

15-10-2026

"Hail Mary!

Dearest daughter in the Lord,

What joy you gave me when I left! Indeed, while I was wondering how I would distribute the duties left by your sisters, you joyfully came to your mother and told me that you would take care of everything. Thank you, my daughter, for your good heart. Keep going, María Ángeles; always be very good and selfless. Jesus, your divine Bridegroom, who expects complete self-giving from you, will teach you how to love truly.

If only you knew, my daughter, how much one suffers here in the land of Lucca, where we see our beloved Gemma so little loved and so greatly misunderstood! My daughter, let us strive to love her truly and to love her very much. There is such joy in loving her. Gemma is so good that she will know only too well how to repay you with great kindness. You too must be generous with her, offering her at every moment acts of pure love, acts of generosity towards those around you, acts of great love towards everyone, so that each person may see in you a soul in love with your Jesus, a soul that lives for love, a soul that feels and longs for the sanctification of your own soul with all the strength you possess, so that, through it, you may obtain the sanctification of all others.

Yes, my daughter, pray for those who do not know how to pray. Seek Jesus at every moment for those who do not know how to seek Him. Love Him for those who do not know how to love Him. Like the wise virgins, strive always to be ready, always attentive, always seeking whatever you still lack, so that you may become the soul that your beloved Jesus, your beloved Mother, and your dearest sister, Blessed Gemma, expect you to be. I remember you and love you in the loving "nest" of your love, Jesus.

Magdalena of J[esus], M[ary] and G[emma].

Give my greetings to all the sisters and a little kiss to the little ones".

As is our tradition, the first meeting of the "15" after the autumn break is dedicated to Saint Gemma Galgani. This time, we begin with a letter, written in Spanish, which Magdalena Aulina sent to María Ángeles Terradas Soler at the end of August 1934 from Lucca, where she had travelled, accompanied by María Dolores Terradas and Manuel and José María Bofill, to visit the places associated with Gemma (who had been beatified on 14 May 1933).

This letter is one of the many testimonies to the importance Magdalena attached to devotion to Gemma, through whose intercession she had been miraculously healed on 3 April 1923. Signing herself "Magdalena of Jesus, Mary and Gemma", she thanks María Ángeles for joyfully offering to take on all the duties left vacant by her "sisters" when they departed for Italy. She urges her to practice self-denial and to give herself completely to Jesus, whom she calls the "divine Bridegroom". Writing to her from Lucca, she expresses her sorrow that, in those very places, Blessed Gemma is "so little loved and so greatly misunderstood" and invites María Ángeles to make amends for this lack of love by loving her even more intensely. She explicitly recalls the Gospel parable of the "wise virgins", encouraging her to remain ever watchful and ready, with the lamp of faith burning brightly. Finally, she urges her to take responsibility for others, praying, seeking, and loving Jesus on behalf of those who do not know how to do so.

Magdalena concludes the letter with two expressions filled with tenderness.

Addressing her young friend, she tells her: "I remember you and love you, and I do so while remaining with you in the loving nest of Jesus' love." In other words, we remember and love one another "in Jesus". The "loving nest of love" is the love of Christ that surrounds them both and in which they are both safe. It is a beautiful expression of mystical friendship.

Then Magdalena adds: "Give my greetings to all the sisters and a little kiss to the little ones." Just as a mother would do with her daughters!

On several occasions, Magdalena expressed her desire that the young women who had begun to live with her in Banyoles should become true inner "gems", "gems" of union with God. Her invitation to them was clear: "Let us meditate upon Gemma's loves, which, like sparks, spring forth from the burning hearts of the saints: Jesus Christ, His Most Holy Mother, and souls."

For this reason, Magdalena addressed Gemma with these words: "Our protectress, I would like to fly along the path of virtue, but I have no wings. Give me your help, so that I may reach the place Jesus has assigned to me."

The previous year, Magdalena had written a beautiful prayer addressed to Blessed Gemma, entrusting to her the souls that had been placed in her care: "Blessed Gemma, my dearest sister, you who taught me so much about loving Jesus and my Mother, the Virgin Mary, here, in this very place where you suffered so greatly in order to achieve perfection that your heart desired and felt, to the point of becoming one with your Love beyond anything words can express, I, your little sister, on behalf of all the souls you have entrusted to me and from whom you expect the perfection to which each one is called... Be for them, as you are for me, both mother and sister, and in this way may they all reach the place Jesus has assigned to them. Gemma, my sister, remember them all, every one of them, and especially those who, for your greater glory, know best how to suffer and deny themselves for your love, until they see you fully glorified and loved even by those who do not know you."

