



Jonathan Roumie:

OUR JESUS TOO

Twenty years ago, a struggling young actor was walking through the lobby to his apartment. He noticed something lying on the top of the mailboxes, where people put things they wanted to give away. When he picked it up, he realized it was a Byzantine icon of Jesus as Divine Mercy. He couldn't believe his eyes, because he had just prayed to God for such an image.

Fast forward 10 years.

This same actor, Jonathan Roumie, was auditioning for Leonardo via Skype for the role of Jesus, who appears on the screen in our live production of *Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy*.

"I told Leonardo that story," Jonathan remembers, "and he was very quiet for a second. Then he said, 'Clearly you're the guy for this role. Will you do it?' Without a pause, I answered, 'Yes.'"

And the rest is history. Not only does Jonathan play Jesus on the screen during our live *Faustina* production and in our upcoming film *Heart of Mercy*, he has gone on to play Christ in the popular video series, *The Chosen*.

"Saint Luke's *Faustina* production was the beginning of what has been a long running miracle in my life. Performing Christ's Passion was nothing short of transformative for me," Jonathan reflected. "The transcendent nature of attempting to dwell as Jesus in peace amidst the brutality of His Passion can hardly be described."

"Clearly you're the guy for this role. Will you do it?"

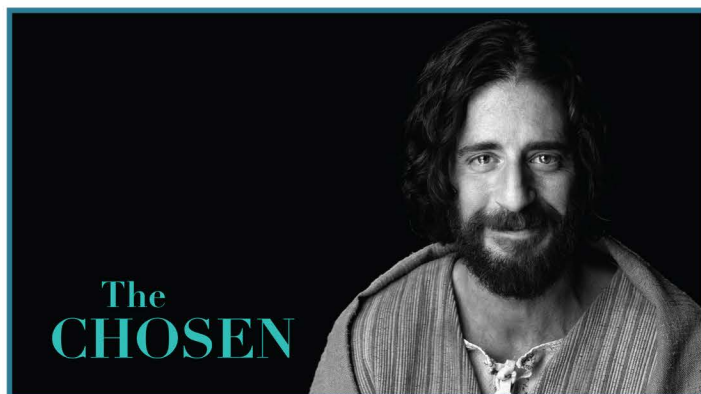
Since that time, the *Faustina* live production has been performed for more than 43,000 people, and the film *Heart of*

Mercy is nearly complete. Jonathan was able to see the live show when it was in Los Angeles.

"It was life-changing spiritually for me to see the impact of my art directly affecting people on both an emotional and the spiritual level. Playing the role of Jesus has taught me so much! If we surrender to God completely, anything is not only possible, but promised. Because He is Mercy itself."

Saint Luke
PRODUCTIONS

SPRING 2022 VOL. 32 NO. 1



**YOU
KEEP
ME
GOING**



**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.

Dear Friends,

Are you overwhelmed? Sometimes things don't go as planned, and life seems too much to handle.

Take heart! God is in control, no matter how dark it looks. And you ARE doing so much good! Just a simple prayer, a smile at a stranger, a kind word – these make a real difference in the lives of those around you. You are bringing the love of Christ to our world.

I get overwhelmed too. The world is full of such suffering! What we're doing at Saint Luke Productions seems like a drop in the bucket.

But God isn't concerned with quantity. He works through our weakness to create beauty and truth, so that we'll know that everything good comes from Him.

You bring me so much hope through your prayers and generosity. Can you send \$100 (or more, or less, whatever you can manage right now) so that we can complete the *Tolton* and *Faustina* films? You and I together – let's bring hope to our hurting world.

God bless you and yours,

Leonardo Defilippis

DONATE HERE



*Our dear friends, John Summers,
his wife Ada and her father
Rogelio Robayna.*



WHY WE GIVE

For me, Saint Luke Productions has been a great inspiration. The performances are spectacular and bring hope and joy. I also invite my family members to join me in praying daily with *Benedictus Moments* and the *Hope and Trust Rosary*. I can't think of a better way to offer hope in these uncertain times, than by bringing the truth of the Gospel to life through theater and media.

FROM MOVIE STAR TO *Motherhood*

By Lindsay (Younce) Tsohantaris

I was 18 years old when I played the leading role in the feature film *Thérèse*.

One of my favorite parts of the whole experience was encountering the Body of Christ in a very real way. I was on my way to converting to the Catholic faith and had been mostly on my own. Through this project, I was welcomed into an enormous Catholic family.

"The death scene was, in the end, the greatest joy to film."

As a non-Catholic, I didn't really grasp at first what a big deal *Thérèse* was. Meeting people with an intense devotion to her, I worried I wouldn't do her justice. I was nervous about the illness and death scenes.

But the death scene was, in the end, the greatest joy to film. Everyone on set grew still and attentive. Leonardo and Patti had a relic of St. *Thérèse* pinned to the underside of the sheet of my death bed so I could have her with me. Because the script had been altered, I didn't have all the lines memorized. Yet the words were there on my lips when I needed them. The whole illness and death sequence felt covered in grace for everyone involved and made a lasting impact on me.

After filming *Thérèse*, I studied theater and film and received my bachelor's and master's degrees. I married my best friend and seriously discerned pursuing an acting



career. By the time we had our second child, I wanted to devote my energy and attention to my family.

I now have seven children. *Thérèse's* Little Way has been a life-saving guide through motherhood. It's helped me find joy and purpose in the seemingly ordinary and meaningless tasks of everyday life —offering them for Jesus, and seeing them as active, living prayers.

I have struggled to see God as a tender, loving Father who wills my good. *Thérèse's* humility was genuine precisely because she knew and believed God loved her totally and absolutely. She had nothing to fear since she was comfortable surrendering to a tender and loving Father's will. That kind of trust is something I still pray for through her intercession.



***Thérèse* actress Lindsay Younce now has seven children.**

I'M GRATEFUL TO GOD, BUT ALSO TO YOU.

By Angelyn Hanus

I took a leap of faith, made the three-day drive across the country, and started working for Saint Luke Productions. I was nervous, but since seeing *Maximilian* at 14 years old, this was a dream come true for me.



Sean, Angelyn, and Baby Hanus

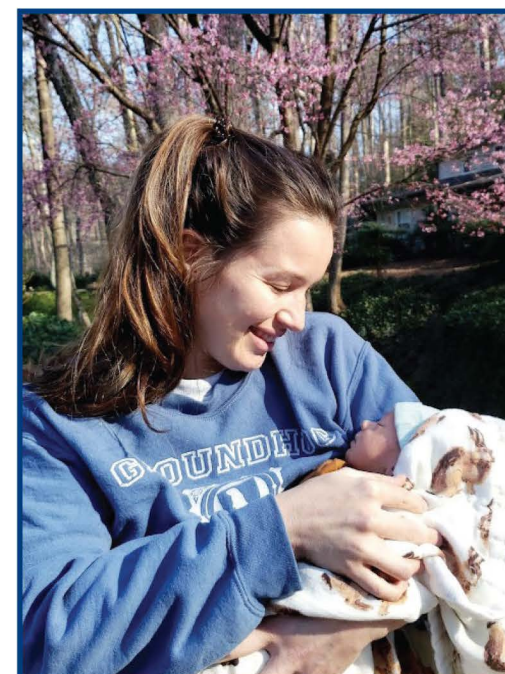
Could I have imagined what God had planned for the next three years? Certainly not!

This cool guy trained me as stage manager for the touring *Faustina* show; he's now my husband. I witnessed abundant hospitality on tour, meeting so many of you. Now I work in the office planning tours, occasionally getting distracted by my unborn baby kicking me.

I'm grateful to God, but also to you. Through your prayers and support, this ministry has changed my life and the lives of so many others. You gave me the opportunity to fulfill a dream and create new ones. You encourage conversions and inspire vocations. I just want to say – thank you!

JOY FOLLOWS SORROW A NEW LIFE REMINDS ME OF THE RESURRECTION

Family Reflections by Patti Defilippis



Welcome to the world, Emile!

I just spent two and a half weeks with my daughter Mary, her husband Joseph and their newborn baby Emile. You may remember that, **just last April, Mary was dancing with her dad at her wedding. Now she is a mom.**

During her long and difficult labor, Mary offered up her suffering for so many people! I was inspired and honored to journey with her through it all. The world says you should avoid pain at all costs. But how much we miss when we make that our goal! We mothers have an opportunity to join Christ in His redemptive Passion. And as dark as it seems, the Passion is followed so clearly with the Resurrection – the birth of a new life! Joy follows sorrow.

I have often thought that childbirth has taught me to trust God's faithfulness. Lord, let me never forget the reality that joy awaits me in Heaven, no matter what suffering this life brings.



DO YOU NOTICE THE *Difference?*

BRINGING CONTINUITY TO THE *TOLTON* FILM.

WHICH TAKE WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

Notice how Jim's hands are different in the two takes.



Have you ever played the game where you're given two pictures that, at first glance, look the same, but then you have to find the differences between them? That's kind of like what we're doing with the *Tolton* editing project right now!

Imagine you're the editor for this film. You'd have to be on the lookout for subtle changes.

Here you have pictures from two different takes (which means we filmed the scene twice – each time was a “take” of the same scene). Maybe you noticed that Jim, the actor, has his hands together in Take 1 but his hands are apart in Take 2.

Cutting from Take 1 to the new camera angle pictured here would be distracting and look wrong: hands together, to hands immediately apart. But if you match Take 2 with this camera angle, your audience will barely notice the cut, because Jim's hands are in the exact same position.

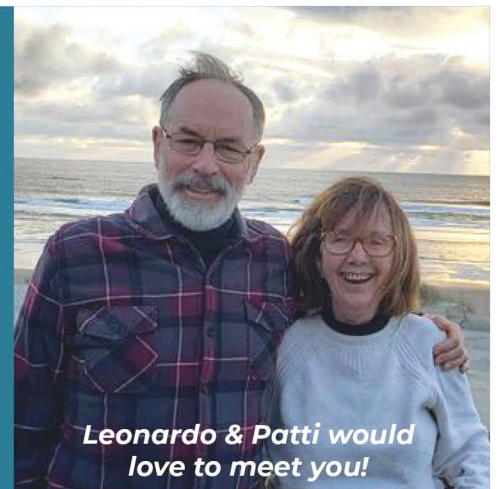
Way to go! You just created continuity in the film – one of the most important tasks of an editor. Would you continue to pray for our real editor and director?

And please – send what you can so we can get the *Tolton* film to you soon!

WANT TO WORK HERE?

LET'S TALK!

With the growing demand for shows and our ongoing projects, we're on the lookout for people who share our passion for Catholic theater and media. Wherever your talents lie, apply, and let's discern if God wants you here!



Leonardo & Patti would love to meet you!



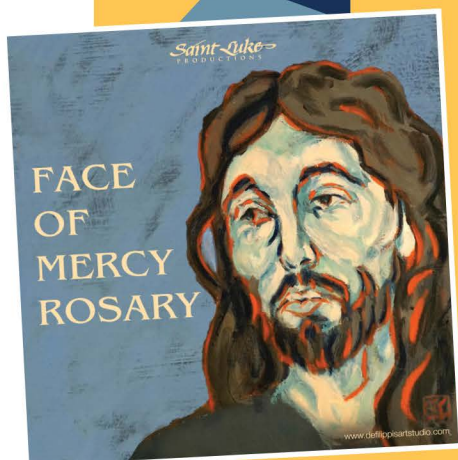
For Casting



Marketing Director
Studio & Stage Manager
Tour Manager
Audio Engineer
Artistic Director
Booking Manager

SPREAD THE WORD TO YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

LOOK AT THE LIVES YOU'VE TOUCHED...



LISTEN TO THE
ROSARY HERE.



"Simple, powerful, and so very memorable - this live drama will replay in my memory for quite some time. **I need Fr. Tolton and his virtues, spirit, faith, and cheerful perseverance. We all do!**"

- Katherine Tully, Houston TX

"After the performance of *Maximilian* at our parish, **one man committed to pray the Holy Rosary that before he found 'boring.'** I consider Saint Luke Productions one of God's greatest gifts to the Church in our time."

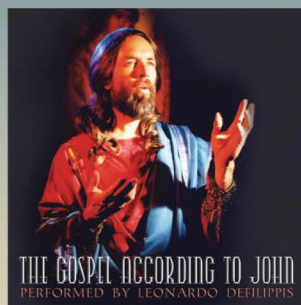
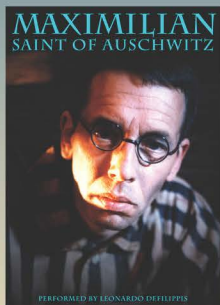
- Fr. John Titus, Mattoon IL

"I was very depressed tonight thinking about my wife who died last year, and **I prayed the Glorious Mysteries with your *Face of Mercy Rosary* and my spirit was lifted and renewed.**"

- W.K. Jacksonville, FL

25% OFF ON ALL DVDS, CDS AND BOOKS

MEET CHRIST AND
HIS SAINTS IN
POWERFUL DRAMAS.



MAX DVD

DVDs ~~\$15~~ \$11

GOSPEL OF
JOHN CD

CDs ~~\$7.50~~ \$5.50



Visit store.stlukeproductions.com for more sale items, including deeply discounted CD and DVD giftpacks. Enter discount code: **LUKE2022**

Email Newsletter Sign Up

Want to know the latest on our current productions and when a show's in your area? Sign up for email updates! stlukeproductions.com/signup

Saint Luke
PRODUCTIONS

PO Box 886, Battle Ground, WA 98604
360-687-8029, info@stlukeproductions.com