

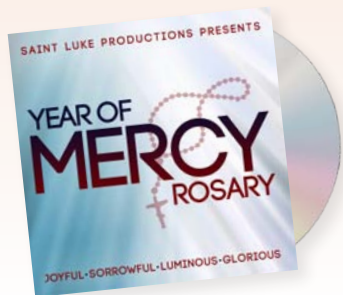
FOR THE YEAR OF MERCY

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WHAT'S INSIDE

FALL 2015

The Big Fish

Audiences Applaud You!

Confessions of a "Flip or Flop" Addict

Thérèse's Parents—What's So Special?

Please God, Where's Tolton?

And More!

NATIVITY ICON



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YOU BROUGHT A SOUL TO CHRIST

AN AMAZING STORY TO LAUNCH THE YEAR OF MERCY

“This is a good sign; tonight we’ll catch a big fish.”



By Leonardo Defilippis

Here’s a story – one of so many – of how your gift to Saint Luke Productions is saving souls.

After a long set-up filled with technical difficulties and frantic final preparations for a performance of *Vianney*, my stage manager and I went into an adoration chapel for a moment of prayer before the show. I was sick, and we were both so tired that we nearly fell asleep kneeling there. That’s when Joseph turned to me and said:

“This is a good sign; tonight we’ll catch a big fish.”

An old man came up to me, tears in his eyes. “I have returned home! I have returned home!” he said.

That’s what Saint John Vianney would always say, after he spent a sleepless night battling the devil, literally bruised and beaten. The next day a great sinner would come to confession and receive God’s Mercy.

So I smiled,

got up, and performed *Vianney* for an audience of three hundred people that night.

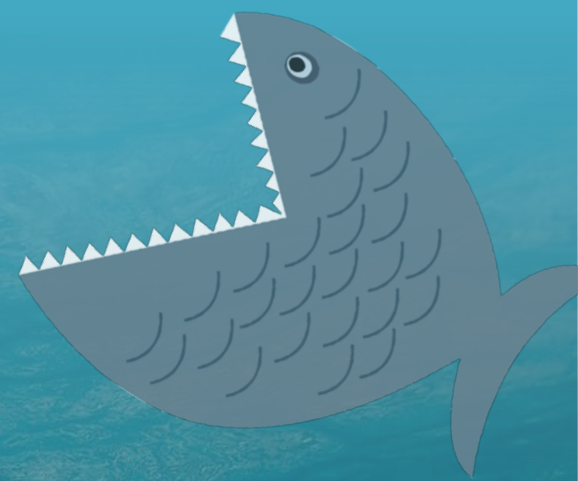
The pastor of the parish was so deeply moved by the drama, and by the character of the Curé of Ars, that at the end of the show he announced that he and three other priests would be available to hear confessions.

Half the audience got in line to receive God’s Mercy.

As we were taking down the set after the performance, an old man came up to me, tears in his eyes. “I have returned home! I have returned home!” he said. His sins had been wiped away after decades of neglect and avoidance. Mercy had touched his soul.

Suddenly, we recognized that he was our “big fish.” Saint John Vianney had caught this soul and brought him home.

So it’s all worth it. I’m on the front



lines, seeing lives that are changed. But you – you’re the real hero. You’re quietly in the background, praying, sending what you can to fund these productions. You care, not just about people’s physical poverty, but about their SPIRITUAL poverty.

Maybe you don’t see the change where you’d like – in your own family, with your own children. But your sacrifices ARE saving souls, and you’ll meet those souls in Heaven.

So thank you. Thank you for caring about the salvation of others. Thank you for supporting this work. As we enter the Year of Mercy, let’s join together to bring these life-changing dramas to audiences who might never have known the Infinite Mercy of God, who can forgive ANY SIN.



Please God, where's Tolton?

Storm Heaven for our actor.

We've auditioned several talented actors for the role of Father Augustus Tolton, the first African American priest. So far, God has not presented the faith-filled actor we need to produce this drama. Therefore we're delaying the opening, but WE'RE NOT GIVING UP.

Our world needs this story! Look at the tension all around us—so much division between races, between religions, between the culture

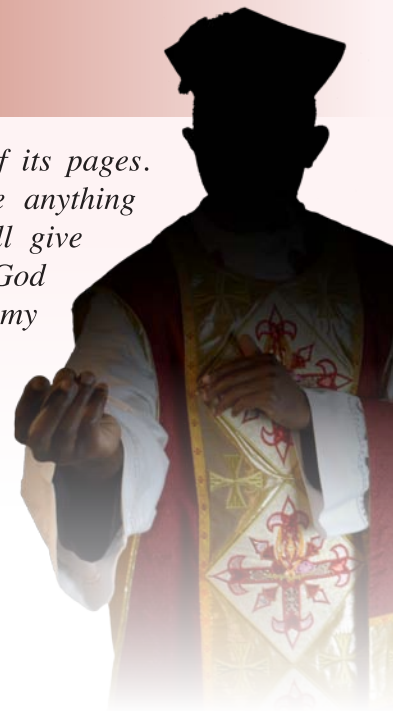
"I have powers and principalities to resist."

of life and the culture of death. We need Father Tolton!

I am asking you to storm Heaven – ask God to bring our *Tolton* actor to us! He's out there; we know it! Pray, pray, pray! The words of Father Tolton give me hope to persevere:

"I am beginning to see that I have powers and principalities to resist anywhere and everywhere I go. The world is indeed a great book and I have

read many of its pages. When I have anything to give I will give it right off. God has destined my life to be this way and I must be contented."



What's so special about St. Thérèse's parents?

Saints Zélie and Louis—They're really like you and me.

When you think of the parents of Saint Thérèse, you picture perfect, pious people, right? After all, it would take flawless parents to produce Saint Thérèse, a Doctor of the Church.

But consider these points:

Zélie was a workaholic. She had her own lace-making business and was pulled in a million directions, with work, family and community vying for her time.

Louis developed Alzheimer's and had to spend time in a mental institution. He ran away one time, and had to be confined.

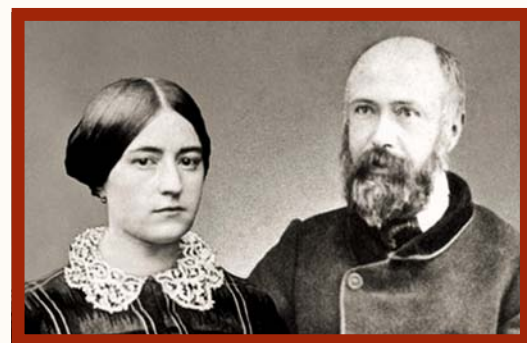
Saints Zélie and Louis Martin know what we're all up against, and they're in Heaven to help us in our mission here on earth.

Zélie lost four of her children in infancy and early childhood. She couldn't nurse them, and it's strongly suspected that a couple of them starved to death through the neglect of their wet nurse.

Both parents dealt with the shock of discovering that their problem child, Leonie, was being abused physically and verbally by the maid.

Listen to the voice of Zélie, speaking about her greatest sorrow:

"When I closed the eyes of my dear children and buried them, I felt the sorrow indeed, but it has always been resigned sorrow. I did not regret the pain and cares I had borne for them. Several people said to me, 'It would have been better if you had never had them,' but I could not endure this sort of language.... They were not lost forever; life is short and full of miseries, and we shall find them again up yonder."



First married couple canonized together.

Zélie Martin understands a modern mother's anguish, as she watches her children fall prey to addictions and destructive behavior.

Louis Martin understands the helplessness of children watching their parents descend into Alzheimer's and dementia.

Let's raise up sons and daughters who have the courage to face the battle for the soul of our culture. Saints Zélie and Louis Martin know what we're up against, and they're in Heaven to help us on our mission here on earth.

Saints Zélie and Louis Martin, pray for our families.



Saints Louis & Zélie played by Patti and Leonardo Defilippis in the feature film *Thérèse*.

CONFESSIONS OF A **FLIP** or **FLOP** ADDICT



FAMILY REFLECTIONS

I admit it: I like to watch HGTV home improvement shows on Netflix. In most of them, people are either renovating their house in order to sell it, or they're buying a house with the hope of "flipping" it to make more money.

The experts come in and tear out the outdated kitchen, pull up old flooring, replace the bathtub with a luxurious spa, and on and on.

Our house would be a perfect candidate for a TV makeover.

Our house would be a perfect candidate for one of these shows. I look around at the worn linoleum, the dry rot behind the sink, the stained carpets and the broken front door, and I'm tempted to gut it all and start over.

The problem is, you can't just do one thing. Repairing that little patch of

dry rot means replacing the entire countertop. A new countertop requires new (or at least resurfaced) cupboards, and new cupboards mean you might as well replace the stove-top and the oven with the broken cleaning feature, and since the floor is the worst feature of the kitchen, you'd better pull that up too. But then that connects to the family room carpet, and you can't leave that. Not to mention how junky the furniture looks with all that new stuff. So before you know it, the whole downstairs is gutted, and I have a beautiful remodeled home.

It would be nice. But I'm not going to do all that, and you can guess why. Kids in college. Cars with oil leaks. Weddings and family gatherings. Life!



It's easy for me to long for order in a beautiful home. There's nothing wrong with that. I do enjoy seeing those houses transformed on TV. But all my desires must be balanced by honest gratitude for the gifts I've been given, putting material dreams in perspective. Someday I may be able to fix all these things, but in the meantime, I thank God for a home full of love and life that transcends the dry rot behind the sink.

Patti DePhillips



"CHANGE IS WHAT OUR WORLD NEEDS."

"CHANGE! These plays will inspire you to change. In order to become saints, everybody needs to change. That's why we support Saint Luke Productions."

The Herman Family
Matthew, Deidre & Isaac

**Why we
Give**

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Call (360) 687-8029 to reserve your date.

FOR THE YEAR OF MERCY

BRING FORGIVENESS AND HEALING TO YOUR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
WITH OUR LIVE DRAMATIC PRODUCTIONS



NOW BOOKING

MAXIMILIAN

*"Maximilian touched my heart!!
The show was a light in our dark
chaotic world."
- DM, Thornton, PA*



NOW BOOKING

VIANNEY

*"Profound, riveting, soul-touching
in the depth of me. Came back
for second performance with two
family members. Don't miss it.
You'll be transformed with God's
own peace."
- Carol, Bristol CT*



NOW BOOKING

THÉRÈSE

*"This show made me cry, but also
gave me hope."
- Nicholas, Costa Mesa, CA*



NOW BOOKING

FAUSTINA

*"Thank you, Divine Mercy, Maria,
and Saint Luke Productions; you
have changed my life forever."
- Theresa*

NEW

YEAR OF MERCY ROSARY CD & MP3

"Call upon My mercy on behalf of sinners; I desire their salvation. When you say this prayer, with a contrite heart and with faith on behalf of some sinner, I will give him the grace of conversion."

- Jesus to Saint Faustina, in her Diary

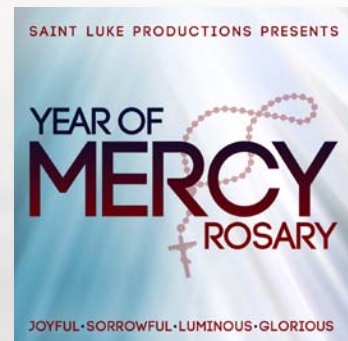


In honor of the Year of Mercy, we've produced a new and beautiful audio **Year of Mercy Rosary**. You'll love the simple, inspiring Rosary reflections, specially focusing on God's healing forgiveness for every soul.

Pre-order today!
Available December 12th

\$10.00 (CD)

\$7.50 (MP3)



Order online at: <http://store.stlukeproductions.com>

I need you. God needs you.

I really need your help right now. Things are tight – we're about \$15,000 behind on contributions, and we count on those donations to produce shows and bring them to your community.

Can you send a donation of \$100 (or more, if you can manage it) to keep our ministry afloat?

It costs us a lot to bring a performance to your church. Not every parish can afford to cover all our expenses—but I don't want to turn any community away. If you help me, I can make these productions affordable to all. I can even donate a show, so that a monastery, or a prison, or a school can afford it. That way everyone can meet these saints and learn that God's Mercy is infinite!

Here's what your donation can do:



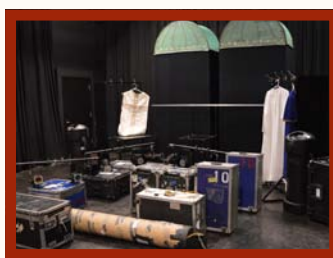
\$100

pays for one day of truck rental when we're on tour



\$600

pays for touring team's airfare to your area



\$1,000

pays the shipping costs for our set to your area



Please, send what you can! These shows change lives - I see it every day - and God is using your sacrifice to work miracles.

May God bless you,

Leonardo DeFilippis

P.S. Thanks for whatever you can send, and thanks especially for your prayers.



Tears & Laughter – Audiences Thank You!

Let me share the applause with you:

“To those that have not had the chance, go see Thérèse. It's a great play for children. St. Thérèse speaks to all of us, but for children, I believe, she does something more. Thank you St. Luke Productions!”

Lisa Edson, Tigard, OR

“I was tremendously moved by Leonardo's performance in Maximilian: Saint of Auschwitz. Thank you for the education, the experience and the epiphany I felt.”

Rosemary Copeland, La Pine, OR

“Thank you so much for Benedictus Moments. Pope Benedict's words changed a distant God into a loving, caring daily presence. I sense Him wanting to be in relationship with me.”

Pat Davis, Missouri City, TX

