The crowd attending Holy Mass was very numerous and there would not be enough Holy Hosts for everyone. However, the Holy Hosts began to multiply to such a degree that I had to leave many for consumption after Holy Mass was over. I gave permission to several of those who had attended Mass and had remained behind for thanksgiving prayers, to help me consume the Blessed Hosts.

I remember handing out five Hosts per person. It was really a wonderful miracle. We were not aware a miracle had taken place at the time it happened, and only realized that a miracle had occurred after it occurred. Suddenly a young man approached. I asked him if he had made his First Communion. He said he had not, but that he ardently wished to receive Holy Communion. I deposited the chalice on the altar and questioned him concerning the mystery of the Eucharistic. I realized that it was really the precise moment. I sensed deep repentance in his soul, and perfect understanding.

After having heard his Confession, and being sure of what I was doing, I gave him Holy Communion. Many persons received Holy Communion, over one hundred, and I only had about 30 Hosts.

The Lord wanted the miracle of the multiplication of His Body in the Consecrated Hosts to better explain what the Gospel of that day narrated. An eyewitness wrote the following: "I declare under oath. After having received Holy Communion I remained very close to the Altar where Rev. Father Miguel Contardo was handing out Holy Communion, so I clearly saw what happened with the Sacred Hosts in the Chalice.

Despite the great number of people on line for Holy Communion to my amazement the Chalice never emptied of Hosts. I looked and was able to corroborate that the level of Hosts in the Chalice always remained the same, at an even level, more or less about two inches from the edge of the Chalice. During the entire time that Reverend Father Miguel Contardo handed out Communion to many people, there they lay, shining white. It seems like I am still seeing them, even though seven years have already passed. Marvelous and miraculous events like the multiplication of the loaves in the Holy Gospel. My testimony is the truth, and I declare the truth under oath assisted by the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Holy Angels". Signed Alberto Avendaño Carrasco.

It was another late night. The Moon was radiant surrounded by a beautiful rainbow that began to lengthen resembling a Pentagram with notes that danced on it. Miguel Ángel began to hop, in a very original manner, with a step similar to that of the polka, following what he was seeing in the sky, as if from up high he was being taught to dance the dances of the Tirana. The image of the White Lady of Peace, which was being carried on a dais, followed the same steps in similar manner and when we looked closer at the statue we realized that it appeared to be sweating. I swabbed the droplets of sweat with a cloth and took it with me when I went to visit a sick man who was prostrate. After I assisted him spiritually I placed the cloth on him.

I have many photographs taken by me of Miguel Ángel in ecstasy in the middle of the street surrounded by people who observed everything with respect and devotion. Another day when we had just sat down to lunch at one of the village restaurants at the invitation of Dr. Alan Rojas we were informed that Miguel Ángel had fallen into ecstasy, and leaving our food half eaten, we follow him in a mad rush up the paths of a nearby hill. No one tired, and like good brothers, all of us felt happy to feel so close to Mary, our Mother.

There, Miguel Ángel suffered the invisible stigmata of the Passion (stigmata that are felt without being seen externally). He repeated the words of Our Lord as he lay on the ground with arms outstretched like in a cross, his right foot placed over his left one. Miguel looked like one crucified.

Some time later he ran downhill, grabbed my arm and dragging me with him said: "Father, do you see the Virgin? You will see Her as She has promised you. The Blessed Virgin always keeps Her word."

Another day he fell into ecstasy in place with much mud and we were all trying to avoid getting dirty. He said: "Do not feel ashamed of kneeling in front of the people". So without worrying about becoming covered with mud, we all knelt.

I remember a humorous anecdote. Jorge Ugarte Godoy was late. He arrived with lordly airs, solemnly walking his portly body and distractedly asked: "Why are you all kneeling in the mud?" "Because the Virgin has requested it". "If Our Lady has asked for it, then we have to obey Her". And he proceeded to throw himself on the ground,

demonstrating his great love for the Blessed Virgin Mary and his submission to Her wishes.

During Holy Week, the Blessed Virgin gave us very strong and terrible messages, apocalyptic, which are recorded on cassettes and written in the books about the apparitions of Peñablanca.

AN UNEXPECTED VISIT

A very important meeting of all the principal Superiors of the Orders and Congregations took place at the retreat house where I was residing. Obviously I was not invited and therefore had to have lunch in the kitchen and then retire to my room.

I was informed that a Father from the Dominican Order wanted to talk to me. It was Father Carlos Vásquez, Superior of the Dominicans. He wanted to ask me about the events at Peñablanca. When he heard about the ban that prohibited me from going to the Hill, among other words of comfort and encouragement he said: "Father, this ban is personal or nominal, the day that that Father ceases to be a Superior you will be completely free, for according to Canon Law the prohibition will no longer have any effect".

He was a wise and learned Dominican, as are such priests, their apostolate directed mainly towards intellectuals. I was very happy with what he said to me.

A couple of days later the Superior of the Order had to travel to Paraguay to attend a General Assembly of all the Jesuit Superiors of America. While on route he was involved in a car crash and fractured his shoulder and arm. Not long after it was announced that a new Provincial of the Order had been named, months before a new Provincial was scheduled to take office. Many Superiors were changed and I was liberated from by ban to visit Mount Carmel of Peñablanca.

THE THIRD SECRET OF FATIMA

Almost from the beginning of the apparitions it was rumored that the Third Secret of Fatima had been revealed to Miguel Ángel. I remember discussing with Father Luis Fernández Camero, Parish Priest of Our Lady Mother of the Church of Quilpué, that this secret could not be reveal, that it was to be reserved solely for the Holy Father as proof of the authenticity of the apparitions.

It was revealed on several occasions, at least part of it. Those who heard it remember having heard it but do not recall the text.

One Sunday at the end of the apparition of that day Miguel Angel said that next day he was going to reveal the Third Secret of Fatima.

Next day the apparition took place at three in the afternoon. There was a group of journalists as always eager for news. Miguel Ángel fell into ecstasy for a very short time. Our Lady announced that She would be returning that afternoon at six.

Some become annoyed while others suffered the delay patiently, in joyful resignation. It was cold and there was a slight drizzle. Many left for different reasons and only those who had come to pray and accompany the Blessed Virgin remained.

In the afternoon there was another apparition at six. It was a bit longer than the previous one. To test our patience the Blessed Virgin told us that She would return that night at 8.00. Many could not wait that long and the few journalists who remained left quite annoyed, full of doubts and angry at not being able to record or obtain breaking news.

Finally that night at eight when it was already dark and very few people remained, the Blessed Virgin Mary requested that the loudspeaker be set up because She would give the Third Secret. There was a slight delay while the speakers were installed.

The Blessed Virgin requested that we do not record/tape what we were going to hear, that nothing was to be written down and that the Secret be kept a secret.

When everything was ready, through Miguel Ángel She gave us the Third Secret of Fatima. Everyone waited devoutly.

But as always there are obstinate persons. A few guided more by curiosity of the Secret than by piety brought their tape recorders disobeying the Blessed Virgin. For them there was, in fact, no revelation. The interesting thing was that when they arrived back home expecting to enjoy and discuss it with others, they found nothing on their recorders. Everything had been erased.

Others wanted to discuss it with the person next to them. What happened? They completely forgot what they had just heard.

Those who heard it with the intention of obeying the instructions of the Blessed Virgin have not divulged it, because the Third Secret of Fatima is a secret, and has to remain a secret.

MEDAL OF OUR LADY OF PEÑABLANCA

Early in 1984, Our Mother, through the seer, requested the minting of a medal as a symbol of Her apparition and message at Monte Carmelo, Chile (Mount Carmel, Chile).

She showed the design to Miguel Ángel and explained its meaning and the favors that would be received by whosoever wore it with trust and confidence, saying: *"You have seen My medal, you will have it minted exactly as you saw it, just as Catalina Labouré did in Rue de Bac in my apparition in France in 1830"*.

Those who wear this medal will receive the following favors:

- Miracle of conversion and the cure of ills of both body and soul.
- Will not suffer the fires of Hell, provided it is worn with devotion and not with superstition.
- It will also act as a scapular, provided the scapular has been previously imposed in a special ceremony.
- Will have peace in their hearts, and if you place a Nation under its care, it will be protected by Me".

As for the meaning and inscriptions of the Medal, She said:

"The heart (the shape of the medal) means My Immaculate Heart. The legend of the different apparitions is so that you know that I am the same Virgin Mary. The star of David means that I, Myriam, am the Queen of Israel and of the world; and it is so that you remember what was prophesied about my Son: 'from the throne of David will come forth the leader'. The inscription of Chile and Israel is so that you pray for the conversion of Israel on Mount Carmel of Chile. And, Shalom Myriam is Mary of Peace (White Lady of Peace)".

On the reverse side is the face of my Son, that you remember the suffering that my Son underwent for you, and you help to carry the Cross. The inscription (My God, Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, deliver us from the fires of Hell) is the faith in Our Lord, and the concern of falling. J.H.S. is the symbol of my Son in the Eucharist (Jesus, Son, Savior). M+ is Mary Co-Redeemer of the World. 1983 is so that you do not forget the year of my first visit to Chile."

MAY 1984

On May 21st I was once more ascending the blessed Hill. The Blessed Virgin had solved all the difficulties that prevented me from doing so. I did not enter the enclosure (sanctuary) in order to observe and pray from outside trying to blend in with the crowd and remain calm. Many things had happened during May, each more beautiful and grandiose.

It was raining and the Blessed Virgin asked us to close our umbrellas in order to be purified by the water falling from heaven.

And the favors from Our Lady increased. The Asthma that on other occasions had made me suffer so much in Valparaiso had disappeared as also the arthritis that bothered me so greatly. I didn't feel a thing and through Our Mother I thanked Our Lord.

Miguel Ángel and the other children were dressed in white just as Our Lady Herself had requested. She came as Mystical Rose and carried three beautiful roses - white, yellow and red.

It was the first time the voice of the Holy Virgin Mary was heard. "*These petals are my tears*".

And She handed out her tears in the form of petals. Later some pious young men laminated the petals in plastic sheets and distribute them among the devotees.

That night, illuminated by the light of candles, piety and sweetness were reflected in the faces of the attendees. It was a painting from the hand of a celestial painter that manifested itself in Peñablanca.

The next day, Tuesday, May 22nd, was a beautiful autumn day and at 9 a.m. some 80 persons had already congregated. Some had brought yellow, red and white flowers as had been requested the previous day. The Blessed Virgin blessed the flowers. Miguel Ángel approached me and asked me for the poncho that he had lent me because it was cold, and extending it, he placed the petals of roses on it. Our Lady told us that these petals were Her tears and that we should keep them until the day we died. Miguel Ángel distributed the petals, one by one, among those of us who were present, then, in a gesture of joy and unction, he cast into the air the remaining ones. Everyone instinctively kissed the ground. The apparition ended at a quarter past ten. I remained behind to gather the petals that were on the ground. I meant to laminate and distribute them among those who had not been able to come. Many helped me with great charity making sure that none were left behind. I folded the poncho and

placed it inside a plastic bag that someone procured for me to take it to my room in Padre Hurtado.

I remember that on the way back we visited the shrine of Lo Vásquez, and that I had held my treasure of petals with great care.

We arrived at the novitiate of Padre Hurtado and I deposited the poncho on my bed so that I could press the petals between the pages of a book to later laminate them. I opened the package and carefully extend the poncho. To my amazement I did not find any petals, only some seeds and two half petals. I couldn't believe it and kept telling myself that it would have been impossible for any of the petals to have fallen from the poncho for it had been wrapped in a thick plastic sheet, furthermore, it had never left my hands.

I remained on my knees meditating and feeling a bit sad. After a few minutes an idea popped into my head, had not the Blessed Virgin said that they were Her tears? I picked up the poncho. It was wet; It had really absorbed the tears of Mary.

I thanked to the Lord and Mary and kissed that blessed poncho that I still keep as a treasure of incomparable grandeur.

One is overwhelmed by so many graces received. In my mind I remembered the words of the Gospel concerning Mary: "She kept all these things pondering them in Her heart".

An example set by Mary to enjoy things in our intimate being and be overwhelmed by the graces of Our Lord, offering oneself fully to what his Divine Providence would like to make of us.

I forgot to narrate that while the tears of Our Mother were falling from heaven, and Miguel Ángel was in ecstasy, inspired by the Holy Spirit, into my mind came the Creed of Mary to affirm, within my heart, my faith in these apparitions:

1. I believe in Mary, Daughter of God the Father.
2. I believe in Mary, Mother of God the Son.
3. I believe in Mary, Wife of the Holy Spirit.
4. I believe in Mary and in Her Immaculate Conception.
5. I believe in Mary and Her Perpetual Virginity.
6. I believe in Mary and in Her Assumption into Heaven in Body and Soul.
7. I believe in Mary, Co-redeemer of the Human Race.
8. I believe in Mary, Mediatrix of all Graces.
9. I believe in Mary, Queen of Creation.
10. I believe in Mary, Mother of the Church and Our Mother.
11. I believe in Mary, Conqueror of Satan.
12. I believe in Mary and Her Messages of Salvation.

We believe in You Mary and in Your heavenly messages inspired by the Holy Spirit, desired by Your Divine Son, for the Glory of God the Father.

The Creed of Mary that also has twelve articles, as does the Creed of the Church or the Apostles' Creed, was inwardly dictated in Peñablanca.

In this beautiful month of autumn, the garden of Mary was upholstered with roses.

THE VIRGIN'S HAIR

May of 1984 was a month full of graces and extraordinary miracles.

On May 27th, 1984 as I was going up the Hill over the loud speakers I herd the voice of Catechist Raúl Providel narrating amazing events. A lock of hair from the Virgin and one from the Child Jesus had materialized in plain view of hundreds of devotees who fell to their knees and squeezed closer to get a closer look.

I have no recollection of another apparition in which the Blessed Virgin has left us a lock of Her hair. This demonstrated clearly that She is in Heaven in body and soul and that She was with us here. It is proof of this Marian dogma. María Luisa Paredes and Alvaro Barros narrate this even in great detail in their books.

In addition several photos taken at that moment prove it.

I have a photo of this event taken by María Teresa Benavente who was very close to the seer.

I was dinning in Quilpué with the Fathers and Seminarians of the Transfiguration of the Lord when Miguel Ángel and two other children arrived bearing with him strands of hair of Our Mother and of Jesus. They were a gift for me. Not daring to handle them I asked him to deposit them on the Altar of the Chapel and then father Guido Bertolino, Superior of the Congregation, placed them in a glass box separating the strands with a card.

I keep them as relics in a specially made viaticum, inside a Tabernacle where I keep many blessed keepsakes. On my death they will be given into the safekeeping of the holy nuns of the First Monastery of the Visitation, in Huerfanos Street, where they will remain until the apparitions is recognized and they can be venerated in the Basilica that will be built in Peñablanca.

Many who read this section will possibly smile with compassion and say to themselves: "How can these people be so naïve; to believe that the Virgin has given away a strand of Her hair to a poor child and a gullible Priest, its too much. It's all right for the golden

legends of the Middle Ages, when such things were believed, but in this day and age, at the beginning of the 21st century, to believe such a thing denotes great ignorance and candor, to say the least."

Others will think differently and say: "How admirable is our Lord who continues to manifest His love in the form of miracles so limpid and beautiful". And they will rise up their hearts in a prayer of thanksgiving. For them Jesus exclaimed: "I bless Thee Father Almighty that you have hidden these things from the wise and prudent in this world, and have manifested them to the simple people". Let us keep these words from Our Lord that will fill us with spiritual joy, and together sing to Him: Praise be Our Lord Jesus Christ for giving us a wonderful Mother.

APPARITIONS OF JUNE 1984

There were 40 apparitions of the Virgin in June, each more special and magnificent.

Saturday June 2nd. It was the First Saturday of the month. In the parish of Santa Ana in Santiago I was conducting a Cenacle of the Marian Movement of Priest of which institution I was in charge in Chile. I had celebrated Holy Mass and after conducting the Cenacle with the prayer of the Rosary, the meditations from Father Gobbi's book and the Consecration, I started to distribute Holy Communion to the faithful who would all be travelling to Peñablanca to attend an apparition of the Blessed Virgin announced for that evening at seven. There were two empty chalices and one that contained Hosts. I began to hand out the sacred forms. Pedro Domínguez Vial and Patricio Silva Riesco assisted me. The hosts became scarce, as the faithful were numerous. I began to break the Host in half but there came a moment that I could no longer do so. I told the faithful that that we had run out of Hosts and that they would have to make a spiritual Communion. Many would be unable to receive Holy Communion. I remember that when I turned to deposit the empty chalice, Pedro Domínguez said: "Ask the Lord for more Hosts, ask the Lord". I went to the Tabernacle and I came upon a golden box filled with white Hosts. I turned giving thanks to the Lord. I was able to distribute Holy Communion to the rest of the faithful. That box had not there previously. I think that it was Saint Miguel the Archangel who had brought them from another Tabernacle or Church. This event is recorded in the Missionaries of God Magazine as a testimony given by Patricio Silva Riesco.

During the time of the apparitions in Peñablanca, there were many Eucharistic miracles, attesting to the real presence of Jesus and His Mother.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE APPARITION

The Blessed Virgin requested that on the 12th of June 1984, we come in white - inside and out. That is to say, confessed and wearing a tunic or white alb.

The crowd, the joy and the devotion were immense. The procession made its way up the Hill; its arrival was greeted with applause and acclamations. A beautiful, decorated image accompanied the procession. Some very original gifts such as a small cake with a candle and many bouquets of flowers expressed popular piety and love for Our Mother. Several priests were present. The Virgin was to be crowned as the White Lady of Peace simultaneously in Heaven and on Earth. That is, at the same time that She was being crowned here, in Heaven the Angels would crown Her also.

The Virgin told Miguel Ángel: "*You and my favorite son Miguel will do it*". He picked up the cushion and I the crown that I placed on Her head with unequalled joy and emotion. Everyone applauded.

Then She showed Miguel Angel Hell where he saw many Priests and Bishops.

There was an atmosphere of celebration and great joy and at the same time of deep spirituality.

The next day, by an express wish of Mrs. Elliott Aravena who asked for one of the sandals of the Child Jesus as a keepsake, Miguel Ángel picked four precious roses and placed them inside a plastic box. The Virgin told him that over time the sandal of the Child God would appear.

With Alejandro Cifuentes Bezanilla and Mónica Díaz de Finat we made our way to the office of a Notary Public to attest that the box held four roses and that over time the sandal of Christ Child would appear.

Curiously, our fervor and innocence was such that it did not occur to us that we would be making fools of ourselves on the face of such an unusual event. A very serious and very understanding lawyer said: "If miracles happened in days of old, why not now?"

I kept the box for more or less a month and the roses did not wilt but kept alive emitting a sort of dew. They looked fresh and thriving. With fondness I kept the box until I passed it on to someone else and thus it rotated. Later I placed it in the Tabernacle of the Chapel. Years passed and I forgot all about the famous box and the sandal of the Child Jesus, until one day Lucy Elliott, by a special inspiration, arose from her bed, opened the chest of drawers in her bedroom and found a gorgeous leather sandal, which admirably fitted the foot of a beautiful wooden image of the Baby Jesus,

carved in the style of the Cuzco School art, that had been brought for Her from Peru. She placed it on the image and It was as if it had been made to order.

Full of emotion Lucy gathered her husband and children to pray the Rosary and then she telephoned me. A very small group of people, among them Alejandro Cifuentes, came to gaze upon this so simple and so truly curious gift. Currently the image of the Child is placed at the entrance of the beautiful oratory that this family built for their personal prayers and for Marian groups who gather to pray.

Yet another of the many finesses from Our Lord and His Blessed Mother. If we are not like children we will not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

This is not written to give arguments to those who ridicule all these sorts of happenings. It only intends to tell a true story which manifests the tenderness of a God made child who bestows unusual gifts upon those who have a child's soul, something for which we must ask for wholeheartedly and with humility.

"Whatever you ask of my Father I will grant thee".

But a humble little sandal is more than just anything.

OTHER APPARITIONS IN JUNE 1984

The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared throughout the month of June, some days three or four times. Day and night, despite the storms that hit Valparaíso and Viña del Mar.

The month dedicated to the Sacred Heart was unforgettable for our lives. We had two retreats conducted by Our Mother, and at Her request, I had to conduct then alongside Her, as I narrate further on.

On one occasion in which I was preparing to travel to Peñablanca I received, on the very same day, three letters from Alvaro Barros telling me in very strong terms that after having talked with the Provincial Fernando Montes, I should not go to the Hill because it was giving people a very bad impression on account of my disobedience. That I could be causing the recognition of the apparition to fail because of what the new members of the Commission could say.

I read the letters several times. I was deeply troubled and my soul greatly pained.

Lucy Elliott herself, unconsciously influenced by Alvaro, mildly gave me to understand the same thing.

And I, not wanting to be the source of scandal, did not attend several apparitions, being present only in spirit and pain. But as the sense of apprehension persisted I

decided to ask the Blessed Virgin Herself. Without saying anything to Miguel Ángel I requested an answer through him. The response came mentally, leaving my soul at peace and full of spiritual joy.

The first reply came in the form of an interior locution from the Blessed Virgin Herself: *"If I have removed the impediments, it is because I want you to come to the Hill. Trust, my son. Your presence strengthens and illuminates."*

And the second response came on June 26th, about ten in the evening after a second ecstasy from Miguel Ángel. He took me by the hand and with Oscar and Javiera led us me to a beautiful, secluded place, away from the crowd. The Blessed Virgin appeared and through Miguel Angel said: *"Let my favorite son ask his questions"*.

I said: "My Mother, do I go to the Hill, yes or no". And She replied: *"Go to the Hill, my son"*.

I insisted: "My mother, with all due respect and humility I ask you to give me the reasons".

And through Miguel Angel She answered: *"First, because you are my beloved son. Second, because I need you. Third, because you have to guide your grey, illuminate and lead them down good roads, console them and encourage them, because you have to vitalize them. Fourth, and you have to confess people."* I dared to ask another question: "If the Bishop has forbidden worship on the Hill". And She answered: *"That which comes from Heaven is not understood by those of Earth. If someone asks you for confession, confess".* She added: *"If there were to be a second ban by any Superior, very, very senior, then obey as a sacrifice"*.

By the grace of God I hope that this second ban never comes, my Mother.

I was left radiant and in peace, full of spiritual joy and very grateful of my Mother, with an absolute certainty of my mission on the Hill. Thank you Lord, thank you Mother of mine.

Then I wrote to Alvaro requesting absolute reserve and secret. He sent me a humble letter asking for forgiveness and abiding the message of Our Blessed Mother with love and submission.

RETREAT OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

I will never forget when Miguel Ángel came to see me with a message from the Blessed Virgin: "if I would accept to conduct a retreat with Her. He was to ask for my permission, and should I not want Her to hold the retreat, She would accept what I said".

I was staying in Quilpué at the time, at the very poor convent of the Padres de la Transfiguración (Fathers of the Transfiguration), where I had a room, always with the intention of settling there in the near future as part of that beloved community. But I think that this will never happen.

What sublime emotion, those words of the Blessed Virgin to Miguel Ángel. A feeling that cannot be expressed with human words.

Embarrassed I replied yes, that with pleasure I accepted that the Blessed Virgin conduct a retreat with this miserable sinner that I was.

And so it was that in the following apparition the Blessed Virgin, by the mouth of Miguel Ángel said that the retreat would begin with a vigil, *"together with Her favorite son Miguelito"*.

The first retreat was held from the 16th to the 20th of June and the second, from the 25th of June to the 1st of July, with an extension.

Those days in the company of Our Blessed Mother and Our Lord were unforgettable. I truly believed that we lived in another dimension, superior, heavenly, that forever marked the lives of all of us who were there.

I believe that only those who were present and those who believe in the apparitions of Peñablanca may be able to understand something of these mysteries.

Why us? Who are we? Nobody, less than nobody, and yet the infinite wisdom of God wanted it so, and there is no other answer to these mysteries of the Lord.

A beautiful but inhospitable place. It rained much at the time and the Virgin would have us close our umbrellas to test our faith and resignation, and nothing happened. No one fell ill; no one caught even a cold.

During the day and during the night, defying the cold, sleep and fatigue we felt agile, happy brethren. There was no social class distinction, no age distinction. We were all children of the same Father and of the same Mother.

Each day, and every apparition brought something new and different. We learned much. I wish we had memorized and practiced so many divine lessons, pedagogically Marian.

Among my many memories I specially recall the night the Blessed Virgin left the infant Jesus with us for several hours. And then in the morning, more precisely at 4 o'clock, in darkness, only illuminated by the faint light of the Moon (when it appeared), or by the light of the candles we carried that faintly illuminated our surrounding and faces, She came to fetch the Infant Jesus.

The poncho or blanket that the previous month had been soaked with the tears of Our Mother served that night for the Baby Jesus to lie on for four hours. It was our turn to meditate the humility of the birth of Jesus, poor and humble.

Only a small group of children could enter the blessed garden. Miguel Ángel then told me to remain with the Infant Jesus for an hour, worshipping Him. The child was covered with a white veil. When Our Mother came to fetch the Child, I was in deep adoration and as if outside myself.

The next day the same scene repeated itself but this time grownups could enter the garden to worship the Baby Jesus. They entered the garden in groups of five and remained for a minute. With what respect and emotion they worshipped the Child God.

Several of these children later entered different religious orders. That wonderful experience was like a divine call to abandon everything and follow Jesus in poverty and humility.

Moments so precious and so difficult to narrate.

Another day during this retreat we were able to appreciate the magnificence of God the Father. We had to prostrate ourselves on the ground, cover our faces and as a sign of humility bear our feet and kiss the foot of our neighbor. What respect, what anointing and devotion of all the pious attendees.

The words said were: *"Holy Land, new People of Israel"*.

Then came the St. Michael the Archangel, bringing Holy Communion to the seer and we were all able to see the Blessed Host.

The lessons or conclusions that Our Lord and the Blessed Virgin wanted us to engrave in our souls were represented in the gestures and actions that we had to do. For example, when Mary wanted to teach us detachment of things and affections She told us what to do through the seer. On one occasion She asked us to uproot the olive tree upon which She had stood so many times, and in this way showed us that we should also uproot all inordinate affections. Another time She ordered us to dismantle the gate and move it to another location, higher uphill, where it is currently located.

They were many tests of obedience and faith. And later we came to realize the convenience of all these acts. (The terrain where the original shrine was located was owned by a cooperative of retirees and could not be acquired because of its steep price. On the contrary, the owner of the new terrain where the Blessed Virgin had asked us to relocate the gate practically gave it away, and it was better).

More than ten days of retreat that filled souls with peace, love and happiness.

That is why: for those who believe no proof is required and for those who do not believe, no proof is sufficient. What we have to say is: Lord increases our faith, our docility to grace, our humility, and our love.

It is almost impossible to write and narrate what happened, and all we can say is thank you Lord for everything. Forgive our infidelity and lukewarmness. Grant us strength to be faithful to You until death. To lay down our life for You, for Your Mother who is also our Mother, for our Holy Mother Church.

THE MEDITATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Those who were there the night of the 1st to the 2nd of July 1984 will never forget what we experienced and saw during the painful Passion of Our Lord.

Moments so emotional and so strong that it is very difficult to express so many intimate feelings for lack of appropriate words.

We relived all the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. It was the most felt Stations of the Cross of our lives. The seer climbed the Hill laden with the weight of the Cross that was not visible to our eyes. He fell many times hitting his face, hurting his entire body, abundant blood flowing. When he reached the top of the Hill he took up an extremely heavy cross that awaited him there. He passed by several people and in a distressed voice addressed them: *"Help me to carry the Cross"*. To several of them he gave particular messages leaving them in deep thoughts. He approached me and in my ear uttered a few phrases for incredulous priests.

We were all much moved and impressed because we were truly witnessing the Passion of Our Lord as if we had gone back two thousand years. Without realizing it we were ourselves reliving the roles of many of the characters of the Passion of Christ.

A young woman who approached with a cloth to wipe away the blood unwittingly recalled the role of Veronica. Another without realizing it took on the role of Simon of Cyrene when he held the Cross from behind. Some women, like in the drama of the Passion, wept inconsolably.

He called many by name. Among others he called for me, took my head between his hands and in the voice of Christ, softly said: *"My son, you will have to suffer much. You will work in the Congregation of the Transfiguration."* I wept bitterly. He continued: *"You must be very devoted to the Blood of Jesus. On the First Saturdays you have to*

conduct the Cenacle of my Mother” (prayer groups founded by Father Stefano Gobbi for the Marian Movement of Priests). “You will see Her face as I have promised you and then I will come to fetch you. Now go to hear confessions”.

In darkness, dimly lit by the candles carried by the faithful I took up the microphone and in a trembling voice said: "Those who wish to go to Confession may do so. I will be in the garden", then I made my way there. Many people came to confess all their sins with sincere pain. I heard confessions for a long time, until daybreak. On that occasion, as in several other occasions, Miguel Ángel displayed the deepest wound on his head, produced, according to him, by the Archbishop Bishop in office at the time, for not believing the Mother of the Lord and preventing Her message from reaching all the faithful.

He called Jorge Aravena to give him some advice, as well as others to impart some advice in particular.

Then Miguel Ángel asked to be tied to the cross. The cross was lifted and he was suspended between Heaven and Earth. I went to his side. My alb was stained with blood. He uttered several words like those in the Gospel and giving a strong cry, that reverberated throughout the Hill, he cried: "*Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit*". And lowering his head expired. I thought to myself, he has died, what a wonderful way to die. After a few moments of expectation they brought him down from the cross and someone felt for his pulse. "He has no pulse," said the person trying to take his pulse. He had died.

Seconds later he slowly opened his eyes and his face began to glow. It was the moment of the Resurrection. With eyes full of sweetness and love he chanted the Alleluia.

What a night, so many feelings crossed our minds. Every one of us who witnessed this live renewal of the Passion of Our Lord will remember it for the rest of our lives. Every moment lived, suffered and experienced on this night of nights, from the first to the second July 1984.

AUGUST 1984

The main purpose of this book is to assist future investigators of these apparitions to find the truth. The manifestations and miracles of the first order were so numerous, and so many the persons converted, that in another time in history these apparitions would have been approved by our Holy Mother Church as true, and the sanctuary of Peñablanca would be one of the most visited by the faithful devotees of the Blessed Virgin.

Twenty apparitions took place in August of 1984, each greater and more devout than the other.

Holy Communion brought by the Angel from different shrines of the world, seen by everyone present. The stigmata of the Passion of Our Lord attested by medical specialists, priests, religious and the faithful in general. Conversions to the Catholic Church. Special favors granted, etc., etc. These are more than real evidence of the true presence of Our Lord and His Blessed Mother.

Unfortunately the investigators appointed, perhaps very learned in their own particular fields, but completely inept for this sort of study, were very hasty to emit their final decision and the cause was closed abruptly without consulting serious and well-intentioned witnesses who would have been able to shed some light into this vitally important investigation.

Because of this lack of serious scientific research, because of the tenacious opposition closed to everything that might have a supernatural character, for fear of appearing to be too gullible, for fear of ridicule, for turning their backs on the apparition and wanting to silence Our Blessed Mother, in particular by the clergy, some time later by Divine Justice there came devastating punishments that hit the Fifth and Metropolitan Regions in particular.

Torrential rains flooded Valparaíso and Viña del Mar. Followed in March of 1985 by one of the worst earthquakes to ever hit our country. Predicted by the seer they demolished in a manner never experienced before the Diocese of Valparaíso, the Fifth Region and Santiago. This clearly tells us that God's hand was present. It was also an ecclesiastical earthquake as the foundations of a large number of churches were damaged. The Basilica of El Salvador, one of the most beautiful churches in Santiago, was nearly raised to the ground and only the beloved and venerated image of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patron Queen of Chile, remained standing.

The National Votive Temple, a massive structure of granite, was badly damaged. It was as if the elements were protesting against the poor treatment given to the Queen of Heaven. The Blessed Virgin Mary had repeatedly appeared with tears in Her eyes exclaiming with pain and shame that Chile was the country where the ecclesiastical authorities (not civilians) had given Her the worst reception. What great sorrow and pain, what black ingratitude from us to Our Blessed Mother who came to bring us messages of salvation.

Our mother, with all our hearts we ask for your forgiveness.

But the spiritual earthquakes and disasters were almost worse. The Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (Catholic University of Valparaíso) rebelled against the Grand Chancellor, the Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso. The student strike was the worst ever experience by that teaching institution.

Another spiritual upheaval followed; the closing of the famous Greater Seminar of St. Raphael the (Seminario Mayor San Rafael). Almost all the seminarians about to be ordained priests, students from lower courses and a group of 20 newly ordained priests left the establishment because of disagreements with the Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso. The same Archbishop Bishop who had flatly denied the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Peñablanca.

Most of the priests relocated to the recently opened Greater Seminar of St. Peter (Seminario Mayor de San Pedro) in the Diocese of San Bernardo in Santiago. All this is matter for deep thought, to make us consider that we should be more humble, and to receive so many divine favors with a sincere and grateful heart, to be more like children in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Many statues of the Virgin wept as a further sign of this painful rejection of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Her messages of salvation given in Peñablanca.

In the home of the Aravena Elliott family, guardians of Miguel Angel, a statute of Our Lady of Lourdes wept on several occasions.

I clearly remember that day. I was visiting the family when an image of the Virgin started to weep.

Also visiting with the family was Mrs. Gabriela Gálvez, a Social Worker, Mrs. Verónica Hanf de Rojas, wife of Dr. Alan Rojas, with one of her daughters, and a nun. I took hold of the image, examined it, and with a handkerchief wiped the tears. The statue of the Virgin continued to weep. The Social Worker was so impressed that she asked for confession as a sign of pain and love for the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The photographs miraculous described in another chapter, were taken on the same day.

The House filled with visitors who wanted to see with their own eyes the miracles taking place in the home of this family.

I recall that that afternoon I had had a meeting with a large prayer group and that once the meeting was over I had asked my niece, Marcelita Rengifo Contardo and her husband Jorge Rengifo Lira to accompany me to the Aravena family home to pray to the miraculous image of the Virgin.

The house was packed with people who had come to look at the statue that had wept and to implore favors from the Mother of God.

When we arrived we were informed that another miracle had take place; that a white and radiant Host had appeared in the hands of the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes. As I had brought with me a portable pyx, I picked the Blessed Host with the tip of my fingers and placed it inside the pyx to improvise a small altar for worship. Also visiting was Reverend Father Fray Carlos Vásquez, Dominican and former Provincial of the Order, who had come to admire the statue. Many people asked us for confession and we had to occupy two rooms to accommodate the many souls shaken by these events.

As we finished hearing confessions the seer fell into an ecstasy and announced that St Michael the Archangel would come bringing the Eucharist from Cova de Iria (Fatima). He added: "Let the favorite sons approach bringing with them a plate to serve as a paten for the Hosts". With Father Vásquez we took hold of a plate, and in the presence of us all (more than 80 persons), there appeared three very bright and white Hosts with a cross in the middle. Father Vásquez nearly fainted in the presence of the Hosts brought from Portugal by angelic hands. After deep meditation we carried the plate with the three Hosts over to the makeshift altar and placed it next to the other Host that was inside the pyx, we then broke them into several pieces to distribute them to those who wished to receive Holy Communion. At that moment another priest arrived, Father Salvador Laterra. He received Holy Communion together with some thirty other persons.

In silent and deep respect we remained in prayer thanking our Divine Redeemer and His Immaculate Mother.

This event was not widely reported and the press knew nothing of it. We were able to keep these gifts from Our Lord close to our hearts.

In August 1984, Miguel Ángel had the only formal interview with the investigators in a department at the Catholic University of Valparaíso. Also present were his legal guardians, Jorge Aravena and his wife Lucy Elliott. I was asked to accompany them because Miguel Ángel was afraid, recalling the citations of the first commission.

The questions of the investigators greatly surprised me. I found them to be very childish, with little or no knowledge of ascetics and mysticism. I considered that a theologian well versed in the matter should have been a present, and not only philosophy and biology professor, with little or no understanding of such mystical phenomena. It was the only time that they questioned him before emitting a report.

15 AUGUST, FEAST DAY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

According to figures issued by the police department about 160 thousand people attended this apparition. It was perhaps the largest crowd ever in Peñablanca, larger than on September 29, 1983. The famous dances typical in the Regions of Tarapacá through Coquimbo to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary premiered that day. The Blessed Virgin Herself had requested the dances. The dancers came in procession, dancing and praying the Rosary for several kilometers. They stopped for each Mystery and then continued to dance. I am sure that this gesture of humility, simplicity and sacrifice full of love for Mary touched the Hearts of Our Mother and Jesus and that all those pious families who gathered to honor Our Heavenly Mother were amply rewarded with many blessings.

On that occasion the Blessed Virgin sent many blessings in the form of beautiful rays that filled us with holy joy.

I too received a gift. Some nuns had made a cushion with the coat of arms of the Eucharistic Crusade that for so many years I had had the honor of directing. The Blessed Virgin Mary stood on it. She placed Her Blessed feet on it leaving the imprints of Her feet for all of us to see while She threw beautiful rays of healing upon us. The cushion was a gift for me, which I was to keep because it would bring about many miraculous cures, as has actually been the case. Many people have been miraculously cured after having this blessed cushion which I keep as one more treasure bestowed upon me by my Holy Mother.

That day, as on many other occasions, She repeated the message given to Melania and Maximino in La Salette for priests who do not fulfill their priestly duty. On this occasion the Blessed Virgin ordered that the message be distributed, in writing, to all priests. A group of people proceeded to do so, receiving terrible responses from some, and humble thanks from others.

THE HOLY SHROUD

One day a group of us were having lunch at the “Pilgrim’s House ” in Peñablanca when Miguel Ángel half in secret told me that there was going to be a great miracle, that he face of Our Lord would reproduce itself (as in the Holy Shroud of Turin). It was to be

shown to the Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso so that this proof could help him overcome his incredulity.

August 26th. We were kneeling inside the blessed garden when a potent light illuminated Miguel Ángel's eyes and he ran to grab a cloth placed there earlier at the request of the Blessed Virgin. On it was stamped the face of our Lord with fresh blood on His forehead and cheek. He held it up and showed it to the crowd. Then he walked around the Hill so that everyone would see it. He returned to the garden and asked for a bucket of water from the well that had recently sprung there. He submerged the cloth in the water and wrung it three times. It came out intact. We were all amazed and perplexed. Increasingly the manifestations were more distinct and unusual.

Carefully we carried the precious treasure to the Church of Father Luis Fernandez for its veneration. A beautiful lectern covered with glass for its protection was made to hold it. For quite a long time it was taken in pilgrimage to the homes of numerous pious families. One day the Holy Shroud mysteriously disappeared from the Oratory of the Cancino family in Quilpué. The Angels had taken it away. This supernatural manifestation had occurred for the express benefit of making the Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso believe but he had rejected it in disbelief. He refused to see the blessed cloth even though many people had gone to him requesting an audience so that he could see the miracle.

How sad to see these supernatural gifts wasted and despised and not given their due importance because of that rationalist spirit that pervades everything.

Then Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso emitted a second declaration denying the supernatural nature of the presence of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Peñablanca because "there are no credible reasons".

APPARITIONS OF SEPTEMBER 1984

There were 25 public apparitions during September. On Saturday, September 1st at the request of the Blessed Virgin the seer received Holy Communion with his arms drawn back. The Ángel brought the Sacred Host in visible form. Then for the umpteenth time the message of La Salette was repeated: *"The priests, Ministers of my Son, by their impiety in celebrating the Holy Mysteries, by their love of Money and their love of honor, have become cesspools of impurity and claim vengeance, and vengeance is hanging over their heads. Woe to those consecrated to God, who with their wicked lives and unfaithfulness are crucifying my Son, Thy Lord again! No longer offend the Lord as He has already been offended too much"*

That day She also gave a message of consolation for all those who had in some way or other worked for Her.

The Blessed Virgin requested that everyone retreat five meters and that I remain next to the seer. It was an enactment of some of Her apparitions. She spoke in a soft Spanish accent. All this happened outside the garden. First She appeared as Our Lady of La Salette, with Her hands crossed over Her chest. She spoke to Melania and Maximino about the calamities that would befall Europe, especially France. That the potatoes would rot and that the harvest would be very poor. Then She appeared as our Lady of Lourdes conversing with Bernadette. Next, as Our Lady of Fatima, She addressed the children and answered their questions if they would be going to Heaven. She said: *"Yes, you will go to Heaven"*. Looking at the boy Francisco Marto She exclaimed: *"But you will have to pray many Rosaries"*. In the dramatization of Garabandal She looked at Conchita and said: *"You have empty hands, Conchita"*. Just like Conchita, the principal seer of Garabandal, narrates in her diary of life.

At that moment Don Allen, the painter of the Virgin and great devotee of Peñablanca, snapped a photograph in which I appear receiving Holy Communion with seven hosts.

On Thursday, September 6th, at 8:00 p.m. the Blessed Virgin for the first and only time asked those present to ask Her personal questions. Many asked and were answered immediately.

At the time the Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso emitted a second decree harsher and worst than the previous one. It had to be read in churches. I had no intention of reading it as I considered it to be unjust, unfair and arbitrary and so I asked the Blessed Virgin Mary if I should do so. She spoke to me through Miguel Ángel: *"Obey, but do not act according to their works. I need you here. All come to the Hill and place your fishes or Ichthus in your houses."*

September 8th 1984 marked one year that the Blessed Virgin had sent me Her first blessings. It was the 1999 anniversary of Her birthday. The seer talked with the

Blessed Virgin for a while outside the garden, and turning to me as we entered the garden, for a second or third time said to me: *"Stand firm, firmer. Stand firm, because if you are not firm a day will come when you are going to deny me. If you stand firm, very firm, you will not do so. They will say things against you. And the big test comes, the biggest. Do you accept?"* I said: "I accept with all my soul". I did not realize that I was standing next to the microphone so everyone heard my reply, and in kindness and affection they applauded. Then the Blessed Virgin said: *"They will badger you with these questions: They will say: deny the Virgin of the Hill or stop being a priest (to practice as such). You will have to say: I continue to be a priest (to practice my Ministry), but I will not deny Her. Strength will come to you from Heaven. They will try to seduce you by telling you things that you are not to believe, they will even tell you that you will never again celebrate Mass. But stand firm do not be incredulous. It will need firmness, much firmness from you. Never set aside what you have proposed doing"*.

I was felt perplexed, astonished, self-absorbed and very attached to the Will of God, but at the same time with infinite peace and joy in my soul.

On September 9th the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared three times: at 2 and 3 in the afternoon and at 10 at night.

She narrated a parable of three shepherds. There was one shepherd who had many sheep and neglected them. Another shepherd with fewer sheep who hardly cared for them. And a third shepherd who had few sheep and took very good care of them; even cared for the sheep abandoned by the others. This last shepherd was rewarded and the others were not. Of these shepherds one went to Hell, the other to Purgatory and the third who was the first, went to Heaven. She told us that we were to meditate on this for tomorrow.

The next day, Monday, September 10th, the apparition took place at 9 p.m. The Blessed Virgin asked me to explain the parable. I thought I was doing a very good job of it because I found it so easy, but the Blessed Virgin granted me the grace of confusing me to such a degree that I got all tangled up, became very nervous and humiliated myself in front of everyone. Deep down I was very grateful to Her for having humiliated me for I now had something to offer to my dearest Heavenly Mother.

I think that my confusion was a preparation for the next day, September 12th, date on which we celebrated the sweet name of Mary. That day the Blessed Virgin, through the seer, lifted several people, among them fat Cavalleria who weigh more than 120 kilos. He had denied the Blessed Virgin before the Episcopal Commission. Humiliated, he apologized. The Virgin showered him with rays or blessings and as he was being lowered Miguel Ángel said: "Our Lady forgives you and so do I". He wept like a child. The Blessed Virgin Mary also singled out Reinaldo Osorio to be blessed as a manifestation of love. This young man had suffered greatly for his faithfulness to the Blessed Virgin. He has since been ordained a priest.

Then She summoned me: "Let my favorite son Miguel Contardo approach". I was raised and many rays of blessings showered upon my person. It was the second time that the Virgin had called and raised me in such a beautiful and sensitive manner.

She also gave me a leaf from the olive tree that I was to keep forever. It will bring peace to the soul. And another sprig to distribute among those present.

On that occasion Miguel Ángel dressed in white with the other children chosen by the Virgin strolled about the Hill loudly singing some beautiful songs in Hebrew. It was memorable.

The sky was studded with stars and the Virgin slowly covered the entire Hill with Her blue mantle full of angels. Her mantle continued to extend for over a kilometer until it appeared to be an immense extension covering Chile. The stars began to disappear because the blue mantle of Our Mother was beneath them.

She made us move to the new sanctuary, and near the Grotto, She again repeated a summary of the latest apparitions, beginning with Catalina Labouré of the Miraculous Medal, followed by La Salette, Lourdes, Fatima, Garabandal and ending with the apparition of the immaculate Conception to José Chagres in Chile. (In the 1970s the Blessed Virgin as our Lady of Lourdes appeared to a shepherd named José Alfaro in the town of Chagres in the Province of San Felipe, Chile. The Archbishop Bishop at that time was Francisco de Borja Valenzuela, who later relocated to Valparaiso. It was a special apparition to several local children that lasted for a couple of years. The Virgin asked for a grotto and parents of the seers built a beautiful one just like the one in Lourdes. (The Blessed Virgin gave some private messages).

With that public manifestation from the Blessed Virgin towards me I thought that She approved of how I was publicly conducting myself in Peñablanca, and felt full of life and very happy.

The next day, Thursday, September 13th, I was late for the apparition. Miguel Ángel had already fallen into an ecstasy. It was around half-past nine at night. He was outside the sanctuary and I was able to get very close to him. When I reached him he was staring fixedly at the sky and said to me: "*A gift for you*". He handed me a medal, coined at the request of the Virgin in Peñablanca. "*It will serve you forever and it will free you from Hell, if you keep it with faith.*"

Do not give this medal away just yet". She proceeded: "Be very careful because Satan will try to induce you to doubt everything, in every which way. He continues to do so with lies and deception but do not allow yourself to be led away because sometimes the wolf comes in sheep's clothing. You are being tested, but you will nonetheless have to stand firm. You have to be very careful with all your colleagues because Satan will try to put into your head something that has never happened. You and I know what this is." Message for you: "*Let not your mind be troubled; ask for illumination from the Holy Ghost because the Devil is trying to induced many to not recognized this*

apparition". Then I was handed some medals: "Take these which you are to distribute amongst those who cannot purchase them".

He went on addressing everyone: *"Place the Ichthus on doors because critical days are about to come; for the next coming of my Son to Earth, and also prepare your hearts and cleanse this sanctuary because the Holy Father will come to Chile".*

That day it rained heavily and no one caught a cold.

On September 15th we saw a repetition of the miracle of the face of Our Lord stamped on a sheet or cloth, more or less like Veronica's Solarium. The cloth was kept in the home of Oscar Perez's family, where it remained for about a year until the day a regrettable accident occurred. A maid entering the room where the cloth was kept caused an air current that tossed the cloth to the ground, and she believing it to be a cleaning cloth, dusted the furniture with it. Then, without realizing it, Oscar's father used the same cloth to wipe the car. After this an Angel took the image away so that it would no longer be unknowingly profaned. All of this came to light because the Blessed Virgin Herself revealed it during an apparition. Oscar and his family felt very bitter about this fatal oversight.

At midday, on September 24th, Feast Day of Our Lady of Mercy (Nuestra Señora de las Mercedes) the Angel brought the Host stained with blood to the seer in the new Shrine. At seven in the evening he suffered the stigmata and delivered a message written in Hebrew.

On September 28th Miguel, Ángel on his knees narrated several instances of the Passion of Our Lord in detail. I recall that some of them impressed me deeply. The soldiers who amused themselves by kicking away the garments of Our Lord when He went to put them on after being flogged. We wept when we heard how much Our Lord suffered for us. Among other things we learnt that a soldier had hit Our Lady on the face with his elbow when She approached Her Son to hand Him Her mantle so that He could cover Himself.

That day we were made to meditate on our knees for an hour. It was a very large crowd. The Lord as on previous occasions sent us a heavy rain of blessings in the form of precious rays that lit up the entire Hill. There were four priests inside the Garden united in prayer and spiritual joy.

APPARITIONS OF OCTOBER 1984

There were 22 public apparitions In October.

The apparition of Monday, October 6th, began at six p.m. The Seer raised many children for the Virgin to kiss and bless.

The loud speakers were badly tuned and very little was heard. Also many missed the great spectacle of the sun as most were facing the other way. The sun began to rotate on its axis and below one could see the Celestial Jerusalem with its domes, towers and streets underneath the Woman Dressed in the Sun, the Blessed Virgin Mary. Two huge balloons, blue and gold, glided past. The city of David turned into the Ark of the Alliance with its two Cherubs whose wings touched, transform into the Star of David and then immediately disappeared. Miguel Ángel described what he saw with joy on his face and in his voice.

She gave a message regarding Father Luis, who at that time was in Rome: *"I have taken my son to Rome and he will bring good news"*.

On October 13th the seer again suffered the Crowning with Thorns. He also requested that a thick pin pierce his wrist. He did not bleed.

During the morning and afternoon of October 16th the Blessed Virgin gave ten messages for humanity and said that She would respond to questions related to scripture and theology. Among the many things said were: *"That the Antichrist is already with you, influencing by means of the cults. 1985 how you sadden me. Be not afraid of receiving Holy Communion on your knees, neither be afraid of looking ridiculous with the veil on your head. Place the fish on the doors of your homes, without being afraid, because the decisive battle has come: those who are with God and those who are against Him"*.

This apparition was extremely dense and very interesting. It is all contained in the books "If you do what I say there will be peace... otherwise..." by María Luisa Paredes and "Messages of Peñablanca (1983-1984)" by Alvaro Barros.

Among various questions I asked Our Lady I remember one about the Antichrist: "My Mother, the Antichrist, is it a person or an institution?" And She answered: *"The Antichrist has already been born, he will be cast into Hell body and soul, but he is also institutions that lead to perdition, and they are headed by a Head who has himself called by this symbolic name: I will be good, I will have the world, I offer you everything you ask for, because really neither God nor Hell exist, these words the Antichrist will utter to combat the Lord. They are two categories: one, Freemasonry, the major cults*

to false gods. Communism and that man who will be sent in front of his own, with his army. Have you understood this?"

Wednesday, October 17th. The Blessed Virgin ordered Miguel Ángel to give me the greeting of peace because he was angry with me. While in ecstasy he handed me a leaf from the olive tree as a symbol of peace.

The next day, 18th October, at eight p.m. Miguel Angel fell into ecstasy in the garden and sang the Ave Maria in several languages. The Virgin requested that the Rosary be prayed in Latin; at least one mystery, and that I should begin the next day. We were able to print several sheets with the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Glory Be in that language. The people learnt to recite it quite well, slowly repeating the prayers in Latin. Later we added the Apostles' Creed and the Hail Holy Queen.

Sunday, October 21st, at eight p.m. The new image of the White Lady of Peace was blessed. As requested by Our Mother jointly Miguel Angel and I had the joy of crowning Her for the third time.

Also on that day Rev. Father Benito of the Augustinian Fathers from La Serena, blessed the Shrine of Masabielle (Lourdes), after a procession.

On October 31st She addressed us as Mystic Rose, (a beautiful apparition of the Holy Virgin in Italy to a young woman that has brought about many miracles to date. The Blessed Virgin is depicted in a white cape holding three roses, one red, one yellow and one white).

One could write an entire book about just one of these apparitions, piously meditating on each one of them.

One is comforted by reading and meditating the Holy Gospels, because just as Saint John says; if one narrated all the things Our Lord did the world could not contain all the books.

I pray to God that these writings will help the souls of those who read them to come closer to Our Lord through His Holy Mother.

APPARITIONS OF NOVEMBER 1984

There were 17 public apparitions and 2 private ones in November. The private apparitions occurred one in the home of the Aravena Elliott family in Santiago and the other in the home of the López Cancino family in Quilpué.

On Sunday, November 4th an image of our Lady of La Salette was taken from Santiago to the Hill with much care and love to lead a procession to the new garden of the Virgin.

The image wept as witnessed by many. It was taken to the Chapel of the Transfiguration.

The Blessed Virgin said that there would come a persecution of the Church from within the Church itself. And that in Chile it would be worst than in other parts. One wondered: How is this? Persecution from the Church and not against the Church as would be logical when saying "persecution". I had always thought that the persecution would be a bloody one as has been the case throughout history. Such as the persecution of Christians by the Roman Emperors; the ones that took place under Communist, or under Muslim fanatic regimes, under Nazism, etc. But a persecution from the Church did not make sense to me. With time I came to understand, in the flesh, that this was a reality. And in a very special way in Peñablanca.

So many priests spoke against Peñablanca and persecuted their parishioners. The many unusual and burlesque insults against the Ichus and against the visible stigmas from press, radio and television. It was not only from a group of reporters or journalists, but also from those in holy orders. The worst were the bans from some ecclesiastics, who without any right, prohibited going to the Hill to pray. Others prohibited the reading of the "Missionaries of God", a magazine that had been requested by the Blessed Virgin Herself. Many other examples could be given.

Only God judges the intentions acted upon. In any case, it was an enormous blessing to suffer all these persecutions because our faith was strengthened, and the Sacrament of Confirmation was lived inwardly.

The seer also expressed that between the 12 November and 12 December there would be a great event in the Church. He added that Russia would explode an underground bomb and that tremors would be felt in many places.

A man who had a Polaroid camera, took a photograph, it showed a bomb exploding.

A few days later I received a letter from Father Guido Bertolino, Superior of the Missionary Work of the Transfiguration of the Lord, informing me that I momentarily had to leave the house in which I resided and that I was not to celebrate Holy Mass or

hear Confessions in their Chapel, by the very direct orders of the Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso, Francisco de Borja Valenzuela, who was very angry with these Priest who had charitably given me lodgings.

It was for me very painful to leave this beloved house since I had become part of that Congregation.

Together we recited the Holy Rosary for the sanctification of the Archbishop Bishop towards whom, by the Grace of God, I feel not the slightest animosity, nor for any one else, for it is only God who judges and who permits these circumstances for the good of our souls and His greater glory.

Next day I moved to the home of Dina Bacigalupo who lived with her elderly mother, Mrs. Olga Aste de Bacigalupo. They resided in almost total isolation in a villa surrounded by trees and flowers. I have the fondest memories of them. I know that the Lord will have greatly rewarded them for seeing in this priest a representative of Christ. The same goes for Dina's son, Javier, at the time a University student.

I was gathering my belongings to leave when unexpectedly Miguel Angel arrived in the car of Manolo Estay, a young man who with his family frequently visited the Hill. They drove me to my new home. I took the Tabernacle with me, as on the next day, Friday, November 23rd, as predicted by the Blessed Virgin, my life of contemplation, like in the catacombs, would begin. The house had a small Oratory that had recently been blessed where I celebrated Holy Mass every day.

That day, at nine in the evening, Miguel Ángel suddenly fell into ecstasy on the Hill. The stars danced before several spectators. Saint Michael the Archangel came with a terrible message: *"Treason, treason, treason. One hundred times treason. The betrayal will come from the Sun. Ones who have taken on the Marian name and are the 7 Horns of the Beast. Treason, treason, treason"*.

Why are these phrases so difficult to understand? There was a group of catechists in the Parish Our Lady Mother of the Church of Quilpué who had begun to doubt Miguel Ángel and who were exerting much influence over the Parish Priest. The main reason being that few of them attended the apparitions as they preferred to sell brochures and other things and passed the time chatting some distance from the Hill where the Blessed Virgin appeared, preferring their sales to praying with Mary.

Later Miguel Ángel told me: "Take care because you will be the first one to be betrayed".

The Blessed Virgin requested a night vigil for the 14th November. Miguel Ángel received Communion in visible form seen by everyone present. We were to pray in silence the entire night. The Virgin allowed those of us who did not have a tent to take shelter inside the Chapel that was under construction. Men, women and children from all social walks of life felt very happy, in peace and in deep spiritual absorption. Many people saw the Blessed Virgin near and above the tents. The only sound heard in this

great silence was the soft whisper of those praying the Holy Rosary. Before retiring Miguel Ángel muttered a significant phrase: "So that they become accustomed".

Later, on November 19th, the Virgin by the mouth of the seer spoke about the future life of a part of the Church in the catacombs, and of a man dressed in white with blood on his back, referring, as on other occasions, to the Holy Father.

She also said the following, which no one has been able to decipher: *"A quarter, plus a half, plus three quarters, divided by two"*.

Saturday, November 24th. Miguel Ángel received Holy Communion in visibly form and the Blessed Virgin came under different names. She told me to be patient.

APPARITIONS OF DECEMBER 1984

There were several private and 8 public apparitions in December.

It was staying at the home of the Bacigalupo Aste family when at midnight I received a phone call from Verónica Cancino informing me that Miguel Ángel was in ecstasy and that I was to come as soon as possible. I quickly got up and made my way to the Cancino residence two blocks away. Miguel Ángel was in bed holding a crucifix. He asked me to bless the crucifix and to examine his head that was showing the stigmata of the Crowning with Thorns. With a handkerchief that Veronica handed me, and which is still in my keeping, I wiped the blood that was later examined by Dermatologist Dr. Carla Hieber in her laboratory.

On that occasion She again gave the Third Secret of Fatima. I remember that in addition to the Secret, She said that the Pope would flee Rome; that some Bishops wanted to kill him. That certain Bishops were speaking against the Blessed Virgin. Veronica's parents and sister were also present.

On Thursday, December 6th, at ten o'clock, Miguel Ángel fell into ecstasy outside Veronica's home located at 21 de Mayo Street, Quilpue. Only Lorenzo Cespedes, a few children and myself were present on this occasion. With a smiling face and his gaze fixed on Heaven, he repeated several times: "Mari Cruz is a seer. Mari Cruz is a seer." He was referring to the girl who with Conchita González had seen the Blessed Virgin Mary in Garabandal, and who had later denied the Blessed Virgin.

I wrote to Mr. Francisco Sánchez Ventura informing him of what had happened.

On December 8th, with great joy, Father Benito from La Serena and I blessed the recently completed Chapel on the Hill. It was touching and beautiful.

Wednesday, December 12th, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the anniversary of the death of my mother. The seer, after having received Holy Communion from the hands of Holy Michael the Archangel, was informed by the Blessed Virgin that on the 29th of that month She would appear for the last time (that year). She repeated that She would be in Chile for five years. The Blessed Virgin requested that a ciborium be brought on Sunday 16th at 8 p.m. Holy Michael the Archangel would come bringing four Hosts that Her favorite son was to distribute. She also requested that the painting be illuminate with a spotlight and that the Virgin would smile at those who were in a state of grace and that She would show a sad face to those who were in a state of sin.

On Sunday 16th Miguel Ángel fell into ecstasy outside the chapel and twice presented the crucifix for me to kiss. Present on that occasion, on their knees and praying with great fervor were Héctor Herrera, Rector of the University of Santiago, and his son. Miguel Angel also presented the crucifix for them to kiss and told them to return that evening after attending Holy Mass.

Next day, Monday 17th, while Miguel Ángel was at the home of the Cancino family, an image of the Blessed Virgin of Lourdes wept. The family went to the Hill with Miguel Ángel who fell into ecstasy.

Thursday, December 20th. Our Lady appeared at 8 p.m.

Sunday, December 24th, Mount Carmel, around 10 p.m., while praying and in a candidly Christmassy atmosphere the seer fell into ecstasy and raised his arms as if to receive the Child Jesus, then grabbing hold of Carmen Aldunate's veil, he settled Him in it, and reciting passages from the Bible about the birth of Jesus, made his way to the crib that was surrounded by children dressed in white. Among the many beautiful things he said was: "Mary was a Virgin before childbirth, during childbirth and after childbirth". He added some beautiful details. Arriving at the manger he remove a figure representing the baby Jesus, and with much care, settled the Child he was carrying in his arms in the crib. It was a vivid and moving gesture. We were all dressed in white and very happy. A while later he returned Baby Jesus to the Blessed Virgin and the veil to Carmen Aldunate who was filled with emotion and very grateful. Miguel Angel them made his way to the Chapel.

A rosary that Jorge Aravena had made for the Blessed Virgin will have the same properties as that of the water that will miraculously sprout in due time next to the Grotto of Masabielle on Mount Carmel.

The last apparition of the year took place on Saturday, December 29th; It was preceded by a procession accompanied by the Dances of La Tirana at two in the afternoon.

A group of catechists came to fetch Miguel Ángel because Father Luis needed to speak with him urgently. They had a hard time making Miguel Angel go with them, as he did not want to go. Upon seeing him Father Luis asked: "What would you most like to do or have?" Miguel Ángel replied: "To see my grandma". He was referring to Mrs. Emelina who had cared for him as a child. Father Luis then asked: "Anything else?" "To meet my mother," replied Miguel Angel. 'Here she is" said Father Luis and his mother, whom he did not know, appeared. She asked for forgiveness and told her dramatic story. She had him when she was fifteen, she was very poor and so had to give him away to a lady who registered him in the city of Curicó.

Later that day when we learnt of what had happened we were all in shock, especially Lucy Elliott and I. We both said: "He met his earthly mother the day he was to stop seeing his Heavenly Mother". His biological mother returned to Argentina where she resides.

1984 so full of amazing occurrences ended with this dramatic incident. However, before I begin to describe the occurrences' of 1985 I feel obligated to describe how the miraculous photos of the Virgin (Chapter 6 below) came into being, the circumstances that led to my departure from the Jesuits and the subsequent events that culminated with my admission into the Diocese of Lapel (Chapter 7).

6. MIRACULOUS PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

To begin with this chapter presents a portentous event that occurred during the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca, which should be highlighted in a very special way: Her authentic image on photographs.

To complement the above, a brief history of Her image.

MIRACULOUS PHOTOS

One afternoon in August of 1984, at the home of Jorge and Lucy Aravena, the seer took seven photographs of the small plaster image of Our Lady of Lourdes that the family owned that had wept the previous day.

To the great surprise of everyone when Jorge Aravena and his son Carlos collected the revealed photographs they discovered that of the seven photographs taken of the statue only the first two corresponded to the original image. The third and fourth photographs showed Our Lady of Guadalupe. Each of the three remaining photographs were of a beautiful figure that the seer identified as the White Lady of Peace, just as She appeared to him in Peñablanca.



Miraculous Photos

- 1, 2. Images of Our Lady of Lourdes
- 3. Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 4, 5, 6. Miraculous Photo of Our Lady of Peñablanca

Upon seeing the last three photographs the seer exclaimed: "That is how the Blessed Virgin appears to me in Peñablanca, but She is even more beautiful".

It should be noted that these last three photographs are of a living person and not of an image, and that the features of the image of Lourdes are also very different. They are not photographs of a painting or of a picture, but of a living person, as ratified by the numerous experts consulted. So far no one has been able to technically or scientifically explain this supernatural phenomenon.

Upon the seer ratifying that for him there was no doubt that it was the figure of the Blessed Virgin who appeared to him in Peñablanca, added to the above, one can only conclude that it is a miracle whereby the Blessed Virgin wanted to grant us the grace of being able to have three photographs of Her. It is our Mother who placed Herself in front of the lens of the camera to leave us Her human figure. And who more human and beautiful than Mary, the masterpiece of Our Lord? A great miracle to demonstrate, in divine manner, the real presence of the Blessed Virgin amongst us.

What can we say, but give thanks with a full heart for so much goodness and so much joy. The Blessed Virgin Mary has left us Her portrait.

Because of this for devotees of the Blessed Virgin around the world, Peñablanca has become a very special apparition: In three photographs She has left us Her real, authentic, human image.

HISTORY OF AN IMAGE THROUGHOUT THE CENTURIES

This miracle of the photographs left by the Blessed Virgin is so important and transcendental that it is necessary to make a brief analysis of the history of Her image, which has its origin at the beginnings of Christianity.

St. Gregory the Great owned a beautiful image of Our Lady which according to ancient tradition was carved by painter, sculptor, doctor and historian, the Evangelist Saint Lucas himself, whom we could call "Secretary to the Mother of God", and chronicler of Her greatness. This image was considered to be very miraculous having saved the city of Rome from a devastating epidemic of plague.

Pope St. Gregory the Great convened all the Catholic Bishops in Rome. Saint Leandro, Bishop of Seville, unable to go to Rome sent his brother Saint Isidore to represent him. At the conclusion of the convocation and as proof of the high esteem in which the Roman Pontiff held him he was given this miraculous image. It was therefore taken to Spain performing several miracles during the trip.

Years later, in 711, when the Muslims defeated don Rodrigo and invaded Spain through Andalucia, some monks fled from Seville with the image gifted by Pope Saint Gregory to keep it safe from the advancing Arabs.

Arriving in the Guadalupe Mountain range the monks found a small cave with a grave containing the remains of Saint Fulgencio. They dug a hole in the ground, hid the image and several documents detailing its provenance and then covered the entrance to the cave with large stones to avoid any possible access.

Six centuries later Gil Cordero a shepherd from Extremadura who wandered about that rough terrain in search of a lost cow stumbled upon a dead animal. The shepherd tried to dismember it but was interrupted by the sudden appearance of a beautiful Lady: *"I am the Mother of God"*, She told him, *"and it is my wish that you dig in this place until you find an image of me"*.

Back home, relatives awaited him in complete desolation to inform him of the unexpected death of his youngest son. The shepherd prayed to the Mother of God for the life of his child, and the child resurrected. Determined to faithfully fulfill the wishes of Our Lady, Gil Cordero was quick to relate these recent events to some priests, friends of his, who trusting his words accompanied him back to the mountains to search for the buried image. When they arrived at their destination they began to dig until they found the image buried there by the monks from Seville and the papers attesting its origin. Soon after in that same location began the construction of a small chapel, which eventually became the present Monastery of Guadalupe.

Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared again in Mexico in the year 1531. "Surrounded by bright beams of golden light", the Blessed Virgin appeared in Tepeyac Hill to an Indian named Juan Diego. *"I am the Mother of God,"* repeated the Lady before expressing Her wish. These were the words She employed to define Herself: *"Look, Juan Diego, the smallest of my children, I am the ever Virgin Mary, Mother of the true God, under whose sight is all creation, Lord of Heaven and Earth. It is my wish that you go to the Bishop to request that a temple be raised in this very place."* Juan Diego did so. Bishop Zumárraga not giving credit to his words requested a sign as proof of the veracity of the message.

On December 12th, 1531, Juan Diego, skirting the Tepeyac Hill, saw the Virgin Mary descending one of its slopes. She said: *"Climb to the top of the hill and there where you first saw Me you will find many flowers, cut them and bring them to Me"*. Surprised by this order as only thistles grew on the hill the Indian climbed to the summit where he found beautiful roses that had just sprouted in the middle of that barren terrain. He wrapped them in his "tilma" (cloak), and took them to the Blessed Virgin who asked him to take them to the Bishop as the "sign" he had asked for. In the presence of the Bishop Juan Diego unfurled his "tilma", spreading the roses on the ground, while the image of the Virgin of Guadalupe became imprinted between the folds of the tilma. Deeply moved the Bishop went to the Hill of Tepeyac to fulfill the wishes of Our Lady to erect a temple on that spot. The Virgin presented herself with the name of "Cuatillu" (the one who crushed the serpent (in Nahuatl language)).

Centuries later, in 1984, occurred the events narrated in the previous chapter with the photographs of the Blessed Virgin Mary as she appeared in Peñablanca.

Several people who attended the apparitions on the Hill in Peñablanca took equally mysterious pictures of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Later during the apparitions the Blessed Virgin exclaimed: "I am the Queen of Christian America, the Mother of all this new continent. It will depend on you that all of the Americas has the Guadalupana and the devotion to the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God. And that the North and the South unite."

The Blessed Virgin, Mother of God, presents Herself under different names around the world. In Guadalupe, in Lourdes and in Peñablanca She has given us admirable dogmatic theological definitions. In Guadalupe She said: *"I am the Mother of God"*. In Lourdes: *"I am the Immaculate Conception"*. In Peñablanca: *"I am the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God"*.

This wonderful logical continuity of Her images from the first painted and sculpted by St Lucas that centuries later was transported to Spain, which later appeared in Mexico and finally in Chile, shows us that the loving presence of Our Holy Mother has been with us always, throughout the centuries, to guide us to Heaven.

7. HOW I ENTERED AND HOW I LEFT THE SOCIETY OF JESUS

One of the reasons for writing this book is, as I have said, to pave the way so that future researchers can find the truth of what happened in Peñablanca. Many close friends have asked me to narrate the events leading to my entering and leaving the Society of Jesus to clarify matters and avoid any confusion that could in the future hinder a serious investigation.

It is for me difficult and painful to narrate the circumstances of my departure from the Society of Jesus, the congregation that I loved so much and was part of for 44 years. These are the unfathomable designs of the Lord.

When at age 19 I entered the Society of Jesus I sincerely thought that I would live and die in it. One of our Lord's greatest gifts is the gift of a vocation for the priesthood. It came, as all graces do, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. It was the Blessed Virgin Mary who took me by the hand and led me to enter the Society of Jesus, and it was She Herself who after 44 years led me out of the Jesuits, but not out of the company of Jesus and Mary.

It is a duty and a debt of gratitude to acknowledge Our Lord for the wonderful family that He had me born into. My dear and venerable parents, Miguel Contardo Pozo and Elvina Egaña de Contardo were true models of Christian parents. With their example, goodness and wisdom they guided us along the paths of duty, righteousness, and spirituality.

Among many other memories I particularly recall the atmosphere of piety that reigned in our home. The daily prayer of the Holy Rosary in the company of old retainers and nannies who were part of the family; the especial prayers, on our knees, during the months dedicated to the Sacred Heart and to the Virgin Mary, the lilies placed at the foot of the statue of Our Lady during those days. These are all precious memories of my childhood at home.

Our parents prepared us with admirable affection and care for Our First Holy Communion and Confirmation at ages 7 and 8, respectively. They chose three priests to complement this preparation, because, by the Grace of God, they wanted to give us the most solid spiritual formation possible

I remember that at the beginning of my Eucharistic life I would prepared to receive the Lord in Church with my mother, and that after an intimate conversation with Jesus, I would thank the Lord next to my father. These are everlasting memories that have left a very deep imprint in me. I remember the last day that I received Holy Communion with my parents in the Church of the Sacramentinos, the same Church where that same afternoon I would enter the novitiate of the Jesuit Fathers.

I was educated in Santiago, at the Liceo Alemán run by the Fathers of the Verbo Divino of whom I hold profound memories and teachings, above all because of their discipline and faithful performance of duty. Several of those venerable priests helped with my religious and intellectual formation, especially in the fields of philosophy and science.

I had the joy of knowing Saint Alberto Hurtado, thanks to a good friend who introduced us when we founded a group of young people that we named: "New life" and whose motto was: "Come Lord Jesus".

On May 31st, feast day of "Mary, Mediatrix of all Graces" and the eve of Pentecost, I was in a retreat in the "Marruecos House of Retreat", and while meditating the first talk named Principle and Foundation, the Lord through his Mother granted me the infinite grace of a vocation for the priesthood.

Together with the immense joy of this wonderful gift I felt my heart split in pain at the thought of forever abandoning my beloved home. The presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the final blessing gave me inner strength to resist the call of the world that did not want to let me go. Divine Grace prevailed and directed me on the new path of total surrender to the Lord.

My mother had given me a beautiful crucifix that always accompanies me, a small notebook with her schoolgirl spiritual notes and a copy of her precious diary of life, all of which I treasure. They have helped me to keep firmly on the path of the Lord. She went to school with Saint Teresa de los Andes whose biography has recently been published.

Among the books that have most influenced my spiritual formation I would like to highlight three in particular. The first: "Story of a Soul", the autobiography of St. Therese of the Child Jesus whose path of spiritual childhood has brought so much good for so many. The second: "The Chilean comforted in the presidiums", written by my maternal great-grandfather, Juan Egan, which greatly impacted me. He was banished to the island of Juan Fernández with other patriots during the Spanish Reconquista. He was abruptly separated from his family and most of his goods were confiscated. His solicitous son Mario accompanied him to care for him.

Juan heartily forgave his enemies and found consolation and relief solely in God and his Blessed Mother, making precious reflections in this regard. (Years later Bernardo O'Higgins gave back what had been confiscated). This book of great spiritual and historical wealth was printed in London. It is sold out.

The third book is the "Treaty of the True Devotion to the Holy Virgin" by St Luis María Grignon de Monfort.

I entered the novitiate of the Jesuits Fathers in what today is a house of retreat in the village of Padre Hurtado. There I made my first vows and I consecrated myself forever to the Sacred Heart and to the Blessed Virgin.

My time of formation at the Novitiate, at the "Juniorado, Filosofado and Teologado", the latter at the Maximo de San José College (San Miguel, Buenos Aires, Argentina) are also memorable.

Of most of my classmates I hold indelible memories of charity, spiritual edification and exemplary behavior. And I also believe that these assessments have been reciprocal, by the grace of God. The same could be said in terms of my Teachers, Professors at the Novitiate and Spiritual Directors who were kind, caring and charitable at all times.

I was ordained a priest by Monsignor Rau, Bishop of La Plata, and celebrated my first Mass in the Regina Martirum Church in Buenos Aires, assisted by both my father and my brother Sergio. Memories of unforgettable grace and gratitude.

For every priest the day of his ordination is undoubtedly the biggest day of his life. We have no human words to express so much happiness and can only exclaim with Saint Paul: "Neither eye saw, nor ear heard nor human word can express" how great and sublime it is to be a Minister of the Most High and a dispenser of so many goods. The Divine Mystery humbles one. With deep humility and infinite gratitude we ask for fidelity to Grace and for Final Perseverance. Thank you, thank you Lord God.

I did the Tertianship or second novitiate in Colombia, and took my final vows in the Church of San Ignacio in Santiago, Chile. When the new San Ignacio El Bosque School opened I was appointed Teacher and Spiritual Director as well as National Director of the Eucharistic Crusade. I remained there for 11 years. I was then transferred to Valparaíso as National Director, and as Spiritual Director of the Seminario Mayor de San Rafael and of both the San Ignacio schools, one in Valparaíso and one in Viña del Mar. The unforgettable Monsignor Emilio Tagle Covarrubias was then Bishop of Valparaíso. Mons. Francisco de Borja Valenzuela Ríos who was Bishop of San Felipe later succeeded him in office. The events of Peñablanca occurred at this time.

As I said earlier, the first time that I attended the apparitions of the Virgin Mary was on September 1, 1983. That day I took several direct photographs of the sun and none were ruined by over exposure to sunlight as would be expected. I developed some beautiful photos. I made some copies and gave them to Father Luis Fernández, Parish Priest of our Lady Mother of the Church of Quilpué. He placed them in a mural with others that had been given to him.

Some journalists of the newspaper "La Estrella" of Valparaíso interviewed Father Fernandez and asked him for the names of the photographers. The next day the photographs were featured on the front-page of the "La Esrella, my name included. This was enough to make Msgr. Valenzuela very angry, and in a meeting of Superiors and Parish Priests he told Father Sergio Hurtado Salas, our Superior at the time, that if I continued to publish photographs I was to be suspended "a divinis". Father Sergio took it as a further joke from the Bishop who was known to satirize his conversations. He laughingly recounted the story to me, and I too laughed.

Near the end the year the Archbishop Bishop asked Father Fernando Montes Matte who at the time was the Father Provincial to remove me from Valparaíso for this reason. The Father Provincial informed me that I would be moving to the House of Retreat at Padre Hurtado, but he did not forbid me to go to Peñablanca as he considered this of little importance.

The Seminarists and the students of the schools wanted to give me a farewell party but it was suspended, as was my speech at my farewell Mass. A priest who said a few brief words of goodbye and thanks informed me of this. This hurt me deeply and I was able to offer it to God with much love.

The events at Peñablanca continued with greater intensity. On the 12th of March 1984 the Blessed Virgin filled us with Her blessings. It was one of the things I have received with the greatest of joys. A few days later Father Montes summoned me and forbade me to go to Villa Alemana because I was making a fool of myself. He paid no heed to my defenses. I obeyed to the letter and did not go to Peñablanca or Villa Alemana as is called by those who have never been there.

Time passed. One day Miguel Ángel phoned to invite me on behalf of the Blessed Virgin to a mission in Ocoa. I accepted with great joy, thinking I would have to give some sort of talk, never imagining the great events that would occur and that I have narrated previously. I informed the eldest of the Coadjutor Brothers because I could not find a priest, as all of them were busy and away from the House. Ocoa was not Villa Alemana and it never crossed my mind that I was disobeying the ban to go to Villa Alemana.

A few days later a priest of German descent replaced the Superior. When I spoke with him he told me quite authoritatively: "If you don't trust me I shall speak to the Provincial to have you shipped out as soon as possible. I give you a month". He later wrote me a letter saying that the best thing for me was to request my dismissal from the Society of Jesus and find a benevolent Bishop, "and I assure you that will be no easy task".

I very seriously meditated before the Blessed Sacrament and realized clearly that my life in the Society was going to be very difficult, that I would never renounce the Blessed Virgin, and that I would have to act bravely. I asked the Blessed Virgin for help to proceed with serenity and inner peace. I was to request for a year of secularization to seriously ponder three options for my future life:

- (a) Remain in the Society of Jesus under the new constitutions to which I had promised nothing, having made my promise under the old constitution. (Father Jorge González Forster SJ, former Rector of the Catholic University of Valparaíso and former Rector of the San Ignacio School, told me with foundation of cause that I had made my promises to the real constitution of St. Ignatius, but that now, after the XXXI General Congregation, they had modified it almost in its entirety. Father González greatly encouraged me. He believed in the apparitions of the Virgin Mary in Peñablanca).

Likewise, Father Mauricio Riesco Undurraga, who had been my spiritual Director for many years, came to visit me at the House of Retreat despite the difficulties he had for walking. I clearly explained everything that had happened in Peñablanca and the way I had preceded. He was truly convinced of the reality of the apparitions and encouraged me to continue and to always be faithful to what I had experienced in these apparitions of the Blessed Virgin.

I am beholden and thankful to all these saintly priests and other former colleagues of religious life, for everything they did for me and for the encouragement they gave me to continue.

- b) Pass on to the secular clergy and;

- (b) Pass on to form part the new Congregation of the Transfiguration of the Lord, to which I belonged being one of the founders of the Pia Union, with the full permission of the Provincial and of the Bishop.

Meanwhile I went to talk to Monsignor Durán, Bishop of Rancagua, who happily agreed to accept me once I obtained dismissal from the Society of Jesus. Monsignor Duran himself cordialy and with great care drafted the letter of admission to his diocese.

On Monday 1st July, I received a letter from the Father General of the Society of Jesus. It was good-natured and gentlemanly on the outside, but strong and terrible in depth. To ease my conscience I had written to him a long and detailed letter that I divided it into several parts. The first part was a brief resume of my life. A second part regarding the 43 years lived in the Society of Jesus and the events of Peñablanca and how my life has changed, or rather, had taken another turn. A third part about the very special personality of the Archbishop, Bishop of Valparaíso, Francisco de Borja Valenzuela. And a forth part enumerating my reasons for leaving the Society of Jesus.

The Father General did not know me and he had just recently been appointed to such an important position, hence the letter had to have been written by the Assistant for Latin America, the former Provincial for Chile.

What happened? Monsignor Durán fell seriously ill and his replacement did not dare make any important decisions until he recovered. As the matter was urgent I went to speak with Monsignor Fresno, Archbishop of Santiago, but without any result. I then went to talk with Monsignor Piñera, Archbishop of La Serena. He would admit me with great affection, but his request was denied and I could not go to that Archdiocese.

Meanwhile Monsignor Carlos González, Bishop of Talca, offered to receive me in his Diocese to which I had not thought of going. Such are the designs of God.

I had to look for a Diocese because the Father Provincial would not grant me the permission of secularization for a year and insistently kept urging me to leave Peñablanca and move to Arica, as far away as possible from the apparitions, or just to simply leave.

It would have been a great betrayal if it had not heeded the internal and external calling of the Blessed Virgin in the interest of a narrow and poorly understood obedience that went against my conscience. With the absolute security that was acting righteously I adopted this resolution that not only did not disturb my peace of mind, but to the contrary, acted under the impulse of an intimate force, painful and trusting in the Lord.

I lived the moment on a day-to-day basis and my spiritual life was at all times full of heavenly joy and confident abandonment to the Will of the Most High. I never felt forgotten or forsaken by the Blessed Virgin Mary, in whose wounded Heart I found refuge.

Meanwhile, the Father General had changed the Father Provincial and had in his stead designated Father Cristián Brahm.

After being admitted by Monsignor Carlos González I was most severely judged by the Society of Jesus. So severely that when I read the report I thought it was referring to someone else, someone of the worst sort. I never thought it was about me. So much so that I gave way to laughter and felt compassion for whoever read this opprobrium. The Father Provincial had called three other priests as witnesses. One of them was Father Jaime Correa Castelblanco who became outraged by what these reports said and came to my defense, speaking very highly of me. I was extremely thankful to him because at the end of the proceedings he kissed my hand, a very unusual thing for a Jesuit to do, and said: "Die crucified". God bless him.

On the 15 of November of 1985 I went to sign the dismissory letters. I had the right to appeal to Rome but I did not, knowing how long all these allegations would take. I chose to sign them as soon as possible putting an end to the matter and be at peace. The Father Provincial asked me how much money I wanted for my future expenses. I told him none. He insisted and my reply was the same. I was upset about the money and found it undignified. Finally he said: Let us pray a Hail Mary. I also wanted to do my last confession in the Society of Jesus as I did every week, and I confessed with him to show him that I felt no animosity.

I remained in Talca "*ad experimentum*" for six months which in practice were four (from December 15, 1985 through April 29, 1986), because in the same smiling manner that he had admitted me, he dismissed me, the reason being: "What will the Bishops say because I have you". I had fulfilled all the conditions imposed: Not to go to Peñablanca, not to speak of the apparitions. I did not go to Peñablanca nor did I speak of the apparitions. He also said: "I will give you the best of recommendations stating that you are an excellent priest and I hope that you move to another country. I can speak to the Nuncio. Leave as soon as possible without saying goodbye to anyone". On the face of such powerful arguments: "What will the Bishops say because I have you" my poor arguments were worth nothing. As he departed with his Vicar I gave way to human weakness and wept bitterly. Then I pulled myself together because as never before I found myself within the suffering heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary and free to go back to Peñablanca, until the Lord decreed otherwise.

I felt very protected by Jesus and Mary. The prophecy foretold on the 8th of September of the previous year was fulfilled: "Many things will be said about you. Either you carry out your Priestly Ministry or the Blessed Virgin of the Hill. And you will say my Priesthood and the Blessed Virgin of the Hill. Strength will come from up high". And so it did.

May 27, 1986, a day of torrential rain. On the hill I encountered Father José Manuel Salinas, Parish Priest of Los Vilos. He informed me that I could go to his Parish and that he had already spoken with the new Bishop of Illapel, Monsignor Pablo Lizama, who had admitted me in his Prelature and would permit me to go to Peñablanca. Another prophecy fulfilled: That I would find a benevolent Bishop who would allow me to go to the Hill. This happened on the day of my birthday. An affectionate birthday present.

Lord, bless Bishop Lizama who admitted me without knowing me, and Father José Manuel Salinas.

Also bless Monsignor Rafael de la Barra Tagle, successor of Bishop Pablo Lizama as Prelate Bishop of Illapel, who with great affection not only incardinated me to the Prelature but encouraged me to continue, celebrating the inauguration Mass and blessing the sanctuary of the Dama Blanca de la Paz (White Lady of Peace) in Los Vilos. Thank you Lord.

It is for me difficult to narrate these intimate things. I have done so for the greater clarity of future investigations and the clarity of the true facts of Peñablanca.

8. APPARITIONS OF 1985

In January 1985 there were 6 public apparitions and 4 private ones. Of the private ones the most notable occurred in the home of the Aravena Elliott family.

On Tuesday, January 8th St. Michael the Archangel appeared bringing 7 hosts. Alvaro Barros was present and as Eucharist Minister had to distribute them, after having prayed and recited the Holy Rosary.

The next day, Wednesday, January 9th, the Blessed Virgin appeared in the home of this privileged family. They have become so accustomed to these supernatural happenings that they are no longer surprised. Their house is truly a sanctuary.

On Saturday, January 12th, Miguel Ángel was preparing to depart for Peñablanca with his guardians. He was talking on the phone when suddenly a voice interrupted telling him not to go to the Hill. It scared him. Just then an image of the Blessed Virgin of Mount Carmel shed tears and the Virgin told him to go.

According to Lucy Elliot Miguel Ángel had been acting strange all day. He did not want to pray the Rosary during the trip. On the Hill he became angrier still and even scolded her. Noticing she was sad I approached to console her and she told what had happened. Miguel Ángel refused to return with them to Santiago. We all went to the house of Verónica Cancino. Besides Jorge and Lucy also present were Alejandro Cifuentes, Cecilia Hurtado, Pablo Errázuriz and Mauricio Tocornal.

We had no idea where Miguel Ángel had gone and we were all worried and saddened by his strange behavior. Suddenly the phone rang; it was Miguel Ángel calling from Oscar's house. He called, kept silent and hung up. I proposed that we recite a Rosary for Miguel Ángel. When we reached the second Mystery Miguel Ángel called again. I went to the phone and told him to talk to Lucy. She took the phone and Miguel Ángel apologized. We finished the Rosary in thanksgiving. Mauricio commented that he had experienced the power of prayer.

ANOTHER EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE

On January 16th I conducted a Marian Cenacle at the home of Mrs. Eliana Rozas de Zenteno. We had just finished the consecration to the Blessed Virgin and were sitting down to tea when Wanda Bustamante unexpectedly arrived to inform us that there was to be an apparition in Peñablanca at ten that night. An Angel had appeared to Miguel Ángel in the house of Carmen Aldunate and had told him to go to Peñablanca at ten that night. Carmen informed Wanda and she in turn informed us.

By inspiration I said I would accompany her. We immediately departed for Peñablanca with Mrs. Sarita Bolleli and Mrs. Isabel Gutiérrez de Simón. We took the bus to Viña del Mar and then a taxi to the Hill to arrive on time. The chapel was closed and we began to pray the Rosary outside. We did not notice when Miguel Ángel arrived. He had already fallen into ecstasy outside the garden.

St. Miguel the Archangel came and told us that even though we had not obeyed everything, our eyes would behold a great miracle.

Miguel Ángel entered the garden followed by Oscar and a nun. After a few moments of prayer we saw a small light hover over the second step of the grotto and five Hosts appeared suspended, almost touching it. Then another five, and then five more radiant white Hosts. Miguel Ángel in ecstasy, as ordered by St. Michael the Archangel, requested that I divide the Host and give one half to him and the other half to Oscar. I put on my portable stole that I always carry with me and explained to those present that 15 Hosts had arrived from Heaven, from Coimbra (Portugal) brought by St. Michael the Archangel. I gave the blessing and with a trembling hand lifted a Host and said: "This is the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world. Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof; but only say the word and my soul shall be healed". I proceeded to divide the Blessed Host and gave one half to Miguel Ángel and the other half to Oscar. I asked Our Lord if I could receive Holy Communion myself, and warned Miguel Ángel. I received Holy Communion with much fervor. Sister Rosa also received Holy Communion. After a few moments I remembered that the Blessed Virgin had prophesied that St. Miguel the Archangel would be bringing Holy Communion from Fatima or Lourdes and that the same Archangel would renew them every week. This prophecy was now fulfilled because the Tabernacle had been empty and the ciborium had been awaiting its Divine Guest.

Through Miguel Ángel I asked St. Michael the Archangel what I should do with the remaining Hosts, if I should deposit them inside the Ciborium in the Sacramentarium the keys of which I held. He replied that I should take them to the Chapel and deposit them in the Ciborium. Then with great emotion and deep respect I took the remaining twelve Hosts and made my way to the Chapel. Behind me, in ecstasy was Miguel Ángel,

always looking up at the sky, giving way to the Lord Whom I carried in my hands. Upon entering the Chapel it lit up and I made my way to the altar.

I opened the Tabernacle with my right hand, holding the Blessed Hosts with my left. I extracted the Ciborium with care and deposited the Blessed Hosts in it. Then I knelt before the open Tabernacle.

The Blessed Virgin also appeared and a few moments later the dialogue with the seer continued.

We remained in adoration worshiping for half an hour. Through Miguel Angel She told me to divide the Hosts in four parts and to distribute them amongst those present who were in a state of grace. Excited but with a firm voice I informed them that those who were in God's grace could approach in an orderly and respectful manner to receive Holy Communion. They approached in groups of three and I distributed Holy Communion but curiously, and without realizing it, I skipped several persons. I gave to some, and to others I did not. I even distributed to persons that were standing in the back of the Chapel. I did not see the persons I distributed Communion to and for this reason several persons were left without receiving the Holy Eucharist. It was something I had never done before. Later Miguel Angel told me that it was St. Michael the Archangel who was guiding my hands. At the end those persons I had skipped approached me and requested I confess them. Some had not done their First Holy Communion.

I kept one Host in the ciborium and turned on the light of the Blessed Sacrament. It was the first time that it had been turned on to testify that Jesus was present. We worshiped for one hour until after 11:00 p.m. This great miracle was deeply engraved in our poor grateful hearts.

On January 18th Miguel Angel was beaten and mocked. He left himself be beaten, offering it to God as an act of reparation. It was heroic on his part. He later recounted the event to me in detail.

At the request of the Blessed Virgin Mary everything from the former site where the former gate had stood was removed for relocation. Even the blessed olive tree was uprooted and replanted where it now stands. Some did not understand this change because they had not been present on that occasion, and so they indignantly, verbally harassed and beat Miguel Angel.

On Sunday, January 20th, the image of the Virgin in the garden wept and Miguel Ángel put the tears in a glass tube. Upon seeing this miracle a young Evangelical lad was so moved that he converted to Catholicism.

On Wednesday, January 23rd, in an unannounced apparition, thousands of Angels came. We were given the names of the seven Archangels who stand next to the throne of God. Apart from those already known: Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, the other

names are: Glosiel, Rogiel, Uriel and Triguel. The names of the Guardian Angels of various people were also disclosed .

On Thursday, January 24th I was in the Chapel on the Hill praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament. It was around nine o'clock in the evening. The Chapel was full and we did not know the time of the apparition. Miguel Ángel arrived in a happy frame of mind, tapped me on the shoulder and said "Hello". We had a brief conversation and then he fell into ecstasy. His knees hitting the ground with a loud thud. In ecstasy he said: *"To date you have seen the wounds of the head and the hands. Now you will see the one on the..."*. And turning to me said: "Lifts the shirt". I raised his blue shirt but there was nothing there. Suddenly, like something being engraved, a scratch of about four to five centimeters began to form on the right side and a thread of blood began to flow. Then he said: "Pry open the wound with all your strength". I did so because the request came from either Our Lord or the Blessed Virgin. Convinced that I was receiving an order from Heaven I tried my hardest to open the wound with both my hands. Then he said: "Show it to the people". Blood and a little water came out. I explained aloud to those present what I was doing and that it was the wound on the side. He left the premises and everyone was able to see him; some even took very impressive photographs. He had the wound for about one hour. Outside he again suffered the Crowning with Thorns. It seems that the Lord or the Blessed Virgin asked him for something hard to bear, and half crying he exclaimed: "I am a mortal. Yes, I accept. I accept everything you send me". Apparently at first he had felt afraid and had wanted to defend himself from some sort of suffering and that is why he had said: "I am a mortal".

Just like Christ in the Garden of Olives: "Let not my will be done, but yours. I accept everything you send me".

When he arrived back in the Chapel he asked me to open the Tabernacle and give him and Oscar the Host reserved for worship. Just the same I left a particle so that the Blessed Sacrament would be present. He told us that tomorrow new Hosts would be brought from Lourdes.

While he was outside with the Crown of Thorns the Blessed Virgin had handed him the Infant Jesus. *"A great test will come and then will be seen those who believe and those who do not"*. The wound closed. The miracle would be repeated next day, Friday 25th. He asked me to inform Dr. Alan Rojas so that he could bring other doctors to examine this phenomenon.

On Sunday, January 27th, he again bled from the head and side. This time he sang in a language similar to Japanese. He made several reverences in Japanese style, bowing from the waist. Apparently in Japan at the same time the Apparition of the Virgin in Akita was being approved.

A group of ladies from the Legion of Mary, members of the "Our Lady of Masabielle" prayer group and parishioners of the Church of the Transfiguration, were preparing to

travel to the city of Puerto Montt on a mission. Miguel Ángel in ecstasy said: "Go forth, set forth on your mission ". They were radiant with happiness.

The last apparition of January was on the 29th at eight in the evening. People obediently left the Chapel and the doors were shut. Through the seer the Blessed Virgin requested that I bless the candles and religious objects and that the Lord would send rays and blessings from Heaven. In ecstasy the seer said that the second coming of Christ was very close at hand. The Virgin again repeated that nowhere had She been so badly received by the religious authorities as in Chile. She requested that Sánchez Ventura come to Chile and spoke sadly of Mari Cruz, the seer of Garabandal who had denied Her.

APPARITIONS OF FEBRUARY 1985

On Saturday 2nd the Blessed Virgin appeared at five in the afternoon. Previously there had been a penitential procesión with La Tirana dances that had started at one in the afternoon. A Mystery of the Holy Rosary was recited and then a dance was performed for a few minutes. It was impressive to see the faith of the people and their spirit of sacrifice.

People from all walks of life, wearing typical costumes, cheerfully obeying the wishes of the Holy Mother.

Upon entering the Chapel Miguel Ángel fell into ecstasy. He took hold of seven candles and asked me for the one I was holding. As it was windy the candles went out. Then one lit itself. He said that Monsignor Piñera was asking for a miracle, and that the Virgin Mary would appear in Moscow.

It seems that in the crowd there was a priest incognito who mentally requested a definition from the Blessed Virgin. And the Virgin, exclaimed: *"I am the Full of Grace. I am the Mother of the Word and the Mother of the Church"*.

She also spoke of the agonizing Church.

I had the pleasure of meeting with Father Osvaldo Lira who had come with Fernando Hurtado. We gave each other a big hug in the Chapel. That day there were many confessions.

Another apparition took place on Sunday, February 3rd, at ten in the evening. Miguel Ángel was very happy because the Blessed Virgin Mary had told him that he was going to learn theology. Our Mother taught him the difference between the Militant Church, the Triumphant Church and the Purging Church. He also said a sentence in Greek. I remember he said: *"I am the Theotokos"*. Our Lady requested that Francisco Sanchez Ventura, the great Spanish Catholic Professor and Director of the magazine "María

Mensajera" come to Chile. As on previous occasions She repeated that the coming of Christ was very close at hand and that whomever said that this event was long in coming was in error. This filled me with joy. She made me bless Alvaro Barros' book: ¿Qué quieres Mamá?" ("What do you want Mother? ")

She once again repeated that nowhere has Her reception been worse than in Chile. How that phrase from the Virgin Mary saddens us. It makes us want to weep, to make reparation, to do something so that Our Lady is happy with us. One feels so impotent, a mere nothing. Dear Mother forgive us for our indifference and our lack of love for you.

On Monday, February 11th, feast of our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady appeared at a quarter to nine in the evening. I had been confessing from 11:30 in the morning. Again She said that Chile had ill received the Blessed Virgin, both the people of Chile as well as the religious authorities. And that in Russia She would be well received by the people and ill received by the authorities. Sadly She addressed Chile as Christ had addressed Jerusalem: "*Chile you have not wanted to recognize Your Mother who has come to visit you*".

Such great pain to feel that sweet reproach from the best of mothers. And we have the audacity to think that we love the Blessed Virgin so much.

She smiled when I presented Alvaro Barros' book to Her: "Yo soy el Corazón Inmaculado de la Encarnación del Hijo de Dios ("I am the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God").

Tuesday, February 12th. Miguel Ángel assisted me in the private Mass that I celebrated in the Oratory at the home of Mrs. Dina Bacigalupo where I was residing. Gary Salas made his First Holy Communion.

When the Mass ended and I was preparing to go to my bedroom to take off my sacred ornaments, Miguel Ángel fell into ecstasy: St. Michael the Archangel came and explained the meaning of the altarpiece of the "Ark of the Covenant".

The ecstasy lasted about ten to fifteen minutes. (In a private apparition the Virgin had asked Miguel Ángel to make an altarpiece in the form of a triangle with an image of Mary and underneath Her some symbols of the Mass, such as a small chalice, a crown of thorns and three nails, plus bread. The American artist and great devotee of the Virgin, Don Allen, manufactured one of which several replicas were made).

We were all very much moved by this visit from St. Michael the Archangel, an extra gift after Holy Mass that he had also wanted to attend.

Later, in an apparition at 5:30 in the afternoon, the Blessed Virgin asked me to explain to the people in the atrium of the Chapel what St. Michael the Archangel had said to us during the private apparition. Aldo was present. He had managed to elude his parents

who had forbidden him to attend the apparitions. He was raised and the crucifix was presented to him to kiss.

The next day, Wednesday, February 13th, the Blessed Virgin appeared at nine o'clock in the evening. Miguel Ángel and Aldo fell into ecstasy near the grotto of Lourdes. In ecstasy both happily conversed and appeared radiant. Thank you Lord for so many favors and benefits. It was an afternoon full of joy. The people behaved very well, and obeyed us.

Thursday, February 14th, 08:00 a.m. Miguel Ángel was an hour and fifteen minutes late for the apparition. In ecstasy he informed me that at the request of the Blessed Virgin I was to bless a book that She later kissed and which I was to distribute in small pieces. Then the Blessed Virgin requested that the Tabernacle be opened as it contained Hosts brought by the Angels from Fatima and Lourdes, which were to be distributed on the 20th of February. As I have narrated previously during the apparition of January 16th when the Eucharistic Miracle took place, 15 consecrated Hosts had appeared before our very eyes brought by St. Michael the Archangel from Fatima. I left a Host in the Tabernacle and then turned on the lamp of the Holy of Holies indicating the real presence of Our Lord. At the time Miguel Ángel had told me that the Archangel would be bringing more consecrated Hosts either from Fatima or from Lourdes.

This was such an immense Miracle that I do not have words to express myself better, I can only thank Our Lord from the bottom of our heart for so many wonders and to ask for an increase of faith, humility and gratitude for His many manifestations of love to us poor creatures.

Immediately afterwards he asked that at 8 o'clock on the night of February the 20th people come dressed in white. I was at his side when he fell in ecstasy outside the Chapel, and the stigmata of the Crown of Thorns began to appear. Quite a lot of blood flowed from one of the main thorns. Many people testified aloud, beginning with Corali.

Photograph of the stigmata in the head of the seer. Several doctors and a dermatologist examined the wounds. The wounds appeared and moments later closed completely until they disappeared altogether. The wounds formed a "helmet of pinpoint wounds" in the head of the seer, just like they appear in the Shroud of Turin.

There were two apparitions on Ash Wednesday, one at noon and the other at five in the afternoon. Minutes before the apparition at noon, I confessed Miguel Ángel who was wearing a white tunic.

In the afternoon he made me place an empty chalice next to the ciborium. It had been announced that Holy Communion would be distributed and people became very nervous. Because the crowd was huge and the place so narrow there was some commotion. Addressing me through Miguel Angel the Blessed Virgin said: *"It will depend on my favorite son if Holy Communion is distributed or not"*. I hesitated a moment and noticed a bit of understandable disorder and thought of distributing Holy Communion. Then I thought I would only distribute it to the chosen children, that is to say, to Oscar, Javiera, Corali and Miguel Ángel. But the Blessed Virgin said that out of respect for the Blessed Eucharist She would prefer it be distributed another day, when things were more orderly and persons were better prepared. It was a very exciting day and the Blessed Virgin Mary once again asked for my opinion on these decisions. I did not know what else to say except to ask for forgiveness and to thank the Blessed Virgin. How sweet You are my Mother. How much you love us. Grant that we may be faithful to our death. Thank you Mother of mine.

The last apparition of February 1985 was on Thursday the 21st at 11:30 a.m. People behaved very well and were orderly, thanks especially to Lorenzo who requested order and had a group of men to help him.

Miguel Ángel in ecstasy blessed the crucifix of the child Enrique Rojas Sánchez, son of Enrique Rojas Zegers, who following an impulse was now living in Peñablanca to be a Missionary of the Virgin. The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared as Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Miguel Ángel accompanied by the crowd sang: "Virgen del Carmen Bella". He lifted Javiera for the Virgin to kiss as he had done on so many occasions. Going to the image of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, from whose hands hung a beautiful scapular made by Mrs. María Goycoolea Hurtado, mother of Cecilia. After the scapular received multiple blessing, Miguel Ángel took hold of it and handed it to me to take to the Fathers of the Transfiguration.

I kept the previous one as one of many personal gifts that the Blessed Virgin has made to this poor sinner that I am.

On that occasion Miguel Angel once again admonish Alberto Avendaño because it seems that he did not pray when he spoke on the radio and exaggerated or distorted things. He told him that the Devil had gotten the upper hand because he had failed to invoke the Holy Spirit or St. Michael the Archangel. For first one had always to invoke the Holy Spirit, St. Michael the Archangel and say an Our father, a Hail Mary and a Glory Be.

He had a beautiful conversation with the Blessed Virgin, who told him that She would soon take Javiera, Aldo and Corali to Heaven. And that She would also soon take Miguel Ángel, Oscar and myself. A great Miracle would also take place, but before that the earthquake.

These were the apparitions of February. On 27 February, Miguel Ángel Jorge, Lucy and Carlos Aravena left for Mendoza accompanied by Patricio Silva Riesco, his son, and Sandra Vera.

He did not attend the farewell Mass I celebrated nor did he come to Confession because he wanted to do some shopping. I was very worried about this attitude and for his little appreciation of Holy Mass.

APPARITIONS OF MARCH 1985

There were more than 20 apparitions in March. Miguel Angel was not present on March 1st because he was in Mendoza, Argentina. It is the reason I have called it “the apparition of faith”. It lasted from one to two in the afternoon. Oscar, Javiera, Corali and I were inside the Chapel as Miguel Ángel had said that the Blessed Virgin would come on the 1st of March. Many of us thought that the Virgin would appear to Javiera or to one of the chosen children, but She did not. Oscar and I entered the Chapel at ten to one. Before that I heard Confessions for about an hour.

Corali entered the Chapel followed by Javiera who was late. Aldo did not come probably because his parents disapprove of the apparition. We remained in the Chapel for an hour and recited two Rosaries and did an act of reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Then we left. The next day was the First Friday of the Month and the Cenacles of the Marian Movement of Priests would begin at the Church of the Visitación as Fr. Joaquín Larraín Errázuriz had very diplomatically banned me from holding it at the Church of Santa Ana, although he himself belonged to the Marian Movement of Priests. Most likely the order came from a higher authority. The Cenacle of the Marian Movement of Priests was as always very well attended, very simple and fervent.

On Saturday, March 2nd the Blessed Virgin appeared to Miguel Ángel in Mendoza. The priests and doctors who were present confirmed the stigmas of his head.

THE EARTHQUAKE OF MARCH 3RD, 1985

I recall that I was writing in the apartment of Mrs. Mónica Díaz de Finat where I resided. Earlier that day I had been discussing the earthquake with her son Roberto Finat and a friend whose surname was Correa. It was twenty to eight in the evening when the first tremor hit. When the second tremor came I left for the park, crucifix

and Rosary in hand because it seemed that everything was coming down, the shouts and the noise of breaking glass was overpowering.

We prayed. We could hardly stand on our feet. It seemed that it would never end. I made the sign of the cross with the Crucifix several times and we recited the Apostles' Creed and then the Rosary. The aftershocks continued every few minutes. The prophecy of the earthquake was fulfilled. The worst region to be hit was the Fifth, especially the cities of Valparaíso, Viña del Mar and San Antonio. It was as if Earth protested vigorously because Our Mother had been silenced and many souls had been prevented from receiving aid from Heaven.

It was a tremendous judgment from God for making fun of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of Christian signs such as the Ichthus. It was also an ecclesiastical earthquake. The great Basilica of El Salvador, where Our Lady of Mount Carmel the crowned Patroness of Chile is venerated, was almost entirely raised to the ground. The imposing concrete dome of the Votive Temple of Maidu, our national pride, crumbled. It should be noted that inside the Temple there was a sign that read: "Objects sold in Peñablanca will not be blessed". Unfortunately several priests had mocked the Ichthus.

In no country have I been so badly received by religious authorities as in Chile, Our Blessed Mother had said several times. Many churches fell to the ground a clear symbol of an inner earthquake and interior deterioration. God willing that this earthquake, that was merely a warning, has been truly considered as such by all the priests that mocked Peñablanca. Lord, forgive them for they know not what they do. For it would be horrible if they knowingly had done what they had done, as it is a sin against the Holy Spirit, for which there is no forgiveness.

OTHER APPARITIONS OF MARCH 1985

Monday, March 4th. There was another apparition of the Virgin to Miguel Ángel in Mendoza. On Tuesday 5th he arrived back in Santiago. I conducted two Cenacles in private houses, one on the 5th at the home of María Teresa de la Barra and the other at the home of Mercedes Undurraga de Zenteno.

Saturday, March 9th. There was another apparition at noon. Before the apparition I heard the confession of both Miguel Angel and Aldo. With his hand Miguel Angel gestured that there would be another earthquake and a tsunami. Nothing would happen to those who had the Ichthus with faith as nothing had happened to those who with faith had had the ichthus during the previous earthquake.

With great pleasure I met my brother Sergio and his family on the Hill. They invited me to lunch. Miguel Ángel was also invited. He told me to remain in Quilpue as I had planned to return to Santiago with my family.

Sunday, March 10th. The apparition was at 6 in the afternoon. (He) told me to bless the candles, that by next Friday the statue of our Lady of Fatima had to be in place, and that the underground altar of the Chapel had to be ready soon. As on several previous occasions a candle that was not lit suddenly lit itself. (He) pointed out that the blessed candles would serve for the three days of darkness and that only those candles would shed light.

After the apparition Miguel Ángel confided to me that the Virgin Mary had told him that I was to be patient because a benevolent Bishop who believe in the apparitions would welcome me and that I would be allowed to attend the apparitions at Peñablanca. It was a birthday present.

Tuesday, March 12th. We were late for the apparition because the hour was changed. I only managed to bless various candles. He announced that something terrible would happen to the Church, for it would divide. He also announced that there would be another earthquake.

St. Michael the Archangel took the Blessed Sacrament to another place. Motivated by doubt and curiosity a terrible sacrilege had taken place. On the pretext of arranging the Chapel and the Tabernacle someone opened it to make sure the Hosts brought by St. Michael the Archangel from Lourdes and Fatima were there. Several persons doubted this miracle and therefore a person who at the beginning showed great devotion, forced the lock of the Tabernacle to see if the Sacred Hosts were there. Apparently he saw them and then they disappeared. St. Michael the Archangel had said that no one except the priest could open the Tabernacle. As was logical I zealously kept the keys in my possession.

Prudently the Blessed Virgin did not reveal the name of that person whom many of us knew and trusted. But the devil, as in the case of Eve, entered by means of doubt and curiosity. Fernando, one of several caretakers of the sanctuary assured me that he had seen the person take out the Ciborium and open it. I went to talk to that person who flatly denied it, and gave me a different explanation. The Blessed Virgin told Miguel Ángel to make a new Tabernacle. Thank God it was made. It is the current one. It is a replica of the Ark of the Covenant made by Carlos Voigt, a converted artist of Jewish descent. Only I hold the keys.

The Virgin requested that we do not divulge the name of the defiler because everyone would have beaten him.

Wednesday, March 13th. At 7 o'clock the Virgin sent me check the Tabernacle to make sure of the previous desecration because I had unplugged the lamp of the Holy of Holies. I did as I was told by my Mother and saw the remains of some particles there so I turned on the light of the Holy of Holies, as our Lord was still present.

Miguel Ángel had a beautiful dialogue with Our Lord, like the one that the Prophet or Patriarch Abraham had with God when he asked for the salvation of Sodom and Gomorrah, reducing the number of faithful. Miguel Ángel began with 10 thousand persons praying the Rosary with devotion so the earthquake would not occur and ended with two. I thought to myself, how is it possible that there are no two persons to pray the Rosary with devotion? And it turned out that those two persons were two Evangelical converts.

Thursday, March 14th. The apparition was at five in the afternoon. As soon as Miguel Ángel fell into ecstasy the Blessed Virgin commanded that I consume the particles remaining in the ciborium. I did so then asked for pure water to purify it with the corporal. I did this with all due respect, fear and love. It is always such happiness to be under the orders of my Mother and to be sent by Her to carry out all these Divine tasks. How will I be able to pay Her for so many gifts? Only by devoting my life to carrying out Her will.

Friday, March 15th the apparition was at three in the afternoon. I blessed candles and religious objects. After the apparition Miguel Ángel took me to the basement of the Chapel and in secret told me that the Archbishop Bishop of Valparaíso would be taken ill, that he would not die, and that he would issue an even stricter decree.

It was also the wish of the Blessed Virgin that Miguel Ángel be Confirmed. This made us very happy. I was to prepare him for his Confirmation. This happened on the 20th October, as I narrate further on.

Saturday, March 16th. The apparition took place at 8 in the morning. These early morning apparitions were so beautiful. The freshness of the environment, the clean air and the devotion and cheerfull sacrifice of the pilgrims further embellished this most holy place.

The Blessed Virgin talked about those countries that greatly offend Her and Our Lord and that Her image was to be taken on a pilgrimage for them.

She made me kiss the beautiful cross that Pedro Domínguez Vial had brought that belonged to his father.

(He) stated that for a month we were to bring a sheet blessed by the Blessed Virgin, that it was to be cut into small pieces that would serve as healing cloths, and that Oscar Pérez was to bring another sheet.

The beautiful cement image of the Virgin of Fatima was placed that day.

The Blessed Virgin asked me to consecrate Russia to the Immaculate Heart once again. I invited those who attended the 10 o'clock Mass in the Church of the Transfiguration and repeated the consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Sunday, March 17th, 1985. There were two apparitions of the Blessed Virgin. One was at 3 in the afternoon and the other at seven.

Through Miguel Angel She said: "*Prepare for a great earthquake*".

She said this both at three and at seven. Later we questioned him about some phrases that were the password for the great earthquake. But we understood nothing of the explanation given by Miguel Ángel. He said starting from three days. And then, 8, 9, or 10 days (She) will give the last warning. (She) made us several promises, which, thank God, were recorded and published in the book "El Montecarmelo de Chile – Peñablanca" (The Chilean Mount Carmel - Peñablanca). Among other things She asked if we wanted to be true missionaries and if we were willing to lay down our life for Her. If we would defend the dogma of the perpetual virginity of Mary. As always there were blessings and many confessions.

Wednesday, 20th of March. The apparition was at 8 in the evening. Miguel Ángel bled profusely from the head. Two priests from Illapel were present and gave testimony. Fathers Juan Carlos Rebolledo and Freddy Ahumada, and a seminarian and former spiritual son, Héctor Jofré.

Miguel Ángel collapsed in my arms. I imagined it was Christ taking shelter in the arms of a younger brother.

Friday, 22nd March. There was another apparition at 7 p.m. After blessing the religious objects the Blessed Virgin slowly narrated the Passion in beautiful and impressive detail that the Gospels do not include. I remember a few. How the soldiers placed stones in the path of Jesus so that He would stumble and fall. That Jesus fell flat on His face and broke His nose. That when they stripped Him of His garments the Blessed Virgin took off Her veil and He modestly placed it around His waist. Also that He smiled sweetly at the executioners, and said: "*Forgive them, for they know not what they do*". He suffered greatly with shortness of breath. They nailed His wrists. Taking hold of His beard with fury they plucked out a good chunk of it. We were all greatly impressed with this narrative.

Saturday, March 23rd. The apparition took place at five in the afternoon. Everyone was dressed in white and holding a crucifix. (She) asked that the Blessed Sacrament be worshiped for an hour every Friday of the year. We had to pray much and do penance and sacrifice. Oscar Aldo and Corali were present. Only Javiera was missing.

There was a procession of reparation from the foot of the Hill with the image of the Sacred Heart.

While I was hearing Confession in a corner of the sanctuary, in the firmament I saw stars forming a crown with seven luminous points. I thanked the Lord. I was very happy with what I saw.

I returned (to Santiago) with Eliana Lambert Valdés and some young Austrians who had been to Medjugorje.

Monday, March 25th. The apparition was at seven in the afternoon. Miguel Ángel was very happy. The Blessed Virgin gave a beautiful message of love and consolation for those of Her favorite children who were present; Bishop Romilio Carreño, who kindly helped me to hear Confessions and Father Freddy Ahumada from the Prelature of Illapel.

The Virgin said to us: *"My little children, be not afraid and always take refuge in my Immaculate Heart." Visit the Blessed Sacrament and pray many Rosaries for the Pope*".

Tuesday, March 26th. The apparition was at seven in the evening. The Blessed Virgin asked for three images of Our Lady of Fatima. She had the religious objects raised after a priest had blessed them.

On Thursday, March 28 the apparition was calm and quiet.

Friday, March 29th. St. Michael the Archangel appeared at 7 p.m., and for an hour narrated the Passion of Our Lord. This was the last apparition of March.

APPARITIONS IN APRIL 1985

There were 24 apparitions in April. On April 1st, without prior notice there was an unexpected apparition at nine fifteen in the evening. For this reason I traveled to

Santiago. Not even Miguel Ángel knew, as was the case on many occasions, in what I would call particular apparitions.

The new well from which water would sprout was opened on Tuesday, April 2nd. I could not attend the apparition of that day nor could any other member of the Fundacion Monte Carmelo (Mount Carmel Foundation), because Jorge Aravena and Lucy Elliott were celebrating their Silver Wedding Anniversary and I had promised to celebrate a Mass at their house, where so many supernatural manifestations had taken place.

Wednesday, April 3rd. At seven o'clock in the evening there was an apparition that left us unforgettable memories. Miguel Ángel said we were not to record on this occasion because some recordings were being falsified.

The Child Jesus appeared and Oscar was asked to sing a song. (She) then asked us to lift our hands and that She would fill them with blessings. Mentally I told the Child Jesus that I gave myself entirely to Him. The Child Jesus heard me and with a smile on His face gave me a crucifix to kiss, then softly, through Miguel Angel said to me: *"I give you this kiss with all the love in My heart"*. Tears of emotion, joy and gratitude flowed from my eyes.

After the ecstasy Miguel Ángel told me and the other visionary children that the Blessed Virgin wanted me to be spiritual director to Oscar Pérez, Aldo, Javiera and Corali, just like I was his. What a blessing and what a sweet responsibility handed to me by the Blessed Virgin. What could I do but thank Our Lady. That I should be a docile instrument capable of directing these children who were privileged by God.

Thursday, April 4th. The apparition took place at 6 in the afternoon. That day Oscar assisted me at Mass, and we had a long spiritual conversation.

Like on other occasions Miguel Ángel was half an hour late for the apparition, and the Blessed Virgin with Her infinite patience waited for him. The apparition was short.

Friday, April 5th. The apparition took place at eleven in the morning. It began in the garden of the Virgin and ended inside the Chapel. Prior the apparition I had a chat with Miguel Angel and presented my petitions to the Blessed Virgin. She told me to read the letter and to do as She said, that She would help me. Several buses had come from La Serena and I heard Confessions almost the entire day.

The mysterious seagulls appeared in the sky with their usual dances.

Saturday, April 6th. The apparition was early, at seven in the morning. Miguel Ángel did not attend because he was sick. However, the Blessed Virgin was with us and we prayed in the garden until 9 a.m. Then I began to hear the Confession of the pilgrims until about 1 pm.

When we descended the hill we met Miguel Angel and took him to the Church of the Transfiguration.

On Sunday 7th without prior warning there was an apparition at 10 p.m. Very few people attended. Miguel Angel had all those present enter the garden and kiss the place where the Blessed Virgin had placed Her feet. Because the apparition was so sudden I was unable to attend.

On Monday, April 8th, there was an Apparition at 9 in the evening. The seer suffered the Crowning of Thorns, and also the weight of the Cross. He fell several times. Our Lord spoke through Miguel Ángel with His deep voice and a slight Spanish accent. Our Lord said: *"Endure the cross and be glad of my second coming that is very near at hand"*. I had heard Miguel Ángel's confession prior to the apparition.

After this Miguel Ángel gave us several fairly mixed-up messages, as he did once in a while. We were inside the garden when it began to shake strongly. I thought it was the earthquake and despite being a little frightened, as was expected, I thought that it would be wonderful to pass the earthquake on the Hill. But then it stopped. The crowd did not move from their places. It was 8 minutes to 10 o'clock at night.

Lucy Elliott told me that he had an audience with the Archbishop, the Bishop of Valparaíso, that is, that an audience had been requested.

On Tuesday, April 9th, the apparition took place at 8 o'clock. The Virgin said that we were not to be frightened by the forthcoming earthquake. She asked me to bless a Crown of Thorns and then She blessed it. She made us kiss a rose.

On Friday, April 12th, the Apparition was at 7 in the evening. Miguel Ángel arrived an hour late because he was in Santiago. The child Francisco Marto of Fatima appeared.

The Blessed Virgin sent rays of light to the olive tree where She used to stand. The Virgin was sad. She said the Ichthus was not to be kept as an amulet but with faith.

On Saturday, April 13th the Blessed Virgin appeared at 7 in the afternoon. She told us that the great miracle, like in Fatima, was going to be less intense because of the unbelief and wickedness of the people. Likewise, there would be no 3 days prior warning for the earthquake and only the five chosen children, including Miguel Ángel and I, would know about it.

Sunday, April 14th. The Blessed Virgin appeared at 7 p.m. I had been hearing confessions in the Chapel prior to the apparition. After blessing the objects, we were made to kiss the medal. (She) spoke of some particular matters. After the apparition I met with the chosen children, except for Aldo who did not come.

Monday, April 15th. The apparition was at 6 p.m., but the time was not made known in advance. It took place near the Grotto of Lourdes. The Virgin came as Our Lady of Revelations wearing a green cloak.

I heard Confessions and then I left with Mrs. Carmen de Mackay the wife of Admiral Mackay, who had recently returned to Chile from Germany. Both of them fervent Catholics who very charitably offered me an apartment in Viña del Mar for me to go live with them. Lord please bless this very good family. Those who receive a priest, receive Our Lord Himself.

Tuesday, April 16th. The apparition was at 7:50 p.m. No date had been given. We waited for about 2 hours. At the end of the First Dolorous Mystery of the Rosary Miguel Ángel fell into ecstasy. The Blessed Virgin said that a great Miracle would take place on Thursday 18th of April. Still in ecstasy Miguel Angel requested that I bless him, Oscar, Corali and then all those present. He mentioned the television interview to Cardinal Fresno who had expressed disdain about the little fishes or Ichthus.

Wednesday April 17th, 1985. No time had been set. He continued talking of the Ichthus and its misinterpretation. The Blessed Virgin said a very interesting phrase: "*In the face of what is happening, resist, but obey. You have free will. You must decide in your own hearts the road to follow*". Immediately afterwards he spoke with our Our Lord, for tomorrow a great miracle would take place, one never seen in Peñablanca, but seen in Assisi.

Thursday, April 18th at 9 p.m. I arrived an hour and a half early to be able to hear confessions. Father Salinas, Parish Priest of Los Vilos and a great friend accompanied me. Deep stigmas appeared on the head of the seer; also on his feet and pain in his hands as if from invisible stigmata. There were many people, television and journalists present. He spoke very heartfelt things. Later Miguel Ángel, Oscar and I went to the basement under the Chapel. The apparition lasted about two hours. Two nuns were present.

Friday, April 19th at 7 p.m. The seer received Holy Communion mystically. He told a parable: "Parable of the two cart drivers. You, yourselves choose the road. To reach a meadow behold there are two roads: one is marshy and the other dry. A man comes with his oxen and his cart, and choosing, chooses the marshy road because it is shorter; just 60 kilometers long while the dry and dusty one is 200 kilometers. Another man comes behind with a cart and horses, and not aware of the signs indicating the way takes the dusty road. The first, already half way down the road is trapped in the sandy and marshy mud, not able to move the cart either forward or backwards. The second travelled light; very tired, much dust. Three, four days go by and the one in the marsh continues his way on foot. The other however had already arrived safely. He who has ears let him listen".

That day among the public was Jorge Castro de la Barra, a famous journalist, who through his radio transmissions on Radio 100, chronicled with great enthusiasm the

events in Peñablanca, attracting many devotees to the Hill. Some time later, when Father Jaime Fernández Montero denied the supernatural origin of the apparitions, Mr. Castro suffered a change of heart and began to attack what he had formerly defended. Time passed, he fell into hard times and left the Radio. Repenting of what had done he went to work in another Radio and continued with his transmissions. As an act of reparation and because of his great love for the Blessed Virgin he indicated to me that he was placing everything in the hands of Our Lady.

Sunday, April 21st. The apparition was at 5 p.m. We did not leave the sacred precinct or garden of the Virgin. The seer asked me for my Rosary, left the garden, returned and presented the Cross Rosary for me to kiss. Oscar arrived late and brought two children for me to bless.

Monday, April 22nd at 7 p.m. In ecstasy Miguel Ángel spoke of the existence of the Devil and about other things in particular. After the apparition I went to the Chapel with Oscar and Miguel Ángel who told us that the Virgin wanted us to go to the United States to clear up the matter of the pseudo apparitions at Bayside in New York, and then to Rome, to speak to the Pope.

On Thursday, April 25th there was an apparition at 2 a.m. Present also were Fathers Salinas and Salvador Laterra and the three of us heard confessions for about five hours. Then at 7 a.m. another apparition took place. The Holy Family came. There was also a vision of Hell, and a beautiful prayer from Miguel Ángel.

On Friday, April 26th at 10 p.m. St. Michael the Archangel announced another apparition for the following day.

Saturday, April 27th. I could not attend because I celebrated the marriage of María Pía Oblitas to Luis Roberto Delgado in Rancagua.

Sunday, April 28th, 7 p.m. I travelled from Santiago with Mauricio Tocornal and arrived a bit late. Miguel Angel who was already in ecstasy when I entered the garden asked me to bless the religious objects, then he asked me for my crucifix, the one the Blessed Virgin had kissed, and presented it to Raúl Providel, to Sister Rosa and to Javiera for them to kiss. After the apparition Miguel Angel told me that with Oscar we had to be in the United States by July 15 to talk to Conchita of Garabandal and Joe Lomangino who was blind. He repeated that the earthquake would occur on a Thursday, at three in the morning. A light would be seen on Mount Carmel and that he and Oscar would be arrested. The perfume of roses filled the air.

(Conchita of Garabandal was the principal visionary of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in the village of Garabandal, in the Province of Santander, Spain in the 1960s. And blind Joe Lomangino, an American of Italian descent very devoted to the Virgin Mary, who suffered a serious accident while conducting an experiment that resulted in the loss of both his eyes. He directs a magazine called "Needle" that publishes news of Garabandal and the Blessed Virgin in many countries).

APPARITIONS IN MAY OF 1985

In May there were 8 public apparitions and a couple of private ones. On Wednesday 1st. there was an apparition at 8 p.m. and on Thursday 2nd one at 7 p.m. Miguel Angel in ecstasy repeated three times: "*The Pope will have to flee Rome*", and drew some letters on the ground.

The Angeles came. Miguel Ángel told us that we would be in the United States for a month.

The Peace Treaty between Chile and Argentina was signed today. Thank you Lord for the triumph of good over evil. We had prayed so much for this important Peace Treaty.

I remember a vigil in which the Blessed Virgin Mary made us hoist the Argentinean flag on one mast and the Chilean flag on a mast next to it. At dawn the tips of both flags had knotted, they looked like they were holding hands. Lorenzo said to me: "Look Father, how those two brothers are holding hands". Surely the Guardian Angels of each nation were standing by their adopted countries. It was very emotional because we had been praying for peace and the union of these two brother countries. Lord, let there always be peace between these two nations and that the Chilean-Argentine brotherhood be a reality for Your greater glory and honor. Thank you Mother, Our Lady of Peace. Thank you Guardian Angels custodians of Chile and Argentina so forgotten by us. Thank You Lord, thank you.

I met Mr. Sandoval, a kindly soul who wanted to donate land to the shrine.

Sunday, May 5th at 3p.m. We were five minutes late and when I entered the sanctuary Miguel Ángel in ecstasy asked the Priest to bless the religious objects.

Wednesday, May 8th at 4 p.m. During the ecstasy, Miguel Ángel asked for my Rosary, he kissed it and the Blessed Virgin blessed it. Then he had me kiss it and returned it to me while still in ecstasy. He said that tomorrow a sealed envelope would be opened. Its content had been given to Miguel Ángel on July 15, 1983, when the apparitions were strictly private.

On Thursday, May 9th, at 7 p.m., in ecstasy Miguel handed me a letter I was first to read in private and later in public. I was handed a flashlight, as it was dark. Then the Angel brought Holy Communion, the Host barely visible.

He told me to bless the religious objects and to read outloud the message jealously guarded since July 15, 1983. I keep the message in my possession together with other documents and divine relics.

The letter stated that the Blessed Virgin had appeared weeping and had said: *"My son, this message I give to you for all Humanity. First, Jesus calls you to give yourselves generously to His love. I am here to tell you that I am very sad because my favorite sons (priests) do not believe my words; they doubt everything I say in Peñablanca. Second, in truth I tell you that Satan rapidly advances to the very base of Rome. The Church has now fallen prey to the Beast, and the Vatican will be an easy prey to attack. If my beloved children do not return to prayer and the good road my children will be accomplices of what is to occur."*

The secular world gradually sinks in huge errors and scandals. And the scandalous are confessed and given Holy Communion. And all this is a grievous sin and will fall back upon my beloved children. Talk to them, my son, and shout it without fear, because in the end they will be the victims of the souls that they have lost. "Third, this I say to you my son, tell my children that it is no longer time to ask for favors but only to ask for the salvation of souls and for each other, for the glory of Our Lord".

Saturday, May 11th at 6 p.m. When I reached the garden I noticed that there was a wooden arch very similar to the one in Fatima at the time of the apparitions there. In ecstasy Miguel Ángel said that the arch would not be removed until the apparition was recognize. Then he added that the Orthodox Church would recognize the apparition before the Catholic Church did.

Monday, May 13th. Beloved Marian anniversary. Our Mother came at 7 p.m. There had been a prior apparition at 5:30 p.m. I was confessing in the chapel in the company of Father Salinas. Miguel Ángel came to confession with me. He was very cheerful. He gave me a hug, a very unusual thing for him to do.

In ecstasy he said that France would detonated a bomb on the 9th of August, and that on the 1st we should pray many Rosaries. He gave a message for mankind, which was not recorded. Many people came that day, especially from Santiago.

I could not attend the apparition of May 16th because I was ill.

May 27th. Miguel Ángel turned 19 and celebrated his birthday at the home of Lucy Elliot de Aravena. I went to visit him and heard his confession.

APPARITIONS IN JUNE 1985

There were four apparitions this month.

June 12th was the third anniversary of these manifestations of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca.

I had heard Miguel Angel's confession on the previous day to prepare him for this happy anniversary. At three in the afternoon there was a procession requested by Virgin with the dances of La Tirana. It is estimated that over one hundred thousand persons attended the apparition. An entire village on Mount Carmel of Chile.

I confessed for a long time. The controversial Orthodox Bishop Juan Ignacio I. Cariaga y Cariaga had arrived a little earlier. During the apparition Miguel Ángel in ecstasy addressed him on behalf of the Blessed Virgin saying: "¡Convert!"

The crowd was so dense that I could not enter the sanctuary. That day we had messages and beautiful rays fell from heaven.

Saturday, June 15, the apparition was at midday. I arrived late from Santiago and Miguel Ángel was already in ecstasy. Among other things he said: *"Wolves in sheep's clothing will come. And another worse decree will come."* Oscar came to me for confession. After the ecstasy Miguel Ángel told me that the Orthodox Bishop was false.

Few people attended the apparition. Present was TV announcer Gabriela Velasco, who asked for my blessing.

Also Patricio Silva Riesco spoke so passionately against Jorge Castro's Marian Magazine that I had to tell him to put an end to his peroration because instead of doing good it was giving people a bad impression. He obeyed humbly and publicly apologized over the loud speakers.

On Wednesday, June 19th at six p.m. The seer spoke with the voice of Our Lord. He had my Rosary in his hands and he left twice, once to the Grotto and once to the Chapel. He raised Javiera. The message from Our Lord was recorded. Among other things He said: *"Be not stones, but roses that perfume"*. I could not hear clearly because he said it outside, and the crowd was very dense. Alan Rojas wrote the message in his book: "El Monte Carmelo de Chile" ("Mount Carmel of Chile").

Saturday, June 22nd - 7 p.m. Our Mother appeared and announced that the next apparition would be on the 29th of September.

Miguel Angel had previously gone to confession. He suffered the Passion. He suffered the stigmata on his head and pain on his side. He had all the lights turned off and gave a message without microphones or recorders. He asked that we pray the Rosary and requested a procession for August 1st.

APPARITIONS OF JULY 1985

The entire month of July was taken up by preparations for our trip to the United States, our visit there, the wonders that we saw by the Grace of God, and my return on the 1st of August.

1st of July. Mrs. Teresa Casanova de Vargas invited me to dine at her house because she wanted me to bless her daughter and granddaughters who were moving to Tahiti. She told me that she had also invited a couple of friends.

One of the guests very politely informed me that he was an agnostic, but that he had read Alvaro Barros' book and had found it very interesting. We spoke about the apparitions and I recounted some experiences.

When we finished talking his wife approached us and offered me their apartment in New York. Internally I thanked the Lord and these people who were God's instruments for our journey.

The next day I conducted a Marian Cenacle in Maipú. Upon my return I found a note informing me I had an urgent telephone call. I contacted the caller and to my great surprise I discovered it was the person I had dined with the previous night. He informed me that he had bought round-trip tickets to the United States for Miguel Ángel and for me. I don't know how I managed to tell him that Oscar was also traveling with us. He immediately assured me that he would also pay for Oscar's ticket.

A further intervention from Our Lord through this man who called himself an agnostic, who was being charitable to a boy he did not know and to a priest he had met the night before. Blessed art thou Lord, please help him and his relatives sanctify themselves by always doing Your blessed will. The day of departure drew near. We all had our visas except Miguel Ángel. Mysteriously they did not want to give it to him. American born Don Allen and his Chilean wife would also accompany us on this trip.

Just as we thought, the visa came through on the very day of our departure. Three hours before we were due to leave. We were able to start our journey on July 15th. At the last moment the couple that had paid for our tickets decided to join us. They were like our guardian angels. Everything fell into place, as if arranged by our Mother the Blessed Virgin Mary.

VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES

We boarded our Eastern Airlines flight at 8:20 p.m. Many people from Santiago and Quileute came to the airport to see us off.

Don Allen had an album with photos of Peñablanca that he circulated amongst the passengers and hostesses.

At New York's JFK Airport Juan Lara, his wife Cristina and their family met us. They were very affectionate.

First we visited Bayside and then proceeded to Flushing, the popular neighborhood where the Lara family resided in a huge apartment.

When we got there we suffered a disappointment. They could only accommodate Miguel Ángel, Oscar and myself because the other people who were going to put us up had a changed of heart. Cristina Becerra, with that heart of gold that characterizes the Chilean people offered us the entire apartment. They were willing to sleep on the floor just so we did not leave.

As I had not celebrated Mass and it was July 16, Feast Day of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, I asked if there was a Church available where I could do so. I was informed that at their Parish, the Parrish of St. Michael. I telephoned but the Parrish Priest was out and the person in charge could offer no help. We then resolved that I should celebrate Mass in their living room as I had my portable altar, wine and hosts.

It was a beautiful Mass in which we offered our trip to the Blessed Virgin Mary as our intercessor, a trip requested by the Virgin Herself. Our Lord came in person to that apartment through His Minister, this poor sinner that I am. What a thrill holding God in my consecrated hands and distributing it to the children of the Lord.

I decided to contact Conchita of Garabandal (the girl seer of the apparitions of the Virgin Mary in the 1960s in Spain, in the village of Garabandal in the Province of Santander, who had married an American), but before that I made several calls trying to obtain accommodation for that night which in practice proved unsuccessful. The cheapest was a pension run by nuns but without food. Then it occurred to me to phone our benefactor who had paid for the trip and who had offered us his apartment in Manhattan. Juanito Lara, Don and his wife Juanita took us there.

Then our host offered us their oceanfront house in Stanford, Connecticut. However, that night they booked us into the Beverly Hotel on Lexington Avenue and paid for our stay. Thank you Lord, bless them for their great generosity. After many inquiries, I finally managed to communicate with Conchita of Garabandal. But before meeting me she had to obtain permission from the priest who was replacing her Spiritual Director. He informed me that she could not discuss Garabandal and that I was to go alone. Conchita would receive me under these conditions.

The next day I set off for Conchita's House with Don Allen and Juanita. We waited half an hour because she was late having been delayed by some shopping. We talk with her two young daughters and her youngest child, a son. They barely understood Spanish. Conchita finally arrived and bid us enter. Don Allen and Juanita stayed in the garden

and I chatted with her for two hours. She did not want to receive Miguel Angel. She said that she had also denied the Virgin and that she was very scared of the Devil. She merely glanced at the photo album of Peñablanca, and refused to read Alvaro Barros' book that she gave away. We prayed together and then said goodbye. Conchita receives Holy Communion every day and conducts a prayer group on Fridays.

I was fulfilling my mission. I was happy despite the apparent failure. But I felt guided by the hand of the Blessed Virgin.

We went to Flushing to fetch with Miguel Ángel and Oscar and then headed for Stanford. It was fun to walk the streets of New York with our suitcases. Our benefactors joined us and settled us into their simple and beautiful house. They bought everything. There was no detail left to chance. It was a gesture of charity that we will never forget.

Miguel Ángel told Juanita that it was not adequate for him to remain there, that he and Oscar should be in Flushing with the Lara Becerra family and that we were to remain in Stanford. Don and Juanita's patience was really admirable, as was Oscar's for putting up with Miguel Ángel, always so restless and fidgety.

Without the presence of Miguel Ángel that Friday, July 19th was a day of rest at Stanford. We were relaxed and Don Allen, Juanita I prayed. Our benefactors arrived in the afternoon and attended Mass.

Sunday, July 21. We were invited to go pray the Rosary in Bayside Park. There were about one hundred persons, perhaps less. I had to recite the first Mystery and Miguel Ángel and Oscar the third. At 12:20 on the dot Miguel Ángel who was next to me fell into ecstasy and said: "Oh my Lady, I did not think you would come, thank you". He received Holy Communion mystically from the hands of the Ángel. He smiled. He spoke saying that the United States should be consecrated to the Virgin on December 8 at the latest, and that at 7 o'clock there would be a miracle. I met Regina de Don Orione an Argentine nun who worked with rehabilitated alcoholics.

At 8:40 p.m. there was an apparition. I was with our two benefactors. Miguel Ángel bled from the head and took off his shoes. He invoked St. Michael the Archangel and had the rosaries blessed. There were several important miracles that night. The Stigmata in the head. Oscar and the others examined them. Michel Angel thrust a needle into his wrist and did not bleed. He spoke with the voice of the Blessed Virgin. He repeated several prophecies. He sang Schubert's Ave Maria in Latin. He asked the Blessed Virgin: "Why don't you let me to speak in English".

Veronica Luecken sent the police. I remembered that policemen were mostly of Irish decent and likely to be Catholic. I apologized for the disturbance and blessed them and their families and the policemen left without causing us any inconvenience.

That night at the home of Juan Lara an image that he had found in a garbage dump wept. It was a very emotional day.

Next day we went to see the image that had wept. In the afternoon returning by train to our house in Standord, exhausted, I smelled the perfume of roses and assumed that the Blessed Virgin was amongst us.

On Tuesday July 23rd the image wept once more. Several Puerto Ricans, good folk who had undergone great suffering, came to Confession.

On Wednesday July 24th we went to Linderhurst to visit Mr. Leomangino who was blind. Miguel Ángel sent me ahead. He refused to talk to me. One more rejection that I joyfully offered to the Lord.

The image wept again, but this time it wept tears of blood. It occurred after 12 mid night, more or less at the same time that I was Consecrating at Mass in Stanford. Miguel Ángel phoned to tell me about the miracle and to ask me what he should do with the tears. I told him that if it were possible to carefully put the tears into a glass tube or at least in some cotton wool to preserve them.

On Thursday July 25th, Miguel Ángel fell into an ecstasy and suffered the stigmas in the home of Lara Becerra family. He said that Bayside was all a sham. Everyone was understandably dismayed. That day we toured New York guided by our benefactors.

Saturday July 27th 1985. The battle had begun. An exalted Cuban almost assaulted Miguel Ángel. Oscar was to remain beside Miguel Ángel. We were to persuade people that Bayside was false, one at a time. I talked to the Spanish-speaking people and Don and Juanita to those who spoke English.

On July 28th Antonio Errázuriz Ruiz–Tagle and his wife María de la Luz Zañartu Covarrubias who had bone cancer attended Holy Mass at the house in Stanford. A relic from the Blessed Virgin of Peñablanca healed Maria de la Luz Zañartu. We made an exchange; they would stay in Stanford and we would move to the Manhattan apartment of our benefactors. Another act of charity from this Chilean couple. On the 29th we went to the airport to bid farewell to these charitable friends who returned to Chile.

Tuesday, July 30th. So far I had not spent a single dime, everything had been given us by Divine Providence. Miguel Ángel seemed to be guided by a divine hand. He walked about New York as if he had always lived there. He took buses, the metro and made his way around in an incredible way.

We were in constant battle. I performed several exorcisms to scare away the Devil who was furious with us.

July 31st, 1985, Feast Day of St. Ignatius Loyola. After having exorcised the place I celebrated Holy Mass in the apartment in Manhattan. I spent all day writing articles about Miguel Angel for a magazine owned by Mr. Sullivan, but he never showed up to avoid having to deal with the followers of Veronica Luecken.

That night guided by Miguel Ángel we took a turn around the city with Juanita and Don.

Thursday August 1st, 1985. It was the first time I was going out alone, without Don and Juanita. After studying the map and having visited St. Patrick's Cathedral the night before, I took courage and in an act of "audacity" set off to visit the Cathedral. Being a person with no sense of orientation whatsoever I ended up in another church. I finally arrived in San Patrick where I heard Holy Mass, received Holy Communion and met a Spanish priest. On my way out I met Miguel Ángel who in his usual manner said: "Hello". I bought a couple of religious stamps as souvenirs; they cost something like three dollars. It was the only money I had spent so far.

I didn't realize that Miguel Ángel had fallen into ecstasy. The Archangel St. Gabriel appeared to him and said: *"The Father has fulfilled his mission, he must return to Chile as soon as possible because he might encounter difficulties"*.

We were impressed. It was the Will of the Lord and that was enough. We returned to the apartment. Awaiting us was a Chilean visitor who made all the arrangements so that I could catch the next plane back to Santiago at 5 that evening. It was the only ticket available for that flight. Don and Juanita saw me off at the airport. I sat next to a lady from Croatia who was reading María Valtorta and to an American priest who belonged to the Order Oblates of the Virgin Mary, who resided in Córdoba, Argentina.

Friday, August 2nd, 1985. After a three-hour delay the plane finally touched down in Santiago. Mauricio Tocornal, friends and group of women met me. Thank you God for this trip wanted by Our Mother.

Miguel Ángel, Oscar, Don and Juanita remained in New York. Oscar returned a week later on August 8th. Miguel Ángel, Juanita and Don travelled to Oregon to visit Don's family. After several weeks in Oregon the Archangel St. Gabriel appeared to Miguel Angel and told him that he had to return to New York, as nothing had been done to unmask Veronica Luecken. They returned to Bayside where Veronica resided. Miguel Ángel had an ecstasy and was told to unmask Veronica. It was a terrible event. Miguel Angel received a tremendous beating that left him stunned and in a daze. They also beat Juanita and Don. All these events are narrated in Alvaro Barros' book and were also recorded.

Finally, after many adventures they arrived back in Chile on September 13th at 8:30. Miguel Ángel immediately departed for Peñablanca to thank the Blessed Virgin for the entire trip.

BACK IN PEÑABLANCA

Sunday September 29th, 1985. The Apparition was at 6 p.m. and about 30 thousand people attended. They heard the voice of Our Lord, of the Virgin Mary and of St. Michael the Archangel. Beautiful rays descended from heaven that a journalist declared were made by lasers.

The Blessed Virgin Mary indicated that to make the Devil go away after the Rosary we were to recite: 2 Our Father, 3 Hail Mary and 3 Glory Be, (Daughter, Mother and Wife) and the prayer to St. Michael the Archangel. That there would be a false peace if we did not acceded to the Consecration

Between the 30th of September and the 14th of October there were 15 consecutive apparitions, and I was able to attend every one of them. Thank God.

Monday, September 30th. The apparition was at 6 p.m. She said that great changes would occur within the Church. The sea would swallow many nations. If Her requests were not heeded there would be a great earthquake and a great war. It could be avoided with prayer.

In the apparition of the Tuesday 1st of October She said that the Pope would come to Chile soon and that he had received the messages from Miguel Angel. There would be a great persecution but that we were to stand firm in the faith. She requested that the pilgrim image made of wood be brought to the arch and a great blessing descended from heaven. It was the image we took to Russia 10 years later.

The Seer made me improvise a Consecration to the Blessed Virgin. Then he told me that the Virgin was happy with our prayers and that these would lessen the intensity of the make the earthquake.

Wednesday, October 2, 1985. Feast Day of the Blessed Guardian Angels. While I was confessing Miguel Ángel, I saw a star that moved and danced its way from one place to another, like lightning, like a great light. I gave him absolution and he ran off chasing the light. In a strong voice he said that it was my Guardian Angel and for me to summon the people. After the ecstasy he told me that Karel was my Angel. He is my Angel of priesthood that means: "Charity in the Lord". My other Angels are Cieliciel and Trescel. He said that something big would shortly occur in Chile.

Thursday, October 3rd at 8:15. The Child Jesus blessed us.

Friday October 4th at 7:00 p.m. The elderly entered the garden and Miguel Angel gave us a beautiful prayer to recite before the Blessed Sacrament.

The Blessed Virgin came with the Child Jesus in Her arms. She had the elderly kiss the crucifix. While this was happening the Virgin uttered the following words: "*Whosoever*

kisses the cross means that he takes up the Cross of Christ, follows Him and commits to the frequent prayer of the Holy Rosary, to attend Mass and to receive the Sacraments. The Cross indicates that He died for all of you, for the salvation of sinners. Love, peace and mercy."

Miguel Ángel sang in several languages. The Virgin continued: *"Pray many Rosaries for the youth, for many young people are on the road to perdition. Remember the times when the Angelus was prayed? Continue to pray it at the same hour as you did when you were young. Pray many Rosaries and there will be peace. The Father loves you very much. I am the Co-Redemtrix. The Supplicant Omnipotence. The Full of Grace that intercedes for you. Ask with love. Always remember your Creator. Do not foresake my Son who is in all the Tabernacles of Earth. Recite this prayer:*

My Lord I am here because I adore and love You. My Lord I love You for those who do not love You. My Lord I adore You for those who do not adore You and sling blasphemies at Your holy name. I ask You for those who do not love You, who do not adore You. My Lord I am here because I adore You and I love You. May there always be peace in my brothers. My Lord You are to save me. I am here to open my heart to You".

Saturday, October 5th at 8 a.m. She had us kiss the scapular of the statue and then gave it to Mother Verena, a German nun. That afternoon a Marian Cenacle was held in the Parish of Nuestra Señora de las Nieves. Because of this Father Salvador Laterra suffered greatly at the hands of the Vicar of the Zone. It was one of the motives he had to leave. We are in the middle of the persecution of the Church.

Father Salvador Laterra of the Congregation of the Mother of God, greatly loved and esteemed by his parishioners for his wisdom and holiness, used to go to Peñablanca. He is convinced and truly believes in the apparition of the Blessed Virgin. Spontaneously he placed his Parish at my disposal for me to preach and continue to conduct the Cenacles of the Marian Movement of Priests to which he also belonged. For the sole reason of having offered his Parish for these cenacles, so wanted and requested by the Blessed Virgin, he was unfairly transferred to Argentina, once again fulfilling what the Blessed Virgin predicted. The persecution of those who believe in this wonderful apparition from within the Church. Whenever he comes to Chile he goes to Peñablanca to pray. May the Lord continue to protect and to always guide him along the path of holiness.

Sunday October 6th at 7 p.m. Children dressed in white entered the garden of the Virgin. She blessed them. They were under the ages of 14. Miguel Ángel said: "Our

Lady will shower special rays on our children." The Virgin asked them the following questions: *"Will thou commit to praying the Rosary every day, and make sacrifices for the expiation of sinners?"* She added: *"The Grace of God will be poured out for thee, but thou will have to pray much, because Satan, king of lies and arrogance, tries to induce thee to sin"*.

The Blessed Virgin speaks in that majestic but humble tone, and addressed us in the third person "thou" as the Holy Church has always done in its prayers. Apparently some do not like this traditional style and have done away with it. The Blessed Virgin continued addressing the children: *"Wouldst thou like to offer thy lives to the Lord"*. The children, rosary in hand, made their promise to Our Lady. The Blessed Virgin immediately replied: *"Thou, with thy rosaries place roses upon the Throne of God, that perfume the Throne. I say: Pray the Rosary always if you are able to do so. The fifteen Mysteries. Never stop praying"*.

The children were children that the Blessed Virgin had chosen. They will by now be grown ups. God willing they remember these words from the Blessed Virgin and have followed the right path. Then She said to them: *"The Roses will receive a special blessing. Each petal is going to have a special meaning for thee: it is the commitment to pray the Holy Rosary so that by means of the Rosary thee place roses upon the Throne of Our Lord"*. She ended by presenting the Crucifix of the Holy Rosary for it to be kissed and saying in several languages: *"Peace be with thee"*.

What a wonderful apparition devoted to the children so loved by Jesus and Mary. Let us not be surprised that (She) demands difficult things from them for it is the pedagogy of our Mother.

Monday October 7 at 10:00 p.m. The Blessed Virgin made me kiss the Cross and had me bless the great Cross.

Tuesday October 8 at 9:00 p.m. Miguel Ángel did not ascend the hill because of the presence there of someone whom I had to ask to leave the hill. Then I performed an exorcism against the spirits of disunity, murmuration and impurity.

Wednesday October 9th at 9:00 p.m. A message was given without the use of loud speakers.

Thursday, 10 October at 11:00 p.m. Miguel Angel suffered the stigmata witnessed by our Peruvian brothers who had come to the Hill. Our Lady said that a great miracle, preceded by rains, would take place on Thursday 12 at noon. Miguel Angel held the candle under his shin for several minutes and nothing happened to him.

Saturday, October 13, 1985 at 7:00 p.m. There was a beautiful procession from the foot of the Hill with an image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the same image of Our Lady of Fatima that had wept in the House of the Pilgrim located at Roma 100 in Villa Alemana.

Miguel Ángel in ecstasy narrated the Last Supper in beautiful detail. These details are not in the Bible. I don't remember if anyone was recording. He lifted Javiera. Then in ecstasy he turned to me for my blessing. Twice he asked me (I had not realized he was asking me a question) if at this time I wanted to make public the Secret of Fatima given on October 13, 1917, or keep it secret and give it to the Pope personally so that he approve the apparition. After thinking about and asking for illumination from the Holy Spirit, I told him that I would prefer he deliver it personally to the Pope so that he approve the apparition.

Although the secret of Fatima had previously been given we had been forbidden to make it public. Only a small group of people had heard it and kept it in their hearts. Upon seeing Miguel Angel's radiant face I realized that the Blessed Virgin had approved my decision.

On that occasion the Blessed Virgin rested Her feet on the ground and left Her footprints in the sand. Lorenzo, the jealous keeper of the shrine, placed a plastic bubble over the footprints so that they would not be erased. Later a small altar was erected there. It is still standing.

The Blessed Virgin then told us that tomorrow Monday, October the 14th we were to bring the sick. They would heal according to their faith.

And so, once more the Blessed Virgin overwhelms me with Her signs of affection, kindness, love and respect for the priesthood. The blessings received are so many that I am at a loss of what to do, and can only renew my unconditional consecration to Her and say: "Let it be done according to Thy word".

Monday October 14th, 1985 at 8:45 p.m. I arrived a little earlier because there were many people and Miguel Ángel entered in much pain showing the open wound on his side. He had someone pry the wound open with both hands. Abundant blessings from Our Mother fell from Heaven in the form of golden and multicolor rays. One completely inundated me and I was transported with immense joy. Three priests were present. She made us bless a Crucifix that was to heal the sick that had faith. Miguel Ángel lifted several sick children. The Blessed Virgin requested that on December 8th, at 6:00 p.m. we bring a monstrance in order to adore Jesus day and night.

There were two priests from the city of La Serena that day. Father Benito Sepulveda of the Augustinian Order and Fr. Francisco José Meyer a Franciscan priest from Belgium. Father Meyer has the gift of healing. What a beautiful pious spectacle. An atmosphere of charity and true love floated in the air. Thank you Mother for everything.

On October 20th 1985 Miguel Ángel was confirmed in the village of Los Vilos. During the course of the year I had taught him religion to prepare him. Reverend Mother

Josefina García Huidobro of the Primer Monasterio de la Visitación (First Monastery of the Visitation) had imparted lessons on the Sacrament of Confirmation and Catechism in general.

On Saturday, October 19th I set off with Oscar to Los Vilos. Miguel Ángel arrived later. He was very affable. I had a long talk with him and also confessed him in preparation for his Confirmation the next day. Oscar and many others from Santiago and Los Vilos were also to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Father José Manuel Salinas was godfather to Miguel Ángel and I to Oscar and the sons of Patricio Silva Riesco. At 7:30 a.m. I concelebrated Holy Mass with Father Salinas, assisted by Oscar and attended by Miguel Ángel. The Confirmation took place at 3:00 p.m. That day Oscar consecrated himself to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Marian Movement of Priests.

The confirming Bishop was Monsignor Polidoro van Wlierberghue, Bishop of Illapel, who firmly believed in the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca as the Virgin had performed a miracle with his eyesight, although he had never gone to the Hill.

I returned to Santiago with Lucy and Jorge Aravena. I was very tired. I was in bed on the verge of falling asleep when I was informed that I should get up and go to Peñablanca because there was going to be an apparition. Mauricio Tocornal and his entire family came to fetch me. We were asked to keep this a secret, therefore I cannot write about it.

Once again the Blessed Sacrament was in Peñablanca, in the Chapel of Mount Carmel from 3:00 a.m. on October 21 until, more or less, 3:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 3rd. There were vigils requested by the Blessed Virgin Mary:

1. Sunday 20th until Monday 21st.
2. From 9:00 p.m. Friday October 25th to 6:00 a.m. Saturday 26th
3. From 9:00 p.m. Saturday 26th to 6:00 a.m. Sunday 27th
4. From Sunday October 27 to 4:00 a.m. Monday October 28th.
5. From 11:00 p.m. Friday November 1st until 6:00 a.m. Saturday, November 2nd.

We are unable to express all that we experienced. Thank you my Mother. In total 12 days. (Previously the Blessed Sacrament had been exposed from January 16 until March 5th. More or less 45 days).

On Tuesday, October 22nd I went to visit Mrs. Lila Binimelis Della Maggiora and her husband, Hugo Della Maggiora Bascuñan, who in an act of faith and charity, spontaneously offered me an apartment in their home. The Blessed Virgin arranged things in such way that I was now being led to the home of this new family. They lived alone as all their children had married or moved away. Lord, please bless this family as well as Mrs. Mónica Díaz de Finat and her son Robert, who with so much charity had allowed me to reside in their apartment for a year. On October 31st I moved into my new home. After exorcising and blessing the house we pray the Rosary at the request

of Lila Della Maggiora. At the end of the Rosary Hugo improvised a beautiful prayer thanking the Lord and the Virgin because I would be living with them.

NOVEMBER 1985

Thursday, November 7th. I wrote to Mr. Plinio Correa de Oliveira in Brazil forming him that the Blessed Virgin wanted the consecration of his country to the Blessed Virgin; in Argentina to Father Silvio Venturini, responsible for the Marian Movement of Priests, urging him to consecrate Argentina, and to Juan Lara in the United States asking him to expedite the consecration to the Virgin on December 8th.

Friday, November 8th. There was a vigil in Peñablanca. Hugo Della Maggiora, Lila and I attended.

Miguel Ángel gave me the happy news that the Blessed Virgin, through Her intercession with Our Lord, was going to grant me the gift of knowing the consciences of those who came to Confession with me, that they would not be able to hide anything from me. That day, in the sanctuary and throughout Chile, began the Month of Mary (Mes de Maria). Thank you Mother for this great gift that I will use for the Greater Glory of God.

Saturday, 9th. I was able to talk with Father Luis Fernández of Quilpué, who was extremely impressed with my departure from the Jesuits.

Sunday, 10th. I went to the home of Oscar and in the presence of his mother had a very serious conversation with him about becoming aware of his role in the apparitions as requested by the Blessed Virgin.

With Hugo and Lila we paid a visit the Fathers of the Transfiguration and to the Carmelite Sor Teresa Consuelo Castro Haeussler, a spiritual daughter, who was radiant. I was also able to talk with Mother Enriqueta of the Transfiguration.

Thursday, November 21st. The Mothers and Sisters of the First Monastery of the Visitation were the first to consecrate themselves to the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God. These nuns, so beloved of Our Lord, are always the first to offer themselves and do the will of the Blessed Virgin. It is a Congregation of truly holy women.

Sunday, November 24th. In the home of the Elliott Aravena family the image of Our Lady of Lourdes wept tears of blood at 1:20 a.m.

Although I was not present the miracle happened in the home of the Aravena Elliott family where Miguel Ángel was boarding, and I think it's convenient to briefly narrate the events. Miguel Ángel and some friends had just arrived from Villa Alemana. After

the visitors left Miguel Ángel went to bed. Carmen Aldunate was going to stay overnight. Shortly after she entered the living room and glanced at the image of Our Lady of Lourdes -the same image that had shed tears on previous occasions and that I had witnessed as I narrate further back- she noticed that the statue had two tears of blood, one in each eye. One was located on the cheek and the other, the larger one, on the chin. Both had left trails of blood showing the displacement of tears from each of her eyes. Another trickle of blood flowed from the left side of her mouth. Lucy, her husband Jorge, Miguel Ángel and Carmen were paralyzed with awe. They called several persons who came to see this miracle. Among them Dr. Alan Rojas and his wife, Alejandro Cifuentes and his wife, Alvaro Barros and his wife, Marta Díaz Bordeu and some neighbors. With a small piece of cloth, which had been previously blessed by the Blessed Virgin, they wiped the image. The cloth is preserved in the private oratory of the Aravena Elliot family.

DECEMBER 1985

Saturday December 7th. First Saturday of the month. In the Church of San Vicente de Ñuñoa I conducted my last Cenacle of the Marian Movement of Priests of which I had been responsible for in Chile. It was really very beautiful and touching. Much to my regret I had to leave these Cenacles for just as the Blessed Virgin had announced, the persecution of the Church (incredible, but real, allowed by Our Lord, and without passing judgment on anyone), was already a fact. The doors of many churches had been shut to me, although his Holiness Pope John Paul II recognizes the Marian Movement of Priests and is its principal member, to which belong many Bishops, Priests, Nuns and laity in general.

Immediately the Cenacle was over I travelled to Peñablanca. At midnight I was to conduct the First Consecration of Chile to the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God.

The Blessed Virgin had requested this Consecration some time ago for this date, just as the Consecration of the United States. We had some beautiful stamps of the White Lady of Peace printed and a group of very prepared persons had traveled the breadth and length of Chile visiting parishes, convents and schools.

Many pilgrims had come from various parts of the world, particularly from Peru, Colombia, Spain, Argentina, etc.

It was a very impressive sight to see the entire sanctuary and the Hill illuminated by thousands of candles. A fantastic spectacle of joy and devotion.

By inspiration of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and at Her request, I wrote the Consecration, which I read at the appointed hour together with all the attendees. It was repeated in the morning and in the afternoon.

We held an all night vigil and with Father Salinas and other priests heard Confessions in the basement of the Chapel until well past six in the morning.

The Blessed Virgin appeared after we recited the Our Father. Everyone was expectant and full of barely contained excitement.

After a pause we heard: *"Never be ashamed. I gave you a message on the 12th of June 1985. I repeat it again: The world does not cease to offend the Lord". As She had said to Bernadette She repeated in French here: "Je suis l'Immaculee Conception". Then She immediately continued: "Many children do not respect their parents, and many parents do not respect their children. Do not offend the Lord; do not crucify my Son any more. I cannot hold the arm of my Son because the sins are many and the cup is full". To think that these last words were also said to the girl seers of Garabandal in Spain. (She) continued: "Charity begins at home; do not draw away from your families, draw even closer. Be not hypocrites; first comes duty and then everything else".*

After this dialogue with Our Lady the Consecration was repeated. More than 30.000 persons chanted it. Said by the attendees with all their hearts it was solemn, simple and warm.

The dialogue with the Blessed Virgin continued. She requested that the children be reaised towards heaven to be blessed by Her. How beautiful and touching to see them suspended by the arms of their parents.

Among the most impressive things that the Blessed Virgin said were: *"Very soon Russia will convert to Christianity, and in the end My immaculate Heart will triumph. There will be peace in the world if you do as I say. You should frequently visit the Blessed Sacrament, go to Confession more often, receive Holy Communion and go to Holy Mass. Meditate the Rosary for a quarter of an hour and make sacrifices to atone for sinners. If you do this there will be peace. Likewise, have peace in your hearts and be at peace with your soul; with yourself".*

What wonderful and sublimely simple phrases. They contain a whole programme of life for peace to reign within us and in the World.

She continued: *"In 1983, there was a conditional secret that was going to occur very soon. The prayers reached Heaven, and God in His infinite mercy has taken pity on thee. And the earthquake that had been foretold will not happen. Had it not been for prayer this earthquake would have taken place on the 12th of December of this year, but as the prayers reached heaven, there will only be a small tremor".*

This earthquake was to have been a cataclysm. We were all immersed in profound gratitude and great joy. Little thanks have been given to Our Lady who delivered us from such a tremendous catastrophe. We are very ungrateful with Our Lord and Our Blessed Mother. We must meditate about this and ask for forgiveness with all our hearts.

On December 12th with great joy we felt a small tremour and we thanked Our Lady for having obtained tranquility from Her dearly beloved Son. December 12th is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of Latin America.

And She continued with this very important message: *"Sometimes the coming of Our Lady to Earth is not understood. Many ask themselves, why here? Or why there? God has sent Our Lady to Chile to save souls that are going to perdition. To constitute a DOGMA of the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God, or MARY CO-REDEMTRIX. Also, to guide souls, Priests and Nuns unto the correct path and to give peace in hearts. To dry the tears of those who weep. To illuminate the way of those who do not want to look after their spiritual life, so that they may believe. To help those who do not walk, to walk. And everything that the World of today needs".*

When Miguel Ángel left the garden he sang that beautiful song that I have only heard in Peñablanca: "Schalom Iaj Myriam".

Some very pious devotees of the Virgin had had 13 images of the White Lady of Peace made by the Chilean sculptor Piñero. They would be taken to the 13 Regions of Chile so that these statuettes would go on a pilgrimage around Chile. The images were placed around the blessed olive tree where the Blessed Virgin used to stand. But She had other plans, more International ones; She wanted Her image to go on pilgrimage to the 13 countries whose representatives were present in Peñablanca. And so it was that at Her request a representative of each country received an image. The countries were: Argentina, Peru, Colombia, Paraguay, El Salvador, Canada, United States, Spain, Poland, Holland, Yugoslavia (Croatia), Israel and New Zealand.

Then everyone shook hands and elevated a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord that sprang spontaneously from grateful hearts.

That day Father Benito of La Serena and I crowned the image of the Blessed Virgin that was in the garden and that is currently worshipped in the chapel.

Miguel Ángel informed us that the Infant Jesus had kissed the crown. Everyone applauded with spiritual joy. The representatives of the countries favored by that maternal gift lifted their statues of the Virgin Mary to heaven. Schubert's Ave María was sung in Latin and the Angels once again crowned the Virgin in Heaven.

The sun began to spin throwing rays that did not damage our eyesight and the image of the Ichthus formed in the sky. The seer narrated that the images of the following Popes appeared: Pius IX, who proclaimed the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception

and whose feast day was being celebrated that day (8th December 1854), Pius XII, who proclaimed the Dogma of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven in body and soul" (the 15 August 1952), John XXIII and John Paul I.

Our Lady also said: *"I will not cure many of the sick because God does not trust them. Others, before the year ends. And others, you must await the hour and make more sacrifices."*

This apparition ended with the words of the Virgin: *"I am the Full of Grace"*, and addressing those of us who were on the hill She interrogated us sweetly: *"Will you pray the Rosary for the Holy Father until December 24th?"* Yes, we all replied. And then the Lady said: *"And go to adore the Blessed Sacrament for the remainder of this year?"* We vigorously responded that we would.

Then Our Lady said a very significant sentence: *"This apparition will be recognized soon if you give a very big proof of faith. Before, a great test of faith. Behold, I give thee peace. Be steadfast in faith and beseech the Lord and the Holy Spirit that you do not weaken"*.

We have to meditate these phrases and with humility and fervor request illumination from on high to better understand these Heavenly Messages and comply with them, as is the wish of Our Lady.

With the passing of time one better understands the silence of prayer, especially before the Blessed Sacrament, the inscrutable designs of the Lord. Our mind is elevated to consider what the Evangelists say of Our Mother regarding events that She lived: *"Mary kept all these things pondering them in Her heart"*.

As on every 8th December the mysterious seagulls appeared and with flapping wings seemed to perform a celestial ballet to worship Our Lady. The precious swallows, which the people associate with Mary, also made an appearance as a further anthem of praise to Our Lord and His Blessed Mother.

As of this day and until May 1986 I did not go to Peñablanca because I was "ad experimentum" in the Dioceses of Talca. It was what the Bishop of that Dioceses, Carlos González Cruchaga, demanded of me while I was under his orders. I was not to go to Peñablanca nor was I to talk about it. I rigorously obeyed.

It is the reason I do not describe the events that took place during that period of time. They are however narrated by other authors who have already been mentioned in this book.

I ended the year 1985 at a spiritual retreat in the Foyer or House of Spiritual Exercises at Bellavista on December 31st celebrating Holy Mass. For over 25 years I usually celebrate Holy Mass by myself, to end the year and begin the year with Jesus on my lips, in my mind, in my hands and in my heart.

I give infinite thanks to God for so many graces received asking that I remain faithful to my death.
(16)

9. APPARITIONS OF 1986

Just as I describe in a previous chapter about my departure from the Jesuits, I resided in Talca from December 15, 1985 to April 29, 1986.

Tuesday, May 13th. I went to Peñablanca after almost 5 months of involuntary absence. I met Miguel Ángel with whom I talked for about half an hour before I heard his Confession. He had done a four-day retreat with Fr. Luis Fernández and both were very happy.

The 27th of May was Miguel Ángel's birthday. In the pouring rain the Blessed Virgin appear in the midst of a dense crowd. Father Salinas and I heard Confessions from five in the afternoon until a quarter to eight in the evening.

The Blessed Virgin said She was glad because despite the very heavy rain people had responded to Her call. Present were many brothers from Peru and Argentina. She announced that on June 12th there would be a miracle, that it was not the Great Miracle, and that She would cure many.

On May 27th, 1986, Father Salinas told me that I could go to the Diocese of Illapel.

Miguel Ángel informed me that he would leave for Europe on July 1st with Dr. Carla Hieber, Patricio Aravena and Mrs. María Mujica from Peñablanca.

On the 12th of June, at noon, there were four priests confessing: Father Rubio from Casablanca, Father Benito from La Serena, Father Antonio Gril and I from Santiago. The apparition lasted about three hours. Inside the Virgin's garden I managed to hear Miguel Ángel's Confession. There was a heavy snowfall in the Andes range and several buses from Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay were snow bound in the mountains. That day there were four cures of bone cancer, and three other different ailments. Two TV Channels were present. National TV from Chile and Channel 9 from the City of Lima, Peru.

Among other things the Blessed Virgin said: *"The world does not want to understand. If you do not do as I say, peace will not come. I am the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God. I am the health of the sick. I am Thy Lady of Mount Carmel."*

After presenting a crucifix for us to kiss She exclaimed: *"The Messages are to be given throughout the world. Do not hide any Message. The Church is passing through a horrible crisis of faith. The world does not want to heed the appeals of the Holy Father. Nature is horrified by the sins that men commit. Chile, Chile how you sadden Me"*.

How many times has the Blessed Virgin repeated this painful phrase that got lost in a vacuum, without finding an answer for our Blessed Mother who comes to warn us that we were not going in the right direction!

St. Michael the Archangel, Prince of the Celestial Militia, was also present as on so many occasions and through the mouth of the seer exhorted us by saying: *"The world is condemning itself and God has wanted to send His Mother as the last anchor of salvation. She gave you the Rosary in Fatima, She gave you Messages, and today, the Blessed Virgin Mary Herself comes to prepare the road of Jesus."*

Later the Blessed Virgin continued: *"I do not come to threaten, I come to announce what has been said and what is to come. Do not try to seek the future because it will be your own condemnation"*. Our Mother meant that we should not seek the future through fortune-tellers or spiritism.

For the umpteenth time She repeated: *"Communism is the worst enemy of Christianity"*. And something that impacted many: *"The Anti-Christ is already among you, seek him no more. I am the conqueror of the infernal dragon."*

As on other occasions the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ was narrated in detail. It convulsed the hearts of those present. It was a beautiful and worthy complement to the narrations of the Evangelists. Seen and lived through by many mystics, such as the Venerable Mother María de Jesús Agreda in the 18th century, the Venerable Anne Catherine Emmerich in the 19th century and María Valtorta in the 20th century. Readings so apt for meditation, particularly during Holy week. Treasures given to us by our Lord, that draw us closer to the Heart of Jesus and His Mother.

Moments before coming out of the ecstasy Miguel Angel prayed an Our Father, a Hail Mary and a Glory Be, and ended by saying in a loud voice: "Let every knee bend at the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ". He crossed himself and kissed the Crucifix of the Rosary.

The Blessed Virgin announced that the next apparition would be on the 29th of September.

On Saturday, July 5th, while I confessed a great many people, I was informed that three Angels had appeared to Miguel Ángel in the Chapel and that they had given him instructions for his trip to Europe. When I went to him he was radiant with happiness and we prayed the Holy Rosary.

On July 8th they departed for Spain in Línea Paraguaya de Aviación, it being the cheapest transport. The trip was resolved quickly by desire of the Virgin.

All the details of that trip are narrated in the book written by Alvaro Barros and the one written by María Luisa Paredes, including his interview with the Holy Father.

On September 29th, 1986 there was an apparition at midday. Five priests were present. Also, many nuns and about some thirty thousand persons. Many from different countries: Colombia, Peru, Argentina, Paraguay, etc. Among other messages the Blessed Virgin Mary said: *"Chile, Chile how you sadden me. I am the Mother of those afflicted. I have never abandoned my children and to those who pray the Rosary and the Seven Sorrows with devotion I will give some graces that I will place before the throne of God that will adorn as roses at His feet. Chile the red yoke is upon you. What are you doing? If you pray with love that massacre will not be. How much love has a mother for her children; how much love has a mother bird for her brood; how much love has a cow for her calf. The love I have for thee is far more immense than all that I have named. That is why I do not want any of you to go on the bad road of perdition. I tell you this so that you may know that it is not God who sends you punishments, but it is you, yourselves who seek them, for your sins. And God so loved the world that he sent His only Son. And God so loves the world that He sends His Mother to prepare for the second coming of His Son."*

The seven Archangels also came. The next apparition would be on Sunday, October 5th at 7. She asked us to come in procession and to bring candles and that there would be a miracle. I was to keep the letter that I was going to send to the Pope and I could only read it to priests.

On October 5th I went to Peñablanca with Father Salinas. Father Luis Fernández was already there hearing confessions. I confessed near the eucalyptus tree. After hearing Oscar and Aldo's confession Miguel Angel fell into ecstasy. When he bled from the head and several times I had to give testimony of what I saw at the request of the Blessed Virgin. While he wandered about he spoke in French about Catalina Laboureé. He also complained of pain, particularly on his left wrist. He made us bless the religious objects. Then he ordered all the lights turned off and asked us not take photographs and to turn the recorders off.

Blessings in the form of rays and lights of many colors: gold, white, blue, violet, etc., fell from heaven for about a quarter of an hour. The Grotto and the sacred precinct were the most illuminated. From the bottom of their souls people said: Thank you Mother and with effusion sang the "Alabaré" (I will give praise). It was something splendid that filled us with joy, peace and excitement. She gave a silent message that the Pope would be attacked. She made us pray for our country and for the Pope.

Sunday, October 12th, 1986, Feast Day of Nuestra Señora del Pilar (Our Lady of the Pillar) and Commemoration of the Discovery of America. Our Lady appeared at 8:00 p.m. after a procession. There were several foreign nuns and three priests who heard

the confession of the faithful who ascended the hill with so much love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary.

She appeared under different names: Our Lady of Sorrows, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of La Salette and as Our Lady of the Pillar.

She taught us how to pray the Holy Rosary, interlaying the Seven Sorrows, especially in the Sorrowful Mysteries. These were Her words: *"Pray the Rosary in this manner: meditate the Mysteries of the Rosary and once you have prayed the ten Hail Marys, meditate the first sorrow of Our Lady of Sorrows. After you have recited the Glory Be recite three Hail Marys for each sorrow, together, then say the Mystery of the Rosary and again the second sorrow. I especially ask you that when you pray the Rosary you also remember the sorrows of Thy Mother in the Sorrowful Mysteries".*

She humbly asked that all those who were going to committ to praying in this manner raise their right arm.

Some luminous rays of blessings fell from the sky that made us very happy.

She then appeared with Her heart surrounded by thorns and weeping. The seer asked: "My Lady what causes you the most suffering?" She replied: *"What makes Our Lady suffer most are the many incredulous children who sling blasphemies at God and at His Son. The second, to Her Immaculate Heart. The third, all those mothers who do not allow their children to be born. The fourth, many unfaithful children, many favorite sons (priests) "*

She also appeared as Our Lady of Guadalupe and finally as the White Lady of Peace. The apparition ended with the prayer "Bendita Sea Tu Pureza" (Blessed Be Thy Purity).

December 8th, 1986, 5:00 p.m. Close to a hundred thousand persons congregated. There was a procession from the Valencia railways station. Eight priests and several nuns were present. With great joy and tears of gratitude for the Blessed Virgin a young Colombian woman got up from the wheel chair where she had sat prostrated. Likewise, a paralytic child from the city of La Serena stood up and ran. The Blessed Virgin sent special blessings to priests. And She said that the blessing of a priest was that of Jesus, superior to Hers. Let priests stand firm.

The Blessed Virgil requested that on the eve of the five first Saturdays we meditate, for an hour, the phrase: "I am the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God", and that we would receive all the graces that we asked for during five consecutive months. At noon, on the thirteenth of each month, there would be an apparition and we were to pray the Holy Rosary. She was happy with Mount Carmel because Her Son

was happy, as well as with the Mount Carmel Foundation. *"God wants it to be so, it is going to be, because God has wanted it to be so". She also said: "You are the only one to whom Saint Michael the Archangel has appeared to in Chile".*

December 23rd, 12:00 midnight. The Child Jesus came and Miguel Ángel asked him several questions concerning the Magi or Three Wise Men or Kings, and said that the Star of Bethlehem that guided them would appear for the Second Coming. Then he went out to kiss the Cross. He also gave it to me to kiss, and requested that we read St. Mathew 2 v. 1 to 9. The people behaved, they were respectful and pious.

Wednesday, December 31, 1986. Thank you Lord, thank you Blessed Mother for this happy year that I have spent in your company. It was a year with pain, but full of peace, love and total surrender to the Divine Will.

At 11:00 p.m. I prayed the Rosary. I meditated the message from the Marian Movement of Priests dated December 31, 1976. During that meditation You spoke to me My Mother, and then I renewed my Consecration to You. A quarter to, or twenty to midnight I celebrated the last Mass of the year and the first of 1987, to be, as I have been for the past several years, in the middle of the Consecration at twelve midnight on the dot. I renewed the Consecration to Chile in the Offertory. Lord let me deny nothing that You ask of me because I want and desire to be at Your service always. Jesus and Mary bless me. I thank You for Cieliciel, Karel and Trescel my protector Angels.

10. APPARITIONS OF 1987

On January 13th, 1987. The Virgin had said that on the eve of each 13th day of the first five months of the year we were to meditate for an hour on the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God and Her divine title in three parts. First: "I am the Immaculate Heart." Second: "of the Incarnation" and third: "of the Son of God". She would internally illustrate us about this mysterious and profound title.

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On the Hill I met Father Rubio who was writing a book about the apparitions, which he entitled "La Soledad Sonora" (The Sounding Solitude).

During the apparition Miguel Ángel cut a branch from the olive tree and handed us a leaf. Then he went to the Grotto of Lourdes, removed the cover of the well and threw some leaves from the olive tree down the well. He asked the Blessed Virgin when the water would sprout. If it would be on the 11th of February, Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes. She smiled at him.

Miguel Ángel said to the Virgin: "We are in battle again. What must we do? If we have to fight for the truth we must fight. Blessed are those who fight for peace and truth. What do we do? The truth will always prevail".

The Blessed Virgin asked for a vigil at midnight. On the morning of Wednesday January 14th, at 5:00 a.m. St. Michael the Archangel appeared. He went to each of the flags and spoke in their respective languages.

At the papal flag he said that a horrendous tragedy or catastrophe would occur in October. Then he had the recorders turned off and pointed out that there would be a terrible punishment worse than the earthquake of March 3 if the cassettes (recordings) were commercialized. Then St. Michael the Archangel requested that all the cassettes be given to me. He said that there would be another vigil at 10:00 p.m. and that the Archangel St. Gabriel would appear.

After the vigil St. Michael the Archangel appeared and he seer received Holy Communion in visible form.

He made us walk among thorns and stones; he walked around the place many times and entered the garden twice. After about 45 minutes he told us that we could rest and that St. Gabriel the Archangel would come later. He came around five o'clock and made the people enter the garden. He asked me to put some order and sent those who obeyed a special blessing. He announced that on a month of May the United States would send a terrible missile that would destroy a large part of humanity in 17 hours. Everything would be buried. A white cloud would descend over Chile from the North and from the South that would obscure everything around July. In a month of October a horrible catastrophe. Heavy rains and floods and earthquakes. Russia had to be consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God.

"Do not wait for the fog to cover you from North to South to beg for forgiveness. It will be worse than Pompeii. Do not wait for the sea to be covered and for the Sun to heat more to ask for forgiveness".

On January 31 Miguel Angel came to Los Vilos so I could hear his confession. Mauricio Tocornal brought him. Thus the Blessed Virgin in one way or another had him go to confession at least every 15 days.

There was an apparition on February 3rd at 2:20 a.m. that I could not attend.

Wednesday, 11th February. More than 10 priests were present in Peñablanca, several Argentines and Peruvians. In ecstasy Miguel Angel presented the Cross to the foreigners for them to kiss. No special messages were given. We were told to come at midnight.

Next day, February 12th he made people leave the Chapel, candles were distributed and the lights were turned off.

Miguel Angel beckoned me to the garden. He fell on his knees and formed an "M" with the blue ribbons. Enormous and beautiful rays of blessings fell for quite a long time. The rays fell especially on Lucy Elliott's ribbon; She had promised to wear it for the rest of her life in memory of Our Mother.

He presented the cross to all those inside the garden for them to kiss. He raised Javiera. Then ended with a message of consolation from the Blessed Virgin: *"Be not afraid, my protective mantle will be your refuge. When you are exhausted, I will be your health. When you are afflicted, I will be your consolation. Let nothing disturb you. When you need advice, I am the Mother of Good Advice. When you are sick, I am the Health of the Sick"*.

Apparition of March 13th. That day we brought the Vatican flags that the Blessed Virgin had requested. She gave them a special blessing, perhaps in preparation for the visit of the Holy Father.

A priest celebrated a campaign field Mass on the Hill. The Blessed Virgin said: *"Your Bishop said not to offer cult here, on Mount Carmel, then obey him, obey him, obey him. He also told you: you will not celebrate Mass, obey, obey. Do not confuse matters and no longer offend the Lord, as He has already been offended too much"*. And turning to the priests who come to Peñablanca She said: *"You will have to stand firm in the faith because the day will come that many will be weak. Firmness to cross the bridge, not only those of Peñablanca, but all the vicars, and all the favorite sons of all humanity"*. She continued by making an act of reparation for the offenses to Our Lord: *"Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Deliver us from the fires of Hell. Lead all souls up into Heaven and assist those most in need of Your Mercy"*.

She repeated it three times. Then She said that we could photograph the Sun and that we could also look at it.

Many people cried out in wonder, astonishment and joy at seeing the Sun spin, shooting beautiful multi-color rays that did not harm our eyes.

She later exclaimed: *"Always hold your forehead high and tell the truth, and fight for that truth. Because he who does not fight for the truth, knowing that many are in error, also commits the sin of lying and deceit"*.

Next to me was a seminarian from the Obra Misionera de la Transfiguración (Missionary Work of the Transfiguration), who is now a priest. The Virgin addressing him and that Congregation said: *"They are not to fear, my Immaculate Heart will be thy refuge. If someone trusts in Me everything will go well for him"*. In this manner the

Blessed Virgin replied the question that he had asked mentally regarding a problem the Congregation was having with their Bishop.

The Blessed Virgin announced an apparition for ten p.m. The Archangels St. Michael and St. Raphael would also come.

Tuesday, March 31st. Miguel Ángel called me and told me that St. Michael the Archangel would appear and that I could ask him all the questions that I wanted.

To ask the questions I assembled a small group of people I trusted in the Chapel, among them Alejandro Cifuentes and Alvaro Barros.

After having been to confession Miguel Ángel fell into ecstasy about five in the morning and asked the Archangel: "What happens in those Masses in which the priest has no intention of consecrating?"

The answer was that they were valid. Then I insisted: "And if there is no intention?" He replied: *"It is valid for him who is following it and for him who is going to receive it, because together with the priest the faithful also pronouncing some words help to consecrate"*. I did not understand the answer and asked for a further explanation. He replied: *"At the moment of the consecration the priest says the words to consecrate. The faithful answer. At that moment all are in communion so that God and Jesus does His ministry; and Jesus transforms into that Host, consecrated bread. The priest is the one who says the words and consecrates it, but the priest not having the intention of consecrating it, those souls who receive Holy Communion are receiving Our Lord. God will then give those priests what they deserve"*.

Another question was: "What must we do so that Communism does not invade Chile?" He replied: *"Your Mother has given you the solution: the Holy Rosary, Sacrifice and Penance. Penance is Confession. And visit the Blessed Sacrament at least for five little minutes."*

At the request of Alvaro Barros I asked the Archangel a new question: "Is there intelligent life on other planets. Have they passed through our tests". The Archangel replied by mouth of the seer: *"All I can say is: Your Lord, the Creator, My Lord, created the entire Universe"*. Miguel Ángel said: "He is not going to say anything. I am going to ask Our Lady about this.

Again I asked the Archangel: "What must we do for the unity of the flock", referring to the unity of the faithful of Peñablanca. He replied: *"What I said at the beginning: prayer, sacrifice and penance. Love and understanding, and fight for the truth"*.

Next I asked: "Would it be convenient to talk directly with Rome about the apparitions?" The precise reply was magnificent: "Catholic Rome already knows what is happening here. Leave the rest to Divine Providence ".

A young Peruvian boy named Abel Castro asked me to ask what the Blessed Virgin wanted from him. St. Michael the Archangel replied: *"For him to think before he acts. The he be a good Christian and a good disciple of Our Lord and Our Lady"*.

A woman mentally asked a personal question and the reply was: *"You will have to pray many Rosaries and make sacrifices. When Our Lord promises something, He fulfills it. Be patient"*. The lady was María Luisa Paredes who could not have children. Not long after she became pregnant. The child is now an adult. Blessed be God.

Members of the Mount Carmel Foundation asked me to ask if Our Lady was happy with the work carried out on the Hill, and if She wanted to reform the construction work. The Archangel replied: *"Our Lady as you say, is very happy with the spiritual work that has come out of here and has flourished. Regarding the material, it only remains for me to say that it will be fulfilled in time, but not everything"*.

At the request of Father Salinas who was very deaf, I asked for his health. He replied: *"That, Our Lady will say "*.

Then I asked the Archangel for something special for the Congregation of the Transfiguration of the Lord, to which I was very attached. He exclaimed: *"Let them help consecrate Russia, the United States, France and Italy to the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God, on the 12th of June"*.

I asked him if the Blessed Virgin liked the Consecration written for that date, for the 12th of June, or if it would be necessary to redact another one. The reply was: *"You may leave it as it is. Only one change: In the last paragraph add for the intentions of the Holy Father, the Church and Humanity. For Thy Lady and for the second coming of Thy Lord"*.

Miguel Ángel left the garden and wrote some words on the ground and erased them. Then he again wrote at the foot of the Cross, and with his finger drew the following sentence: *"Mater, ora pronobis."* María Auxilium Cristianorum. JHS, Ichthus". He drew a fish and then walked around the flags saying some phrases in their respective languages. In ecstasy he repeated very strong phrases against bad Priests, Bishops and Cardinals because *"God has left them in the World solely for atonement and to save souls and help sinners"*.

He ended the apparition by praising the Lord, kissing the ground and crossing himself.

Wednesday 1st April. The Pope arrived in Chile at 3:30 p.m. The President of the Republic received him. He visited the Cathedral and afterwards the San Cristobal Hill. It was wonderful. Thank God.

On Thursday, April 2, at half past nine, I was able to see the Holy Father in the Palacio de la Moneda (Government House). I waited from five a.m In the Patio de los Naranjos with the rest of the guests. The sister-in-law of the President had obtained the

invitation for me, as I had not been invited to the Cathedral with the rest of the clergy. It was something that deeply hurt me. I offered it to the Lord.

That day the Pope travelled to Valparaíso, to Rodelillo, not far from Peñablanca. A TV set was placed on the altar (in the Chapel) to be with the Pope during the first Mass he celebrated in the zone.

At 8 p.m. the Blessed Virgin appeared wearing the colors of the Vatican and the Sacred Heart, yellow and white. The 7 Archangels also came in light blue and white. She sent us many blessings in the form of beautiful rays. In ecstasy the seer drew the shields of 7 Popes in the sand and the coat of arms of the next Pope with a large letter M and a question mark. At that moment the Holy Father was in a meeting with the youth at the National Stadium in Santiago. It was packed to capacity.

On April 3 the Holy Father beatified Sister Teresa de los Andes. On April 4 he travelled to Punta Arenas, Puerto Montt and Concepción. On April 5 he visited Concepción and Temuco and from there flew to La Serena and then to Antofagasta. On Monday, April 6, from Antofagasta the Holy Father bid Chile farewell. The President of the Republic saw him off.

That day Mrs. Magdalena Haeussler Cousiño Castro (R.I.R) mother of a Carmelite nun and great believer in Peñablanca went to meet the Lord.

The visit of the Holy Father to Chile was the visit of Jesus, as everyone from the highest authorities to the last beggar received him with love, seeing in him the Divine Messenger.

During the apparition of April 13th at midnight Miguel Angel repeated several messages concerning the punishment. He lifted several persons and said that the next apparition would be on Good Friday at eight in the evening.

After the apparition I gave a talk to a group of Peruvians in the House of the Pilgrim, in Roma N ° 100, Peñablanca. I heard the confessions of several persons. Then we went to Los Vilos. We departed around 5: 30 and arrived at eight twenty, thank God.

On April 17, Good Friday, at 8p.m. I went with Alberto Avendaño in his car. Before the apparition I was able to hear Miguel Ángel's confession. He fell into ecstasy and told me to examine his head. It was bleeding because of the Passion of Christ. He excitedly narrated the entire Passion. Among some of the things that are not mentioned in the Gospels he told us that the Cyrenean had smiled and that Christ had returned his smile. He said that the Blessed Virgin had been hit when She took off Her veil so that Christ could cover Himself when they were stripping Him, and that She had been thrown to the ground. It was so painful that Miguel Angel asked the Lord to stop reliving the Passion. Then from heaven we were showered with as always-beautiful rays of blessings.

When the vision was over Miguel Ángel came to my side and told me to explain to the people that at the request of the Blessed Virgin I was his Spiritual Director, and I did so. There were many people present, especially from Santiago.

Sunday, April 19th. After Easter Sunday Mass there was a vigil until 4 in the morning. Miguel Ángel received Holy Communion in visible form and also drank the Sanguis or Blood of Christ from a chalice. Many rays or blessings rained down upon the attendees.

Wednesday May 13th. Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima. As I was going up the Hill I met the Austrian priest Father Arwer María Hummer, Provincial of the Opus Angelorum for Latin America. I had wanted to meet him for some time and this was made possible precisely on this blessed Hill, and on a day as beautiful as that of Our Lady of Fatima. I heard his confession and then, on my knees before him, I consecrated myself to my Guardian Angel.

6 priests were present. Besides Father Salinas from Los Vilos, there was Father Benito from La Serena, Father Andrés Batezaatti an Italian Salesian from Talca and Father Rodriguez from the Argentine.

I confessed Miguel Angel and the Blessed Virgin appeared at noon. In ecstasy the seer cut a rosebush that had no roses but had thorns that did not prick me when he handed it to me. He also presented the cross for me to kiss and knelt before each Priest and said: *"Guard the North and the South of Chile for Communism can enter. The Huemul and Condor will fight against the Sun. Pray the Rosary. Priests worry about your souls and those of your spiritual children. Husbands and wives unite. Parents love and teach your children. Children obey your parents, above all the older ones. Offend the Lord no more as too much He has been offended. Pray the Rosary"*.

During the apparition the priests were asked to bless the arch.

Apparition of May 27th, 9 p.m. The Blessed Virgin told us that once the great sign had been accomplished, She would remain for another five years. Full of joy we all applauded.

He again asserted that the alleged apparitions of St. Michael the Archangel in other parts of Chile were not true, and that we were to pray much for Father Luis. He repeated that we were to carefully guard the North and South of Chile. Immediately he received Holy Communion in mystical form. He addressed all the three priest present requesting that we bless all the religious objects. As always, there were many confessions.

Thursday, June 11th. Just as the Blessed Virgin had requested, I did a holy hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament and in silence consecrated Chile to the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God. I was alone in the Church of Los Vilos.

Friday, June 12th. Fourth anniversary of the apparitions. 48 countries were consecrated in Peñablanca. Each country made its consecration by order. It was directed by Miguel Ángel. First there was a brief review of the geopolitical situation of each nation, this was followed by the respective National Anthem of each nation and then came the consecration. The Pilgrims wore the national customs of each country. Peru was the first country consecrated. The 19th was Russia and the 20th Chile. Last came Paraguay. Father Salinas of Los Vilos, Father Benito of La Serena and I consecrated the Vatican. The ceremony began at noon and ended at four in the afternoon. It was a huge sacrifice for those who were standing. The sun was shining bright but it was very cold.

At a quarter to seven in the evening the Angel appeared to Miguel Angel and informed him that Our Lady was happy and that She would be coming next day at 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 13th. Feast Day of St. Anthony of Padua. The apparition was at 9:00 p.m. Among other things said: *"Do not allow Satan to deceive you and trouble your hearts. Be meek and strong in the faith. Great trials will come again. Many of you are going to deny. Do you see this?"* Miguel Angel pointed at the olive tree, *"If you do not water it, it will dry, or if you water it too abundantly, it will rot. He who has ears let him listen. I will perform one further miracle aside from that of Holy Communion for the glory of the Almighty".*

Sunday, June 14th. The Blessed Virgin appeared with the Child Jesus and the Seven Archangels. A message given to Miguel Angel on July 15th, 1983, which the Virgin had requested was not to be made known to anyone, was made public. It part it stated: *"Very soon when you see a strange light in the sky in the form of two Suns and two Moons it is the sign that God gives you to repent of your sins. The Holy Father will travel to Chile and soon after he has travelled he will be killed."* Then he said: *"A plague will befall the entire World. It will begin with the shedding of hair, blindness and things in the mouth".*

On June 20th there was a private apparition to Miguel Ángel. He was asked to build a column with an image of the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God. It was to be finished by September 29th. On July 4th She repeated that the image of the Virgin had to bear at its feet the coat of arms of Israel, a replica of the one placed by Chile on Mount Carmel in Israel, with the coat of arms of Chile.

On Monday, July 13th at midday the Virgin appeared with the Child Jesus and had us make a profession of faith, as a renewal of the promises of Baptism. It rained and She made us close our umbrellas. There were many missionaries from Colombia including Monsignor Zuloaga from the Diocese of Pereira who stayed at the home of Don Allen. Four of us priests were present as well as Brother Onofre, a Capuchin Missionary from

the Region of Araucanía. There were three nuns, one from Canada. I heard Miguel Ángel's confession before the apparition and found him to be well and very tranquil. He presented the Cross for us priests to kiss.

The profession of faith that he had us make had a special characteristic, it was more detailed and explanatory. When he prayed the Apostle's Creed at the beginning he added: *I believe in the Holy Catholic, Apostolic, Roman Church.* Then Our lady asked us: *"Do you believe in God the Father Almighty who is in Heaven?"* Yes we believe, responded those present. She added: *"Then, if you say you believe, have the Commandments obeyed and keep them".* All these explanations make us meditate and become aware of what we do. She added: *"What Our Lord has given and the Commandments of the Law of God, and go to Confession and visit the Blessed Sacrament, even if only for five short minutes".*

The profession of faith continued: *"Do you believe in Jesus Christ in the Tabernacle where the Consecrated Host is?"* Yes, we believe, answered the faithful. And then the detailed explanation of this profession of faith. *"Then if you believe, if you thus say, do not receive Him in sin. Receive Him very clean. And perform an act of adoration when you receive Him. And if you love my Son offend Him no more. Love Him and believe in God. He who does not love his neighbor does not love Jesus".* Then She added: *"You may give each other the greeting of peace, of brothers and those who are here, not only to friends, but let there be no enemies. Let grudges be forgotten because if there are grudges then you do not believe in the Lord, nor in the Divine redeeming Grace of My beloved Son".* It was really a new and beautiful prayer and act of faith that Blessed Virgin received from those present.

Then Miguel Ángel exclaimed: *"Now the Child Jesus asks this question: "Do you believe in my Mother the Immaculate Concepción and without blemish?"* Yes, we believe, we all answered. This was a new Act of Faith requested by the Child Jesus Himself, something wonderful. The Child Jesus continued: *"Do you also believe that She is the Mediatrix of all Graces and Mary Co-Redemtrix?"* Yes, we believe, we answered. The Child Jesus explained or made explicit our affirmation: *"Then, no longer offend the Immaculate Heart of Mary and pray the Rosary every day to attain peace in the world and the conversion of Russia. Consecrate yourselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. And I give you a weapon, a weapon that is this".* The Child Jesus showed the seer a Rosary we was holding in His hands, then He continued: *"And apart from this weapon, a very special one, which is Holy Communion and Confession and Mass. To enrich yourselves clothe yourselves with Mary, Help of Christians, in your hearts. And a banner was seen in all the chosen, a banner by name Mary Help of Christians. And the Holy Father was weeping and many shouted and threw blasphemies against God and against the Holy Church".* Then a pause, silence, and a melodious voice was heard: *"In the end My Immaculate Heart will triumph".* Then, the Holy Father raises his gaze to the heavens and a penetrating light surrounds him, saying: *"The gates of Hell will never prevail against Her. And then a writing in the sky: Regina Help of Christians".*

It was a very beautiful apparition. We all committed to the Child Jesus and his Mother, who is Our Mother.

This beautiful celestial interview ended with the Greek words that translate as "Mother of God", in this way: *"My children, beloved sons, I am the Theotokos"*.

The rain was intense. We were all happy and felt like children of the same Mother.

Thursday, July 16th, Feast Day of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. I was at our Parish in Los Vilos and could not go to Peñablanca. I remained in the Church praying in union with Mary and the pilgrims from 6:00 to 6:00.

September 29th, 1987. Today, Feast Day of St. Michael the Archangel, is the fifth time that I will be able to spend the feast day of my patron saint on the Hill. Professor and author Francisco Sánchez Ventura had come from Spain at the request of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He is a great Catholic, The Director of the Spanish magazine "Maria Mensajera" (Mary Messenger). The Virgin Mary gave an interesting message. Mentally I asked the Blessed Virgin two questions. Miguel Ángel did not understand the reply to the first one. It seems that the Virgin answered him in Latin. After the apparition he called me aside and gave me a message meant only for Priests that in short said that She would be the foundation of Her favorite children who obeyed Her orders. *"Many pests will come"*. She also spoke of the Apostles of the End Times.

On October 1st, because of the great number of confessions I heard, I was unable to attend the apparition that took place between 10:40 and 11:30 a.m., but I made my holy hour with the Angels. Among other things the Blessed Virgin said: *"Take care for the wolf comes disguised as a sheep". Let the Church that my Son has established here on Earth worry only about the things of the Lord, and let it not take another road. Let Chile pray for Chile, Peru for Peru, etc."*.

With sadness we heard Her say: *"Children, the penultimate day I am in Chile will be December 8th. Then my last day will be June 12th, 1988. I will not leave you alone for even a moment. Because I will come to do the sign that I promised you. Very soon. You will have a great test of faith that will horrify many. Keep strong in the faith and pray much so you do not fall."*

Tuesday, December 8th. The apparition was preceded by a procession and a vigil. I heard confessions from 7 p.m. on the 11th of December until 8:30 in the morning on December 8th. Four priests were present. The sun danced and the swallows circled above. The Blessed Virgin appeared at 7 a.m. and repeated some messages. About 25 thousand people were present, including many foreigners. She gave three branches of the olive tree to Mother Verena

This was the last apparition of 1987 and the next to last of them all. The thought that these apparitions were near their end saddened our hearts. But She will never abandon us and that is our steadfast hope.

11. PARTICIPATION OF THE ANGELS IN THE APPARITIONS

To not mention the Angels in the apparitions of Peñablanca would be an inexcusable omission. There are few apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in which there have been so many manifestations of the Angels as in Peñablanca. This is the opinion of Priests who specialize in this subject. One of them being Father Gabriel Sin, a senior member in the "Opus Angelorum".

Angels are pure spirits created by God with far superior intelligence and will than men. They are mysterious, intangible, powerful, immaterial beings that may even instill fear. In fact, fear is the first impression that the appearance of an Angel produces. For this reason, the first words they tend to pronounce when they appear are: "Be not afraid". (To Zechariah. To the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Annunciation. To the shepherds in Bethlehem. To the women on the morning of the Resurrection). The great theologian Saint Thomas Aquinas is the one who has studied them most extensively and that is why he is called Doctor Angelicus.

The first manifestation of the Angels in Peñablanca was a choir heard by hundreds of people in the early hours of the morning of October 1983. The closest thing on earth would be a Gregorian chant sung by the monks in a Benedictine Abbey. Far superior to this is the angelic choir. They appeared as billowing columns that touched the sky and Earth, of various soft colors like a rainbow, but straight. Other times they manifested in the form of very near and very bright stars that produce joy and tranquility.

The names of the seven Archangels, which surround the Throne of God, were revealed to us: Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Rogiel, Uriel, Triguel and Glosiel. The names of the Guardian Angels of many persons were also given.

On January 23, 1985 many Angels appeared and some gave us their names: Triguel, server of the Holy Trinity. Uriel, the keeper of the Book of Life. Glosiel, the Glory of God. Rogiel, a worshipper who worships now and forever, world without end.

Every time the seer received Holy Communion the blessed hosts were brought by St. Michael the Archangel from a distant tabernacle such as the Basilica of Lourdes, the Basilica of Fatima and even from St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

I remember having met the Superior de la Obra de los Ángeles para Sudamérica (Superior of the Work of the Angels for South America) on the Hill in Peñablanca, and in his presence having made my consecration with my Guardian Angel.

The language of the Angels in Peñablanca was firm, severe and concrete. The Angels delivered the strongest and more formidable warnings.

The Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael appeared several times giving messages.

Also present on April 4th 1988, was the Guardian Angel of Chile, so forgotten by us. This Angel said: *"When you are afflicted recourse to me, the Angel of Chile. Very soon there will be many killings here in Chile. If you do not heed to the pleas and there is no prayer, blood will run throughout the nation"*. He left us a prayer: *"Guardian Angel of Chile. Save the country for which you are responsible. Help the wailing nation. Help find peace, love and devotion. Protect all our families because this nation has been entrusted to you"*. On April 9 of that year the Angels of Chile, France and Portugal were present, and said: *"Last warning, guard the North and the South"*. Also present were the Angels of Concord and Peace.

In the apparition of February 11th 1985, the Angels said: *"Chile, Chile, you do not want to understand what your Mother says". The Angels beseech Our Lord but you do not want to understand. You have salvation right here and you do not want to understand. If you but knew what the Lord has prepared for you, you yourselves would not hesitate to change, but everything has been said."*

The call of the Angels is really distressing, but our ears do not want to hear. Lord open our ears that we may hear, the ears of the soul, and our eyes that we may see. There are so many deaf and blind by choice. In one of the apparitions Mary said: *"You do not want to hear the trumpets of the Angels of the Lord"*.

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On October 22nd, 1987 the 7 Archangels appeared and gave very important messages. Among other things the Archangel Glosiel said: *"Do this: recourse to me, Glosiel, when you want to pray before the Tabernacle"*. That is, that with his help we will be able to achieve a greater spirit of concentration to be able to pray before the Blessed Sacrament without distractions.

The purpose of this chapter is to give an overview of the participation of the Angels in the events at Peñablanca, to point out, on the one hand, that it is one of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in which the Angels have most appeared, and on the other hand, that they have given us many forceful messages that need to be known by the faithful. Our duty is to make them known and with fervor ask that our understanding be illuminated to faithfully fulfill the divine commands.

As their participation in the apparitions and the messages are included in the books about Peñablanca by Alvaro Barros and María Luisa Paredes previously mentioned, I will therefore not explain them in detail here. However, I want to end this chapter with a nostalgic and pathetic message from the Archangel Uriel: *"How many times has your Mother given blessings and you have not wanted to receive them. How many times has your Mother, Help of Christians, given you Her Heart, but you only drive thorns into the Immaculate Heart. She gave you a very powerful weapon, the Rosary, but it seems that it is in vain for many. Prayer and Holy Mass and Holy Communion, is a*

very powerful weapon against Satan. Love your Mother's Heart and worship... do not be afraid... worship Jesus, who is in the Tabernacle waiting with open arms".

Holy Angels of God we give you infinite thanks and we promise to be more devout and obedient to your mysterious and heavenly calls. Blessed Mary, Queen of the Angels, to thee we clamor and cry and ask for forgiveness and grace. Amen.

12. APPARITIONS OF 1988

The year 1988 was in some ways a sad year because it was the last year the Blessed Virgin would appear. The following years, up to 1993 and onwards, were years of faith. Friday and Saturday especially (She) would come in silence, without special manifestations. Her presence was with us.

The only public appearance of Our Mother that year was the sad day of Her farewell at the end of the five-year period of Her visits to the blessed hills of Peñablanca.

But there were apparitions of the White Lady of Peace in Peru. Some families had invited Miguel Ángel to Lima. I anonymously received, as a gift, a return ticket that I used to travel in February of that year.

The people of Lima, and of Peru in general, are very hospitable and generous. They still keep many customs inherited from the former Viceroyalty, although the time and circumstances have entirely changed. So it was that on February 10th, 1988 I arrived in the beautiful, colonial city of Lima. I stayed at the home of the pious and distinguished Camino Canok family who with a large crowd had come to meet me at the Chavez International Airport.

Next day after celebrating Holy Mass Miguel Ángel came to visit me. He came to invite me to give a talk to a group of young women and girls, enthusiasts of the apparitions in Peñablanca. After giving a two-hour talk I heard confessions. Young people ages 14 to 25 more or less. This first day of my stay in Lima was very fruitful spiritually speaking.

The next day I went to visit the Archbishop of Arequipa, Monsignor Fernando Vargas Ruiz de Somocursio. He had heard of the manifestations of the Blessed Virgin in Chile and gave me to understand he truly believed in these apparitions. He is a holy Jesuit Archbishop, much loved and respected in his Archdioceses.

On Saturday I had to give a couple of talks to different groups of Peruvian followers of Peñablanca who with true interest and devotion asked all sorts of questions. The vast majority had visited Chile and had attended various apparitions of the Blessed Virgin.

Monday, February 15th. We were all in the house of the Ferreiros family except for the homeowners who were abroad. All their children were there with a great number of their friends including Mr. And Mrs. Fuentealba. Miguel Angel came down from the

second floor and fell to the floor in ecstasy, knocking his knees hard with out suffering any damage. After a while he began to speak in other languages. He recited the Lord's prayer in multiple languages. He asked for someone to examine his head. No one dared until a young girl approached him and started parting his hair. Suddenly she gave an exclamation as blood had begun to emerge with the same signs as always, resembling the Crown of Thorns of Our Lord. He then gave a few messages for Peru and some for family members who were present regarding their unity. He received Holy Communion in mystical form. Still in ecstasy he presented the Cross for it to be kissed. The young visitors who had never witnessed such a thing were frightened and very impressed. We were all on our knees praying the Rosary.

February 17th. Ash Wednesday. We received the ashes in the Parish of Fatima of the Jesuit Fathers.

Thursday, February 18th. I had a long conversation with two psychologists from Lima who had met Miguel Angel. They told me that they considered him to be a very normal boy.

Friday, February 19th. I had to give a talk to about 200 people in the Village of Chiolayo and had the opportunity of talking with the Auxiliary Bishop of Lima, Monsignor Noriega, greatly loved by his parishioners for his humility and intelligence. He was convinced of the truth of the apparitions of Peñablanca and greatly interested. He had also had a long conversation Miguel Ángel.

In the company of Mr. Luis Barco, a very good Catholic and influential person from Lima who owed his conversion to Peñablanca, and who felt a great affection for Miguel Angel, I had the opportunity of meeting Mr. Huaman, a well known Peruvian psychologist whom Miguel Ángel, unbeknown to me, had consulted at the urgings of who knows whom. It crossed my mind that during an apparition the Blessed Virgin had told us that there was to come a horrific test of faith and intuitively and I thought that this person could be somewhat related to that test of faith.

In strict confidence he showed us Miguel Angel's psychoanalysis test, which, according to him, indicated that he was a Hermaphrodite. I was dumfounded. I asked Our Lord to give me interior strength to keep calm and serene. It was something that called for much prayer and trust in God. If he was a hermaphrodite, he had both sexes and to define himself he would have to choose one. But to solve this terrible problem this would have to be consulted with Catholics and highly specialized doctors. We would have to pray much and leave it in God's hands. Later, when the most renowned specialists from London examined him, it was established without a shadow of a doubt that Miguel Ángel was male and not female. Unfortunately at the instigation of the devil and his minions who entered his mind he chose to go with the female line he also presented. And by drawing away from the Sacraments and from his Spiritual Director, he unfortunately embarked on the wrong path. Once again one is amazed by the mystery of Free Will. I trusted in the Lord that someday he will return repentant and will take up a holy life. It is a matter of time, prayer and much patience.

Because of our many commitments I did not have an opportunity to speak alone and calmly with Miguel Angel while in Lima, but I intended to have a serious conversation with him once we got back to Chile.

On Sunday, February 21st Miguel and I returned to Chile. Invited by some Peruvian friends he had travelled to Peru long before I did. During our flight home he showed me part of the report of the Peruvian psychologist. I had already seen the entire report because Divine Providence had ordained for me to meet this psychologist and for him to show me the report before he (Miguel Angel) saw it. It was only a report from a psychologist, not from a specialized physician, therefore it was a mere opinion formed on the basis of one or two sessions. Miguel Angel was tired and fell asleep while I prayed the Rosary so that the Virgin would clear up this annoying situation.

As soon as we landed Miguel Angel, as restless as ever, boarded a bus for Villa Alemana refusing to stay in Santiago.

Saturday, February 27th I travelled to Peñablanca because I had to give a retreat on the Hill. I taped my meditations on a cassette and settled myself in a corner to hear confessions.

Sunday, February 28th, I had a great meeting with all leaders of the five prayer groups of the Region.

On Thursday, March 3rd I travelled to Los Vilos. And on Saturday March 5th I conducted the Cenacle of Marian Movement of Priests that the Blessed Virgin had personally requested be celebrated every First Saturday of the month.

On Thursday, March 10th, I had lunch and a lengthy conversation with father Hummer, Provincial for Latin America of La Obra de Los Ángeles (The Work of The Angels), who entrusted me to carry out various spiritual activities for this Order which is not yet established in Chile. During this time I received many favors from my Guardian Angel that will serve no purpose to detail in this book.

Thursday April 21st. I had the pleasure of having an intense conversation with Mother Enriqueta Corvalán, a holy woman, founder of the "Obra Misionera de la Transfiguración del Señor" (Missionary Work of the Transfiguration of the Lord) who encouraged me to stay firm, to trust and to continue with this difficult task. Mother Henrietta firmly believes in the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Peñablanca. This holy woman has suffered the stigmata of Our Lord and has made many prophecies that have been fulfilled to the letter. I hope that one day soon she may be elevated to the altars as she is very privileged soul since her childhood and whose writings I hope will soon be made known.

Saturday, April 23rd. I conducted a Marian retreat to a bus-full of pilgrims from La Serena.

May 12th, 1988. We consecrate the World to the Immaculate Heart of the Incarnation of the Son of God in a long ceremony that lasted several hours. Each country made its own special consecration. The consecration requested by the Blessed Virgin was translated into 10 languages and sent to different parts of the World. Everyone came bearing the flag and wearing the national costume of a different country. We were left with feeling of brotherhood and joy at having complied with the wishes of the Blessed Virgin.

At this time I suffered several asthma attacks that served for inner purification and to offer them for many intentions.

JUNE 12th, 1988

Mixed emotions, pain, joy, gratitude, bewilderment. It is difficult to express our feelings. Our Mother's last day. Her farewell from this land that did not know how to receive Her, that watched the visit of the Queen of Heaven to our homeland with indifference and sometimes with derision and sarcasm. "The country that has given me the worst reception" echoes in our ears like a lament, like a complaint, a sword that pierces our souls. But by ecclesiastical authorities had stated the Blessed Virgin. Civilian and military authorities at least were respectful and kept silent.

The night a large group kept vigil in preparation for Her arrival. Many nocturnal confessions as usual.

Alvaro Barros and María Luisa Paredes both narrate this entire episode in detail in their respective books.

Miguel Ángel was in ecstasy. There were several priests and nuns from overseas. I was kneeling next to Doctor Alan Rojas, one of the main pillars of Peñablanca.

The last words of the Virgin: "I love you and thank you all, and this country, for letting me stay for five years". We all wept in silence. Her words penetrated our souls like a sharp knife that pierces through and through. The Mother was bidding us farewell, leaving us plunged in loneliness and tears, in peace and in submission to the Will of Our Lord. Dr. Rojas who was kneeling next to me hugged me and said, "Our Mother leaves us". What emptiness, what peace and what nostalgia. How to express so many emotions with human words.

Thank you Mother for your miraculous visits to this privileged corner of Chile. Gives us inner strength to withstand your absence, and true humility to fulfill our duties as your sons and as brothers of our brothers.

The seer from Chagres was also present that day. He approached me and said: "Do not travel because the Devil is furious with you". I thought he meant a trip abroad and so I told him that I was not planning to travel. However, he meant not to travel to Los Vilos, which I failed to understand. That evening we departed in Alberto Avendaño's car. The poor man had stayed awake all night in vigil and had not slept a wink. I remember that we were praying when he fell asleep at the wheel and suddenly the car swiveled to the right, changed direction, careened through some fields and finally crashed into some bushes.

Alberto wounded his forehead against the windshield and I fractured my right arm. We were all alone in the middle of nowhere. The car was damaged and we were unable to continue our journey. My first attempt was to reach the road to find a police station. In my muddled mind I thought there would be one not too far away.... However, this was far from the truth. There was nothing there. Then I saw three young, very solicitous and courteous young men approaching me. They said: "Father, we will go. Now, meanwhile you go back to the car and try to sleep." The pain left me, I returned to the car and we slept peacefully through the night. Next day a good Samaritan took us to our respective destinations. He said: "Once, in a similar situation, I was aided by a Priest and now I return the hand with pleasure". After meditating on the situation, and by the characteristics of those three young men in the middle of nowhere, I came to the conclusion that they must have been our Guardian Angels who made us sleep and rest. Thank you Guardian Angels. This was a year full of great emotions and gratitude to the Lord and the Blessed Virgin.

Some time later I felt very ill and suffered several asthma attacks. I was taken to the hospital in Los Vilos and I asked Father Arwer María Hummer, Provincial of the Opus Angelorum to give me extreme unction.

August 14th, eve of the Assumption of Our Lady. I thought it was my last day on Earth and I waited for the Virgin to come fetch me on the 15th. I was happy in the hospital. The good nurses and the doctor looked after me with respect and solicitude. I did not feel lonely nor abandoned because I felt the love of the Heavenly Mother, who is also Our Mother. Father Salinas brought me Holy Communion every day. However, time passed and in time I recovered.

Thank you Lord for so many blessings.

13. EPILOGUE

MESSAGE TO THE CLERGY.

Until a little more than a year ago I had intended to use my notes on the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca as basis for someday writing an eyewitness account of what had occurred. My investiture as a Priest would without a doubt make them special for any future investigations undertaken for the purpose of verifying the authenticity of the apparition. I even thought that perhaps it would be best that they be published after my death.

But the Blessed Virgin had something very different in mind, and with that delicacy so innate to Her, She arranged everything in such a way that without my intending it, things were provided so that I could begin preparations immediately. She placed on my path persons that out of immense love for Her were willing to work on this project of mine, collaborating with everything that was necessary. It was as if I had been given strong momentum and had been told: I need it now and here is the help that you need!

Under these circumstances I decided to start making preparations for this book immediately. However, a surprise awaited me. The approach that I had intended to give the book was basically a narrative of the facts that I had been lucky enough to witness. However, She wanted me to go beyond that, and that is how, little by little, in the drafting of the text there emerged arguments what I would define as a message directed toward the clergy. When I got to the final draft I had no doubt that the main intention of the Blessed Virgin in publishing this testimony was to send, by means of a priest, a very direct and profound message to Chilean priests.

CONCLUSIONS

Whosoever wants to search directly for the Conclusions of this book will find them in chapter 3 "Clarifications" and, fundamentally in Chapter 2 "Introduction", where with the greatest possible openness I have explained my position on the authenticity of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Notwithstanding the above Conclusions it is my intention to end this testimony with a few thoughts:

The Sanhedrin and most of the Pharisees sentenced Jesus to death. The manifestations or apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Peñablanca were also, at the time, condemned to die by those whom She calls her "favorite sons".

Almost all of the Apostles were afraid and fled in the time of Jesus. Many priests were confused and kept silent, frightened by the sanctions that could be applied to them if they defended the apparitions of Mary.

The people of that time shouted: crucify Him, crucify Him. Through newspapers voices arose to insult the manifestations of the Blessed Virgin in Peñablanca.

The Holy women, some of whom had repented of their past follies, were brave and defended Jesus. Also in these apparitions were many who defended its authenticity, among these those who had been converted by the sweetness of the Blessed Mother.

With the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead those who were convinced of the supernatural triumph of the Messiah returned to the fold. Upon the first Mass being officiated in the blessed hill those who had earlier fled from the Mount Carmel of Peñablanca also returned.

Jesus said: They shall come from the East and from the West, and to them shall be given the Kingdom and they will believe without having seen. Also in Peñablanca many faithful from other countries and compatriots who never attended the apparitions have believed without having seen. Jesus blessed those who believe without having seen and rebuked Thomas for his incredulity. Unlike what happened in Chile, in other countries the apparition of Peñablanca has been virtually recognized.

It is true that the Blessed Virgin Mary does not need official recognition from theologians to appear wherever the Lord wills. Nor do the faithful require that the apparitions of the Virgin Mary be officially recognized to believe in them.

But all those who have received graces, whether it be the cure of an illnesses of the eyes, of cancer, of paralysis, etc; whether it be a conversion of the heart, a return to the Holy Sacraments, or having found unity and peace within their families; or mothers who have given birth to sons that medicine declared to be impossible unless by a miracle from Heaven; or those who have returned from another religion to the bosom of the Catholic Church; or those who witnessed supernatural manifestations; or those who know that the Blessed Virgin has been in Peñablanca, and will continue to be

present there, or those who ascend Mount Carmel with faith and love, they, as Apostles of the Latter Times, will testify and defend this truth.

For these missionaries of the White Lady of peace, our priestly blessing.

They are covered by Her Maternal mantle, as also are those who by the grace of faith have believed in Her apparitions in Peñablanca without ever having been present.

Praise be to the Lord and to his Blessed Mother.