



From Heroin to Healing

FAUSTINA PLAYED A PART IN MIKE'S STORY.

When Mike (not his real name) was a 14-year-old altar boy attending Catholic school, he got his first job at a local diner. That's when all his troubles started.

Seduced and abused by the owner, he launched into a downward spiral that took him into a world of alcohol, sex and heroin addiction in New York City. Eventually he landed in federal prison for two years. When he finally came home, he went through rehab, got off heroin and alcohol, and started life over.

But he still wasn't going to church. That's when Barry (also not his real name) met him. Word was that Michael was a good house painter, so he decided to give him a try.

They started talking about the Catholic Church. "Hey, Mike, why don't you give Father Doyle a call? You've got to get this stuff off your mind," suggested Barry.

But Mike never did. Until he saw the live *Faustina* show.

"I had goosebumps all over," he told Barry. "Holy mackerel! When that devil came on the screen, I remembered seeing him a couple times in my withdrawals from heroin."

So Mike went to confession. "I was so nervous, I stopped before and had a cigarette. I talked for two and a half hours. My whole life. I just feel like everything was lifted off me."

The next morning, he went to the 8 AM mass. "When I received the host, I felt shockwaves go through my body," he told Barry.

"That's sanctifying grace coming down on you," Barry replied.

And so a life was changed, and our *Faustina* production played a part in Mike's conversion.

We're working hard on *Heart of Mercy*, our Saint Faustina movie, so that more souls can experience the life-changing power of God's forgiveness. Thanks for sending whatever you can to help us finish the film.

“ I had goosebumps all over from that *Faustina* show. Holy mackerel! When that devil came on the screen, I remembered seeing him a couple times in my withdrawals from heroin. ”

Saint Luke
PRODUCTIONS

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I NEED YOU. GOD NEEDS YOU.

Dear Friend,

Are you like me?

Maybe you look around and your heart is sad because so many people have turned away from God. They seem so unhappy and lost.

You wish you could do something to show them that God loves and forgives them.

Me too.

That's why I'm driven to spread the love and mercy of Jesus to souls through film and theater. And now, more than ever, I urgently need you to help me reach millions with this message.

Can you please send \$100 right away so that I can finish *Heart of Mercy*, our Saint Faustina movie, and *Tolton: From Slave to Priest*, our film on America's first Black priest? We're so close!

I think of you, sitting and reading this newsletter. How compassionate you are to care about sharing the forgiveness of God with your family and friends – not to mention people you've never even met!

Thank you for helping me touch souls and change lives.
God bless you,

Leonardo

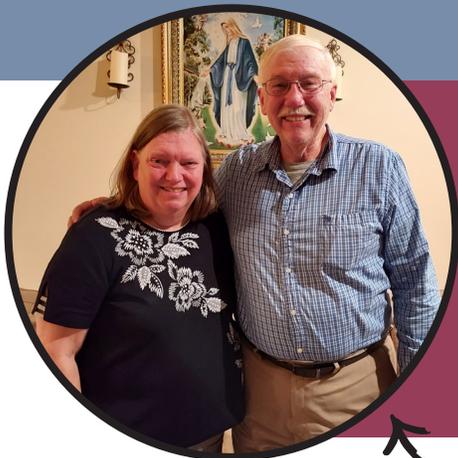
P.S. With so much negative stuff happening in our world, it's a great consolation to know that there are good people like you out there. Please send whatever you can.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
COMPASSIONATE HEART!



LET US KNOW WHAT'S ON YOUR HEART.
WE WANT TO PRAY FOR YOU!

Send us your prayer intentions so we can remember them in our morning prayer.



WHY WE GIVE

"Saint Luke Productions has helped to spread the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and brought us closer to God, strengthening our faith in ways beyond our expectations. We wholeheartedly offer our financial support to assist them, because **they're educating and inspiring the faithful to climb the spiritual stairway to Heaven** through these magnificent productions."

- Chet and Cynthia Ostrowski

Thanks, Chet and Cynthia, for your faithful friendship!

Where are they now?



MAGGIE MAHRT | 1997-2002

Aside from the great blessing of leaning into the words and life of St. Thérèse for four years, what sticks with me most are the relationships I made and the many wonderful people I met on tour. My dearest friends in the world are a result of my work with SLP. I am a filmmaker now, and I'm excited to direct my first feature film this year and also to be writing a TV pilot. You can check out my work at www.maggiemahrt.com.



MARGARET LITSCHI | 2002-2006

I was six months pregnant at one of my last shows, and I was not feeling great. As I stepped out on stage, I heard a woman in the audience gasp, "Oh, she's beautiful." I began the show with tear-filled eyes, "My God I want to be a saint, but I feel so helpless." That moment brought me out of the routine of the show and Saint Thérèse came alive for me in a new way. Now I live in Birmingham, Alabama, with my husband and our six children.



JACQUELINE REZ | 2006

I was 19 years old when we took *Thérèse* on the road. I remember the people most; the warmth and sense of welcome we received as we brought the story of the beloved saint to audiences ranging from nine nuns in a cloister to several hundred in parishes and schools. Since SLP, I've performed on Broadway tours, cruise ships, and in regional musical productions. I am now married to a wonderful man and we're expecting our first child in January.



IS YOUR FAMILY FAR AWAY?

By Patti Defilippis

The wonders of being an "away" grandmother.

Those of you with grandchildren living close by are blessed indeed. How wonderful to have them drop by at a moment's notice or come for dinner on Sunday.

But I want to say a word about the wonders of being an "away" grandmother, which is my situation with all my grandchildren. If you come to visit for a week, you don't just celebrate a meal or a birthday. You share early morning moments when they're half asleep, walks, playtime and crafts during the day, and stories before bed. Your time with these little ones is intense and intimate. So this also is a blessing.

I never forget how blessed I am simply to *have* children and grandchildren. I'm praying that God fills all of us with a sense of His presence. May He shower us with the comfort of loving friends and family, who remind us of His love.

Two weeks this summer with four grandkids (one more on the way!)

Five actresses share *Thérèse* memories and update you on their lives.



DOROTHY PAWLOWSKI | 2007-2008

I have a fuzzy memory, so I kept a journal of my touring days. I would like to recall the words of a lady I met after one show in Arizona. She said, “I’m 88 years old, and I’ve had a good life. Now things are getting harder for me. But when I hear the words of *Thérèse*, I know how good it is to go through suffering for Jesus.” I have had some very difficult experiences since the SLP days. But God has blessed me with my son, Joseph, who brings enormous joy into my life.



AUDREY AHERN | 2015-2019

In a monastery’s tiny chapel, I performed just a few feet from eight beautiful cloistered Carmelite sisters. Their reactions were so genuine; they laughed in recognition and felt *Thérèse*’s suffering within their own souls. I have rarely felt as close to God as I did then, nor so intimately united with an audience. Since then, I have moved to San Antonio, married, and now teach at a Catholic high school. We’re expecting our second baby in March. (Prayers are appreciated!)



LINDSAY YOUNCE | 2000

Lindsay Younce, the star of our feature film *Thérèse*, is married and the mother of seven children. Watch for a more detailed update on Lindsay in our next newsletter!

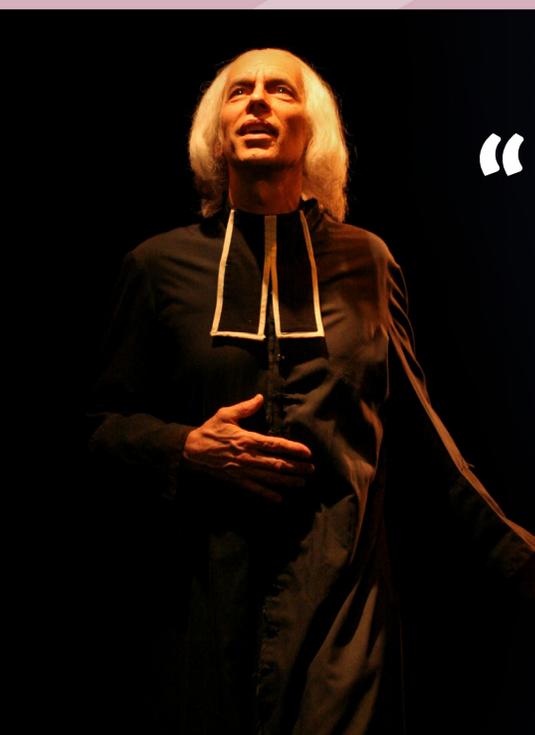
YOUR GIFT BRINGS HOPE

AUDIENCES GIVE YOU A STANDING OVATION.

“ I just had the opportunity to witness this incredible production on Father Tolton and **I’m quite honestly very emotionally moved.** When I think of my relatively easy path to the priesthood, and when I look at what Father Tolton endured, it’s amazing. Tolton can inspire all of us to break down the barriers that still exist, even in the Church.
- Archbishop Alexander Sample, Portland, OR

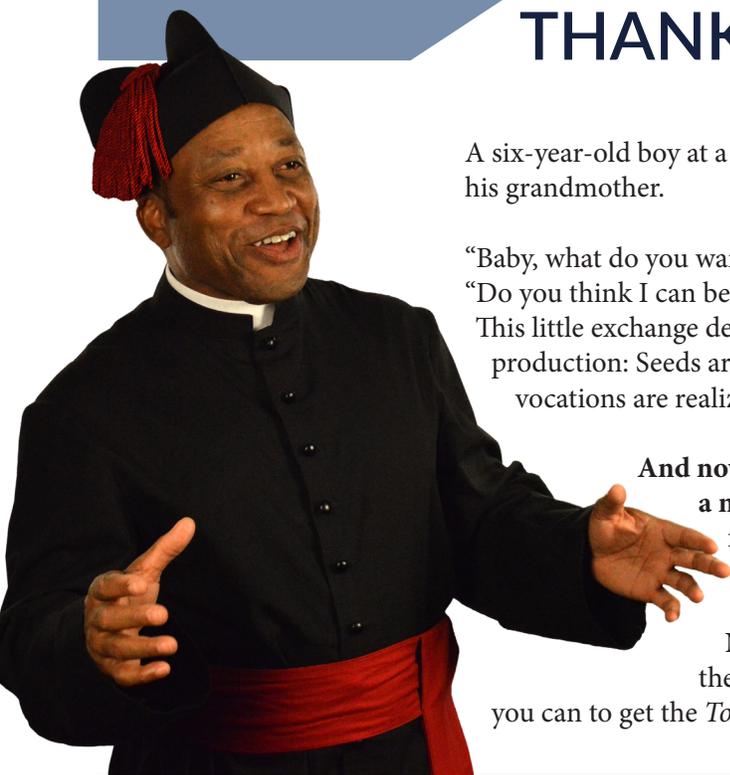
I am so grateful for your outstanding work and for **your devoted Catholic presentations that bring us into that “thin space” between heaven and earth** with their sensitivity to the presence of God. Thanks, thanks, evermore thanks!
- J.D., Coral Springs, FL

”





TOLTON FILMING COMPLETED, THANKS TO YOU. **NOW WE'RE ON TO EDITING!**



A six-year-old boy at a recent live *Tolton* performance in Texas pulled on the sleeve of his grandmother.

“Baby, what do you want?” she asked him, in her soft Southern drawl.

“Do you think I can be a Father Tolton?” he asked her.

This little exchange demonstrates the reason for this production: Seeds are planted in young hearts and vocations are realized.

And now *Tolton: From Slave to Priest* will be a movie! In August, (thanks to you!) we finished filming the story of America’s first Black priest.

Now we need your help again to finish the editing. Pray for us and send what you can to get the *Tolton* film into your hands soon.

“DO YOU
THINK I CAN
BE A FATHER
TOLTON?”
HE ASKED
HER.

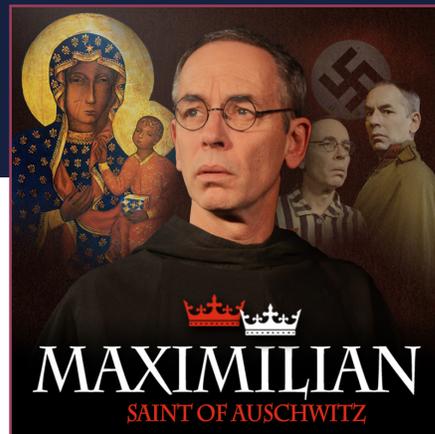
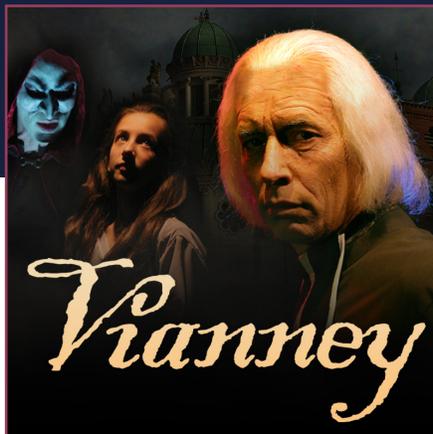
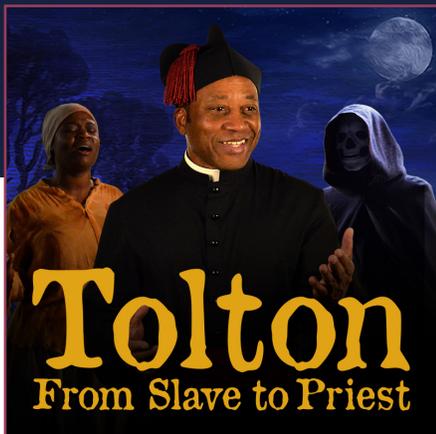
FATHER TOLTON NEVER GAVE UP, AND NEITHER WILL WE!



The cast and crew of *Tolton* raise a glass to you at the end of a long week of filming!

WANT TO SEE THESE SHOWS?

CALL 360-687-8029 HOST A PERFORMANCE AND INSPIRE YOUR COMMUNITY!



HERE'S WHAT ONE AUDIENCE MEMBER SENT TO CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY:



“Dear Editor,
Seeing *Tolton* at our parish last evening was a marvelous experience. **It was a magnificent, warm, happy evening, with much song and good humor.** It was both sobering and inspiring, a hymn of praise to the priesthood, a blow to racial prejudice and good counsel for the mothers of boys. In short, we loved it.
Get this play to your parish!”

- Lee Gilbert, Milwaukie, Oregon



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