



## Our Incredible *Mother Teresa* Story

### *A Blessing from a Saint*

Mother Teresa was scheduled to speak on June 16, 1986 at Veteran's Stadium in Long Beach, CA, USA. A few days before the event, Sylvia Aimerito, a Holy Family Church co-choir director, decided to call the promoters to ask, if by some wild chance, they needed music. To our happy surprise, they said yes! That is how our humble little choir from Artesia, CA helped provide the music for a living saint and how I was able to sing a song about her that I had written especially for the occasion.

That afternoon Mother Teresa led us in a moving Rosary and closed with a powerful talk about God's love, His gift of life, and the horrible, tragic discarding of that beautiful gift – abortion. After the event, I stood away from the crowds and watched her limo start to leave the stadium grounds. I was hoping to catch just one more glimpse of this holy and remarkable woman. Suddenly, about 25 feet from where I stood, the limo stops and the dark tinted window rolls down. A small hand beckons someone to the car.

I looked around me thinking, "Oh my gosh! Who do they want? Who are they calling?" After a few moments I realize ... they're calling me! I run up, quickly compose myself, and gently hand the sheet music with the chords and lyrics to her Missionaries of Charity sister/assistant who sat closest to the window. I recall saying, "Sister, Mother Teresa ... Please, I want you to have the song I wrote for you..." Her assistant smiles at me and gently takes the paper from my mildly trembling hand.

I said thank you and began to move away from the car when Mother Teresa motions for me to stop ...and come closer. I move towards her and she slowly reaches over her companion and tenderly puts her hand on my forehead in a gesture of blessing. Then she smiles and softly says: "Keep singing."

I will never forget her eyes; how she looked at me. There was this unforgettable expression of warmth and affection in her eyes; a look of such genuine and overwhelming love... (Since then, having read nearly every book ever written about her, many who have met her have shared their experience of her grace-filled eyes). As the limo slowly drove away, Sylvia, who had been watching it all from a distance, rushed up to me asking what had happened. Soon others came up, many wanting to touch the forehead that had been softly caressed by a living saint.

I thank God for Sylvia who made the eleventh-hour phone call that created this amazing, serendipitous event. And I thank her for being a witness to what transpired because truthfully, there have been moments when I find myself incredulous that it actually occurred (which I suspect is a common reaction for many when something unexpectedly magnificent happens to them). But there was a time I'd hesitate to share this extraordinary experience after fellow believers would react negatively. It was disheartening to think that this blessed event would arouse feelings of what I presume was mild resentment or jealousy. But with time, that disappointment led to a deeper understanding that we are all, in some ways, like fragile children, struggling to feel loved and struggling for attention; when all the while we are immensely and infinitely loved by an attentive and loving Father who never takes His eyes off us.

And also with time came the profound awareness that Mother Teresa's beautiful directive is meant for *all of us*. We all "sing" in one way or another. And when we use our unique, God-given gifts and talents to do His will and help make this hurting world more like His world, we are answering God's call, given through Mother Teresa, to "keep singing."

Mother Teresa spoke powerfully about the horrors of abortion that lazy summer afternoon. And twenty-five years later, with AudioGirl Ministries, we find ourselves passionately embracing her resounding call to save the babies and to stand up as best we can with courage, conviction, and compassion, for God's gift of life.

I thank Mother Teresa and our heavenly Father for the awesome gift of that beautiful day. And I thank them for the clarity of our calling and the calling of all who are "bold and active voices for the unborn." May all lovers of life, always and forever, "Keep singing."

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