

St. Gaspar's Letters

1501 - 1550

Letter Number	Date	Page
1501.	Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri, <i>14 September 1826</i>	1182
1502.	Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma, <i>15 September 1826</i>	1182
1503.	Pope Leo XII, <i>15 September 1826</i>	1184
1504.	Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma, <i>September 1826</i>	1184
1505.	Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma, <i>middle of September 1826</i>	1186
1506.	Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma, <i>16 September 1826</i>	1186
1507.	Fr. Giacomo Giorgi, Sermoneta, <i>16 September 1826</i>	1187
1508.	Rafaele Rosati, Sermoneta, <i>16 September 1826</i>	1188
1509.	Fr. Ferdinando Angelici, <i>21 September 1826</i>	1188
1510.	Fr. Nicola Gaspari, Frosinone, <i>22 September 1826</i>	1189
1511.	Fr. Rafaele Rosati, Sermoneta, <i>23 September 1826</i>	1190
1512.	Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli, Roma, <i>24 September 1826</i>	1190
1513.	Mr. Pietro Gajani, Bologna, <i>25 September 1826</i>	1191
1514.	Gonfaloniere of Spoleto, <i>25 September 1826</i>	1192
1515.	Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli, Roma, <i>26 September 1826</i>	1192
1516.	Fr. Simeone Olivieri, Ripatransone, <i>28 September 1826</i>	1193
1517.	Fr. Giuseppe Bellisarj, L'Aquila, <i>29 September 1826</i>	1194
1518.	Fr. Pietrantonio Verardi, Lenola, <i>29 September 1826</i>	1195
1519.	Mr. Giovanni F. Palmucci, Offida, <i>30 September 1826</i>	1195
1520.	Fr. Vitale Corbucci, Benevento, <i>March-October 1826</i>	1196
1521.	Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri, <i>5 October 1826</i>	1197
1522.	Msgr. Ottavio Zolio, Rimini, <i>10 October 1826</i>	1198
1523.	Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri, <i>11 October 1826</i>	1197
1524.	Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli, <i>12 October 1826</i>	1199
1525.	Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma, <i>16 October 1826</i>	1200
1526.	Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma, <i>17 October 1826</i>	1200
1527.	Fr. Rafaele Rosati, Sonnino, <i>17 October 1826</i>	1201
1528.	Gonfaloniere of Spoleto, <i>18 October 1826</i>	1201
1529.	Fr. Luigi Cocci, Grutti, <i>19 October 1826</i>	1202
1530.	Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri, <i>20 October 1826</i>	1202
1531.	Msgr. Vincenzo Annovazzi, Civitavecchia, <i>23 October 1826</i>	1203
1532.	Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli, Roma, <i>27 October 1826</i>	1203
1533.	Mr. Camillo Possenti, Fabriano, <i>12 November 1826</i>	1204

1534. Mr. Giovanni F. Palmucci, Offida, <i>12 November 1826</i>	1204
1535. Gonfaloniere of Spoleto, <i>16 November 1826</i>	1205
1536. Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli, Roma, <i>16 November 1826</i>	1205
1537. Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri, <i>17 November 1826</i>	1206
1538. Msgr. Vincenzo Annovazzi, Civitavecchia, <i>19 November 1826</i>	1208
1539. Msgr. Nicola Mattei, Camerino, <i>23 November 1826</i>	1208
1540. Fr. Angelo Primavera, Bolognola, <i>25 November 1826</i>	1209
1541. Mr. Camillo Possenti, Fabriano, <i>27 November 1826</i>	1210
1542. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma, <i>1 December 1826</i>	1210
1543. Mr. Luigi Fuschi, Norma, <i>2 December 1826</i>	1211
1544. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma, <i>December 1826</i>	1212
1545. Gonfaloniere of Spoleto, <i>18 December 1826</i>	1213
1546. Gonfaloniere of Spoleto, <i>19 December 1826</i>	1213
1547. Mr. Antonio Sarto, Moldi Gaeta, <i>22 December 1826</i>	1214
1548. Mr. Domenico A. Gagliardi, Castelforte, <i>22 December 1826</i>	1214
1549. Fr. Luigi Cocci, Grutti, <i>22 December 1826</i>	1215
1550. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma, <i>28 December 1826</i>	1216

1501

September 14, 1826
Fr. Pietro Butti
Alatri

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

Send Madaleni, along with the certification of the pastor indicating his state of freedom, his good character and also a letter written in my name, to Missionary Merlini in Sonnino. I shall write to him this coming Saturday. Please note that he will have three months of probation and that he is to be ready to be assigned anywhere, except for just reasons of health. Finally, he is to have proper clothing, including shoes, hat etc. which will be used by him during those three months and, if the family is able, he should be provided with an overcoat after those three months, but, only for this first time. If they are truly unable to do that, then we shall look into it. His travel to Sonnino will be at Madaleni's own expense, who, even though he is of short stature, I suppose him to be healthy, and without defects. I mention this because our Society is very external and I must exercise caution.

With regard to di Vico, let us be in agreement after he has fully made his decision. The cleric in the cathedral should remain where he is. I do not expect any delays. I, too, would advise him to continue pursuing his career, unless there are reasons that I am not aware of.

I urge the termination of the matters dealing with Tagliaferri. Pray for me and, with esteem and respect, most revered Canon, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 14, 1826

1502

September 15, 1826
Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi
Rome

Chriritus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo¹

¹ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

Venerable Monsignor

Tomorrow, the vigil of Mary, most Sorrowful Mother, I hope that you will find it possible to interrogate our Holy Father concerning me. I shall not cease offering my humble prayers *ut semper voluntas Dei adimpleatur*.² On that occasion, try to ask for a stable assignment to the directing of the Institute. You know all about my financial situation and the burdens that are heaped upon me. You are experienced in what relates to the ministry. I add nothing further. I point out only that postage alone is a very considerable item now that I have been called upon to maintain a foreign correspondence. You might assure the Holy Father that as far as I am concerned as well as my own possessions, I have surrendered myself in such a way to the goodness of God that I seek nothing other than giving him glory. However, it is inevitable that I should make known to him the needs of our Institute.

The House in Giano was established and you know all the things that have occurred. Up to now, the Commune has not given a single *paolo*. In that bind, all of our companions are having recourse to me for their livelihood and my heart assumes all of those most difficult cares in an effort to do everything to see that all proceeds forward in a quiet way.

A foundation is set up in Albano, an endowment is assigned, and then everything seems to have vanished. This ought to be a matter of easy review which you could well keep in mind when the opportunity arises. I spoke of this with his Eminence Galeffi and he promised that he would do something about it. The poor artisans are waiting. Also Ratti told me that, in speaking with the Holy Father, he recommended, in a general way, the House in Albano. He added that the memorandum given to you was to be presented with urgency. The artisans then, because of forgetfulness, did not draw up the final account, presupposing that they were still on time. The amount involved is minor. They finally cited it. I gave them my reply that I myself did not know what further to do.

If one goes into the Province of Campagna, there too we find new problems ... endowments were assigned and then suspended; in the meantime, we managed to do some good in maintaining in existence a few locales which, who knows, whether they would ever have been preserved. We paid the rental where a hospice was inevitable. We have found churches devoid of furnishings and we have been taking care of that. Recently, I sent to Terracina pyxes, thuribles and copes ... oh what a painful thing it is to be in charge; blessed would I be if, peacefully, I could conform myself to the divine will. In Sonnino, presently, they are in need of altarhangings which were recently and economically made for Giano for the ordination services of the young men, but, at this moment, with everything that had to be spent for the establishing there of a House of Studies, I simply have no way open. I remain silent about other things, and I see in all this that the Society is from God.

Then, the establishment in Veroli is likewise in need of things. I entrust myself to God and to your charity and I ask that you speak convincingly to the Holy Father, urging him to

² That the will of God be always fulfilled.

recognize the necessity of training for the secular clergy. We might observe for just a bit the establishment of Missionaries for the clergy in Genoa in the time of Benedict XIV, etc. Now, in Rome, in order to have a Mission one must go begging! One day, it will be quite clear how urgent it is for our Society to be in Rome so that our work with the clergy will have strong support. In the meanwhile, *patior sed non confundar*.³ Try to remember the hospice for Rome with the granting of some assistance. You know how many worries there are with the hospice of the *Buon Consiglio*.

With regard to the Missions in Louisiana I have sent my reply just as I indicated in another letter of mine. The good work in Porto d'Anzo has been blessed by God. You have read a number of letters of the highest glory to God, regarding the work of our companions. So, we give thanks to God who keeps all things hidden even from those who ought to notice more so that, indeed, *nisi granum frumenti cadens in terra mortuum fuerit, etc.*⁴ You, however, keep everything before your mind and especially in your prayers.

As for hopes concerning Rimini, nothing up to now. It is no small anguish that I suffer in my spirit that our companions are still holding on. But, actually, everything is so little that we do for God who allows time for reducing here on earth our Purgatory. We are hopeful, however, that little by little everything will be set right without ever having a reduction in suffering.

I would like that, at some time or other, the Holy Father would come to realize that whoever gives himself to the Institute, surrenders the result of so many grants of the Datary or the Curias, and allows room for action for the new men called to the sanctuary. Finally, this is something that is to the highest glory of the clergy, namely, to see them revive the spirit of detachment from everything and to dedicate themselves to the divine glory.

After having come to know the will of God, I intend to return to the Province of Campagna, even though the bishop of Assisi would like to have me there for the retreat to the clergy, as would Monsignor Bonanni in Norcia. However, I simply do not have the means of pleasing them nor do their episcopal regions have a way of supplying.

If the Reverend Camera Apostolica should happen to have Masses to be said, I would like, without prejudice to others, to have some for the Institute.

Recommend me often to God. On the feast of the Sorrowful Mother I shall apply the Mass for you and for myself so that the Lord will unite us under his Cross in such a way that through it we may be lifted up to heaven. With esteem and gratitude, most reverend excellency, consider me as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

³ I am suffering but I am not overcome.

⁴ Unless the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, etc.

September 15⁵

1503

September 15, 1826

Pope Leo XII

Most blessed Father⁶

Canon Gaspar del Bufalo petitions your Holiness to authorize the very reverend treasurer to make the payment for the recent work done by the artisans of the House in Albano; it was not included, through an oversight, in the general salary granted to them; that etc.

In behalf of the artisans of the House in Albano

1504

September 1826

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

A page of reminders⁷

1. I am not sending you the letter from our Missionary in Zante in order not to bother you. The good work that he is doing is outstanding. However, I am sending you the letter that came from Paris which you can read to His Holiness, but do not leave it there for I need to have you return it enclosed to me. Now, in regard to that correspondence, I point out that Monsignor Caprano told me that he wanted to investigate whether it was possible to maintain a livelihood there, and, he ended by saying that nothing should be done without his knowing about it. Promptly in obedience, I have limited myself to just offering prayers. I did not send a reply to the letter addressed to me from Genoa since I found it difficult to supply an answer. I will send an answer that the Institute, in this matter, is dependent on the Propaganda, which is to supply the means as well as to give me the pertinent orders. The Institute is reliable in its commitments. I know, furthermore, that other requests will arrive for Missions for our men with the Propaganda. That is why I have been asking for a locale in Rome where I would like to arrange for the study of languages to be of assistance in the spread of our religion, as well as to prepare clergy for this

⁵ No year is given. The content indicates it is of it is of 1826.

⁶ This petition, which was found among the letters to Cristaldi, does not bear a date. On the fourth siding the year 1826 is written in a different handwriting. We place this petition alongside the letter dated September 15th in which, among other things, there is concern expressed about the artisans in Albano, using very similar words as those expressed in this petition.

⁷ This page does not have a date. The year, however, is certainly 1826 as can be deduced from the reference to Father Gaspare Carboneri "Missionary in Zante" from March 1826 to March 1827. Among the writings of St. Gaspar to Cristaldi, this page follows the letter dated September 15, 1826.

undertaking, both for the State and foreign lands, and even for our city of Rome itself. God, however, humbles me and the delay of his mercy I attribute to my own demerits.

2. When you have the opportunity, insist on a locale, and in doing so you will relieve us of the burden that the hospice of *Buon Consiglio* has been giving us. Along with that locale, there should also be a subsidy provided for at least a Procurator for the Institute, together with one brotherinservice. This second reminder presents limitations, because of the difficulty realized in seeing the first one acceptable. Indeed, I, by myself alone, am not up to handling all the matters, and, at times, my weakness causes me to delay taking care of everything. I am not lacking in heart, but in strength. There are those who write me concerning oratories, others concerning pious organizations etc. etc. Yet, in all things, praise be to God. We keep everything to ourselves. Still, I communicate everything to you since it is right that you should be aware more and more of the aim we have in that plan which the devil makes every effort to confound. But ... *ipsi vicerunt draconum propter Sanguinem Agni*.⁸

3. I would like to have a provisional allotment at least for the directing of our Society. I find it helpful to hope that the Holy Father would grant this act of charity. And, do you know why? Because I am distressed to cause you so much anguish. God sees into my heart. He knows all, he recognizes everything.

4. If the grants to the Province cannot be made all at one time, then, at least *capta opportunitate*,⁹ it would be necessary to have them at spaced intervals. And, now that the Houses are in full operation, would it not be possible to carry out the plan that Pius VII sought? By the way, I would like to have a copy of the rescript of installation in the Province which is in your possession.

5. I remain silent about other matters. I do not wish to be burdensome to you. Once you have read this letter, please destroy it. In everything, prayers and patience. We add, simply, that we would be truly blessed if, through the enlightened direction of so many souls, we could remove error and doubt, having grasped the bases for the Reform. In Ravenna, where there are neither Filippini Fathers, Jesuits or Missionaries, I would have set up one of our foundations, the open source for grace. The political world would have cried out; but what am I to say? "*Haec victoria quae vincit mundum fides nostra ... but fides ex auditu, auditus autem per verbum Christi*."¹⁰

1505

September 1826

⁸ They conquered the dragon because of the blood of the Lamb.

⁹ Seizing the opportunity.

¹⁰ This the victory that overcomes the world, our faith. ... Faith is from hearing; but hearing is through the word of Christ.

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi
Roma

Promemorandum

The most reverend Delegate of Frosinone has taken steps these days of installing¹¹ in S. Agostino the school directed by the Maestre Pie in Frosinone. So, I am considering the removal of the Missionaries. I ask you to check into the stipulation of Veroli. Oh! the adorable will of God!

1506

September 16, 1826
Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi
Rome

Jesus Mary Joseph

Venerable Monsignor

I have read your most appreciated letter and you can be certain that it was with tender tears because of the special affection that you show me in behalf of our Institute. I acknowledge everything that you state to me and I beg you to forgive me if, at one time or another, I have innocently added a bit of anguish to your heart, though I rather had the desire of making every effort to diminish it. In all things, may the will of God be done. Indeed, night and day I am occupied in looking after our Institute and I beg the Lord that if I should be the cause of the delaying of his merciful attention, he would deign to let me know that. In the meantime, with humility, I continue to pray that his sweet blessings will be showered down upon us. Still, there is one word that I always hear repeated in my soul and that is that suffering is a grace. Our foundation in Rimini, it is true, is without a basis; perhaps it should not have been opened, and I was in opposition to it. But then I had to yield both to the urgings of Monsignor Gaspari, now deceased, and Monsignor Marchetti who, at that time, was the administrator of that see. So, if, in some meeting or other, you could obtain for me at least some endowment, oh how greatly obliged I would be to you! You know my motivations in all this.

Furthermore, the Holy Father is quite aware of the purposes for which he has called me, of the lettercorrespondence which day by day is being multiplied, of the expenses involved in the ministry etc. When he appointed me, he implicitly appointed the Institute. I am trusting in your industrious charity and benevolence. I shall try to get some word about the proposal of S. Norberto. For so many, many reasons that urge me on, I seek to develop, in every way possible, my religious love towards you. Yet, because of the numerous occupations that I have, I am deprived of the opportunity of speaking to you at length. However, let us continue to do so *in*

¹¹The transferral of the Maestre Pie to S. Agostino took place on September 7. Therefore, this promemorandum belongs approximately to the middle of September 1826.

Corde Jesu Christi Crucifixi.¹² Whenever you wish to have me come in, all you have to do is drop me a word.

I shall go to consult with Lawyer Bonfiglioli in regard to the document. I am enclosing here the only memorandum that I have concerning the statement of the 80 *scudi*. If it is not an inconvenience for you, I would like to have it returned to me along with (at your convenience) those pages, dealing with our first establishment in the Province of Campagna, which are in your possession. All this if you are of the opinion that it would be good to keep that material in our Archives. I add nothing further since it is now time for prayer, suffering and silence.

I conclude this letter by pointing out that I shall not leave Rome unless the Holy Father directs me to do so. I will not arbitrarily do that on my own. In order to bring things that are pending to a conclusion, perhaps God is keeping me here in this city and even the holiest of desires is to be happily sacrificed. So, I say: "*Doce me facere voluntatem tuam*".¹³

I kiss your hands. Recommend me to the most Sorrowful Mother Mary. Please, take good care of your health, and, this year, go quickly to take a bit of a rest and breathe in good clean air in the outskirts of Rome. With esteem and affection, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

House, September 16, 1826

P. S. You have probably already given instructions to Father Serafini concerning Veroli etc. I simply do not know what to do next with regard to the residual payment to the artisans in Albano. It was truly an error that was made, as those jobs were very precisely needed etc.

1507

September 16, 1826

Fr. Giacomo Giorgi

Sermoneta

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father Giacomo

Because of residual debts incurred in the construction being done in the House of Albano, I am required to ask the subjects to remain there, for a period of time, for the sake of economy. That is why you are to stay on there as the appointed Vicesuperior of the Mission and Retreat House in Sermoneta. You should take care of obtaining the faculties for hearing confessions from the Vicar Capitular. As you stay on there in Sermoneta, you should also keep an eye on your own affairs, but always being mindful of the observance of our rule. If you still have some things left in Albano, send for them, and write to Liparelli who has already been contacted by me.

¹² In the heart of Jesus Christ crucified.

¹³ Teach me to do your will.

Recommend me often to God, and, most esteemed Father Giacomo, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant
G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 16, 1826

P. S. A great deal of good work will now be down in Sermoneta with Retreats etc, especially since, by divine mercy, the Province has been restored to peace and quiet.

1508

September 16, 1825

Fr. Raffaele Rosati
 Sermoneta

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Esteemed Father Raffaele

The sentiments that you expressed to me in your recent letter were most edifying and for all this I give thanks to the Almighty.

Because of the urgency of time, I assigned you to Sermoneta, taking into consideration also your own concerns. However, I kept thinking about your placement in such a way that, with greater possibilities, you would be able to cultivate better the talents given to you by God. Therefore, once the Mission in Bassiano is completed, you, along with Father Filippo Galli, our Missionary whom I have already contacted, will move on to our House in Sonnino. The travel expenses, in this case, will be covered by our Institute, and hence I have already informed Father Filippo Galli and Father Giovanni Merlini who is the President in Sonnino. From this you will realize that I would like to have you wellformed for the purposes of our Institute and, in time, for the extension of our apostolate. In Jesus Christ crucified, as I await your reply, most venerable Father Raffaele, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant
G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 16, 1826

1509

September 21, 1826

Fr. Ferdinando Angelici

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Ferdinando

In order to canonically erect pious unions one is required to send a petition from the

pastor and the people to the archbishop who will then give the usual approval. Later, the chancellor, as proper, will send a letter of simple request in which he will ask the President of the Archconfraternity in Rome to aggregate the new pious union, and to deputize a person in Rome who will see to and fulfill all the usual formalities. Then, afterwards, the aggregation will take place and at that time the document will be handed over. The cost for the services in Rome comes to six *scudi*. You will be able to communicate the final instructions after everything mentioned above has been done. If, then, you all would prefer to select a simple priest or the pastor himself to have the faculty of enrolling, all you have to do is drop me a line; but, in that case, once a year it would be necessary to send a listing of those who have been enrolled to our Archives. This is a bit of an inconvenience, and would not have to be done in the event of a canonical erection. I am so consoled to see you so deeply interested in our devotion which I fully recommend to you by introducing everywhere the public recitation of the Chaplet and also by propagating wherever possible the observance of the month of June, consecrated to the mysteries of the Divine Blood. This is the devotion that must placate the Lord during these miserable times.

You, yourself, should be very diligent, grounding yourself firmly in the fields of knowledge in order to better exercise with peace of spirit your ministry. In particular, hold dear to your heart the humble life and the life of prayer. May Jesus fill us with his holy love. In his adorable Heart, dear Father Ferdinando, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 21, 1826

1510

September 22, 1826

Fr. Nicola Gaspari

Frosinone

Most esteemed Canon

In reply to your letter, I say that if you have taken that city to your heart, I have done so even more "*et scit Deus quod non mentior*".¹⁴ However, check with the most reverend bishop concerning what I answered in regard to what he asked of me in one of his letters, and you will see that the choice was not mine but of those people who, at the proper time, were to handle things and make the request. They are bringing on those consequences that had already been foreseen. What does the deceased Antonio Guglielmi say in his deed? Is it in any way possible that an Institute could remain for long in a place where all of the bitter circumstances omit necessarily, and I repeat, not by choice, any provisions? That is it. A good deal could be done if a plan for a small hospice could be managed as soon as possible. There is nothing more to be

¹⁴ God knows that I do not lie.

hoped for. If the priests there, just like the ones in Guarcino, would continue the good work, believe me, all would be blessed by God who is the witness of our operations. I am not in a position to operate differently. All was within the grasp of the clergy and the Commune there [...].¹⁵ In the meantime [...] I conclude: there is a hospice and, speaking generally, it is sufficient that the good work continue to be done. Was it perhaps really necessary to have a convent for women? Could they not have been in our locale? However, let us adore in all things the divine orderings; with the apostle, I say: *Patior sed non confundar*.¹⁷ Blessed would I be if, after all of the efforts made, I would have been able to see a firmly established foundation there. Still, God does not need men. In sufficient time, I carried out the correspondence, I pointed things out. That is it. With esteem and respect, I am

Most humbly etc.

Gas. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, September 22, 1826

1511

September 23, 1826

Fr. Raffaele Rosati

Sermoneta

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Raffaele

I have already ordered the cincture for you and you will receive it in Sonnino. In that beloved solitude, continue preparing yourself for the examination for hearing the confessions of men which you will take later in November, as Merlini, the President of the Houses in the Province will instruct you better. Ever more, ground yourself firmly in humility and prayer. Place yourself often before God and remind yourself of the purposes of the priesthood, the needs of souls and especially eternity which is ever drawing closer for all of us. Oh how the thoughts, which you expressed to me, enkindle our hearts with holy, celestial love and prepare us to move along the paths of our apostolate with steady but hastened footsteps! May Jesus be our love and, most esteemed Father Raffaele, in his Divine Heart, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

¹⁵ At this point, the transcriber, Ubaldo Ambrogi, inserts a parenthetical remark and says: "he is speaking here of a notification of Masses which Fr. Giuseppe Marchetti is to send to him; he thanks him and asks for his prayers; I have omitted transcribing what, in my opinion, is not necessary".

¹⁶ Words of the transcriber: "the letter continues".

¹⁷ I am suffering but I am not overcome.

M. Ap.
Rome, September 23, 1826

1512

September 24, 1826
Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli
Bishop of Agatopoli
Roma

Hail to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Msgr. and loving brother

Aggregators selected in the current September:

In Monte Corvino, in the Kingdom of Naples: the Pastor, Father Michele Franchini

In Gaeta: Father Gioacchino Migiani

In S. Germano: Canon Father Silvestro Carnevali

In S. Marco de' Cavori, Diocese of Benevento: Father Vito Colorosso

I remind you of the Lovatti affair. Ascertain the time when we can get the Rescript for the payment and, if necessary, cite it.

Finally, if you would be able to be at home next Saturday at 22 hours, I would come there together with Gonnelli, Lesinelli and Severini. In a very short time, say in a halfhour, we can expedite things. Let Severini know whether you can or cannot.

Fr. Felippo Berga would like to know when it will be his turn for the Monthly day of Recollection for the *Buona Morte* at S. Nicola. From month to month, patiently, you will have to remind the others.

I shall await the Indulgences for Ascoli as soon as you can get them. As for those of Rimini, to remove all doubt, it would be good to make a general request for the Plenary Indulgence *pro omnibus*,¹⁸ for the fourth Sunday of every month on which the day of recollection in preparation for death takes place in S. Chiara, the Church of the Missionaries. I say this because, at the time when the Missionaries went to Rimini, the Pious Union of the Divine Blood had already been previously erected in S. Agnese. Little by little, we try to put everything in order.

If ever a merger of the Chapters were to occur, we would have to think about immediately expanding the Archconfraternity and separating it from the Chapter, thus bringing to realization the ideas of Msgr. Albertini, as you know, etc. More, when the opportunity presents itself. Believe me to be, etc.

Your humble servant and loving brother

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

¹⁸ For all things.

Roma, September 24, 1826

1513

September 25, 1826

Pietro Gajani

Bologna

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*¹⁹

Most illustrious sir

I owe you a response to two of your most appreciated letters. With regard to the first one, I find that it will be necessary for you to have a personal meeting with his most reverend Eminence in order to discover the Cardinal Archbishop's definitive sentiment. It seems to me that it should be possible to come to this determination of consent with the reverend Dominican Fathers, that is, that as long as the present actual pastor is there at S. Procolo, he should carry out, *ut in principio*,²⁰ his responsibilities, and do that as an attestation of gratitude for the good that has been promoted. Then, later, the Father Prior of the Dominican Fathers should take his place *pro tempore*.²¹ Consider for a bit of time this prudent move, proper in every respect, and submit it then to the wise reflections of his most reverend Eminence.

As for your second very appreciated letter, I find that the concerns that you show in behalf of the annual remembrance of the death of Countess Caterina,²² a woman who was truly a holy person and an exceedingly zealous worker for the honor of the Lord, is indeed most appropriate and sincerely edifying. You will be able to submit this to the first Congregation and I am very hopeful for the most favorable results. As for the compilation of the life of this very holy woman, some days ago, it was discussed with his Eminence, the most reverend Cardinal Falzacappa. But, it will be necessary that this work be done in Bologna where it is an easy matter to gather all of the information that is required, especially since Chiara is located there. Here in Rome, we do not have that historical data which is so necessary for this objective. It would, however, be a good idea to have us read over the presentation in the event that we might have one or the other item to add; with God's help, you look into this matter so as to bring to fruition this holy intention. Now and always, your letters are highly esteemed and very dear to me. The glory of God is the main purpose for this holy union that we must set up in the wounds of Jesus Christ. It is there that I am and will constantly be, with esteem,

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

¹⁹ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

²⁰ As in the beginning.

²¹ Temporarily.

²² Caterina Bentivoglio Orsi: Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Bentivoglio, No. 2

Gaspare Can. del Bufalo
 Mis. Ap.
 Rome, September 25, 1826

1514

September 25, 1826
 Gonfalonier of Spoleto

Jesus Mary Joseph

Venerable Sir

In accordance with the Papal Brief, you have probably noticed the decisions made by the Holy Father in regard to the House of S. Felice in Giano. Now, I am asking you to set in motion the fulfillment of the sovereign's dispositions since that Mission and Retreat House in S. Felice is in extreme need. You yourself can imagine that. The glory of God is the only purpose that impels us to continue the good work that has been begun in that sanctuary; also, the remembrance of St. Felice who, in the fourth century, preached the Gospel in Umbria; there is also our religious desire to take good care of that sanctuary. The Holy Congregation of Good Government assures me that it has no need for further directives in the matter, once an apostolic Brief has been issued. Furthermore, the Commune, after reviewing the accounts, should be able to make those decisions which it finds to be expedient. My only duty is to ask you to fulfill the above. Meanwhile, I have the honor, most illustrious sir, to declare, with esteem and respect, that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Apost.

Rome, September 25, 1826

1515

September 26, 1826
 Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli
 Bishop of Agatopoli
 Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

My Monsignor and dearest brother²³

Aquila has obtained what it was seeking concerning the Confraternity of the Divine Blood. The royal dispatch was issued on July 15. Now, Canon Bellisarj would like to have a

²³ In another handwriting, the following is written: "Reply to Canon Father Giuseppe Bellisarj, Rieti for Aquila, December 12, 1826. Cost for the task of getting the holy body with a proper name will be between 80 and 90 *scudi*".

letter of response from you answering the following questions:

1. Which ones and how many are the confraternities that are canonically erected in the Kingdom and aggregated to the Archconfraternity. He would like to convey this information to each one etc., which is something useful etc.

2. He would like to know whether the congregation in Aquila might be aggregated to the religious group of the Servites. It seems to me that in the briefs there is always a *dummodo non sit aggregata etc.*²⁴ He would like to aggregate it to the Servites just as the organization of the Agonizzanti is aggregated to the Confalone. He cites this example in Aquila.

3. He would like to have the catalog of indulgences for the Santissimo Salvatore. I know nothing about this.

4. He would like to have a body of a holy martyr; but, first, he would like to know what the cost would be.

Would you be able to send me a response here as to what I am supposed to say to him; where what Canon Bellisarj is not clear as to what he wants, we shall simply answer: we do not understand what you are asking for. With regard to the body of that holy martyr, if you are not able to take care of this matter, we shall write to him that he should look for some other means.

Pray for me who, with esteem, remain
Your humble servant and loving brother

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

September 26, 1826

1516

September 28, 1826

Fr. Simone Olivieri

Ripatranzone

*Dilexit nos et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*²⁵

Dear Father

Pardon me if, because of shortness of time, I have delayed in responding to your most appreciated letter. I give thanks to God for your good intentions in behalf of our most important devotion. When you see that it is manageable to have only the public recitation of the Chaplet and the enrolment of men and women, it will not be necessary to have the constitution of the Archconfraternity. However, if you would like to establish a confraternity with a uniform, then you should make your desires known. At least all of October would be necessary in order to have the copies. So also, if you were to be pleased to erect a pious union, without uniform, then you

²⁴ Provided it has not been aggregated, etc.

²⁵ He loved us and washed us in his blood.

would receive the necessary instructions. I shall await your reply. In the meantime, I beg you for the charity of your prayers, most illustrious Father, and I am and will constantly be, with esteem,

Your devoted, humble and most obedient

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 28, 1826

1517

September 29, 1826

Fr. Giuseppe Bellisarj

Aquila

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

The news of the royal approbation brought me great consolation. In all things, praise be to God, *a quo omne bonum*.²⁶

The confraternities selected in the Kingdom of Naples, and aggregated to the Archconfraternity are:

The communal church in Morino, Diocese of Sora;

Teramo, at the altar of the most holy Crucifix, in the cathedral.

Penne, at the altar of the most holy Crucifix in the cathedral.

Atri, at the Purgatory altar, in the church of S. Spirito.

Cappadocia, Diocese of Marsi

The congregation in Aquila is not permitted to aggregate itself to the Servites, without an apostolic *benepiacitum*.²⁷ Likewise, if a confraternity were to be aggregated to a second group without making mention of having already been aggregated to the first, an apostolic sanction would be required.

You should procure from the reverend canons of the Santissimo Salvatore themselves the catalog of their indulgences.

Monsignor Muccioli will investigate the cost for transmitting to you the bones and the clothing of a holy martyr, the construction of an urn, the encasement, and the cost of delivery. Later, he will send you a reply, hopeful that he will be able to accomplish this for you.

All of the information which you have sent has been communicated to me by Monsignor Muccioli, in accordance with your letter, safeguarding any oversight.

The alms sent for the pious cause of having Masses said comes to 15 Roman baiocchi for each Mass. Please give this information to the ProVicar General so that the one who offers the Mass will receive from their superiors what is due to them according to the regulations. I say this

²⁶ From whom [comes] every good.

²⁷ Approval.

for my own peace of mind.

Tell Father Francesco Pacini that the letter patent which I am supposed to send to him is not yet prepared despite my efforts, and, I do not know when it will be available. Pray and have others pray for me, a wretched one. In Jesus Christ crucified, consider me to be, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 29, 1826

1518

September 29, 1826

Fr. Pietrantonio Verardi

Lenola

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

Since you find it impossible during the year to offer your services at least once to the ministry, I am unable to send you the certificate since I do not have the faculty to do so.

I understand what you tell me about the archpriest and I do not know why he does not free himself from the ties with the seminary. It is sufficient to say *non est discipulus supra magistrum*.²⁸ Give him my best regards and tell him that I would be greatly delighted to receive copies of his teachings, and the Lord will reward him.

As for Lent, I have no particular concern about that, for in order to do good one must have the call of God, and I will certainly not write to the bishop about it. I have informed him only that the seculars think that they can usually get workers even with a shortness of time.

Meanwhile, if you would like to have the faculty of enrolling people in the Divine Blood, this I will send to you immediately. Pray a lot for me, most esteemed Canon, for wholeheartedly and with esteem, I remain constantly

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 29, 1826

1519

September 30, 1826

Giovanni Francesco Palmucci

Offida

²⁸ The disciple is not above his master.

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Giovanni Francesco

I have received the material and the cloth, and from the coachman you will receive the uniforms which, by a real mistake, remained in my house during the past years. Be assured that I have been truly sorry about that. Today or tomorrow, I shall be going to the Altenis place and I shall leave there 15 *scudi* which have already been set aside. I would like, however, that you give me a brief reply at your convenience.

I give thanks to God for the edifying example presented by the organization of S. Francis Xavier in Ascoli. And, it was to my deepest consolation to read the details that you submitted to me in your most appreciated letter. I like the vesture very much. To complement it, I can see also that the rosaries should be made to be proportionate and, in such a way, that they will be easily visible. You observe quite correctly that it would be better to place a cross there; I think it would be a good idea if it were made of brass to match the coatofarms.

Finally, do not cease praying and have others pray a lot for me; and, dear Giovanni Francesco, with esteem, respect and a very special affection, consider me as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 30, 1826 (the feast day of S. Jerome, protector of St. Francis Xavier)

P. S. The month of the Divine Blood is going to be reprinted in Rome.

1520

MarchOctober 1826

Fr. Vitale Corbucci

Benevento

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father Vitale

What you chose to write to me came as something altogether new. As soon as Monsignor Cadolini was made bishop, he gave me an indication of the situation; then, he wrote to me that the Servites were not leaving and that concluded the matter. What I refer to here is an old affair, I repeat, from the very beginnings of the see. Up to now, Monsignor Cadolini has written nothing more to me. Whether he will do so at some later time I do not know. At any rate, I prefer to adhere to my system of governing in matters such as these: "*interrogatus responde*".²⁹

Then, too, it is something new for the members of the Institute to be assigned there, and, while doing good work (and I say this not out of spite but because of the lack of order) one or the other is cut back or even removed. I have sent an answer, along this line, to Archpriest Gabellini who presumed many things with regard to my dealings with Bishop Cadolini, things that simply

²⁹ When asked, respond.

do not exist. And, for your benefit, I can tell you that it is all the work of his relatives and friends who are trying to get him to return to Rome. I say this because, while the building is being erected on the one hand, the removal of the person in charge of its construction leads to a state of confusion. I have always heard it said that one must desire nothing ... that the more the doing of good work offers opposition, so much the more is it meritorious. ... I have read that the saints have always sought detachment from relatives. But then you could give me lessons on this topic. We, instead, shall say: "*Ostende quos elegeris*".³⁰

With regard to the missions, *ne verbum quidem*³¹ and at no time at all was even a syllable of discussion entered into between the bishop of Cesena and myself. Our method is that of the saints and already given and repeated are our replies to the rumors and senseless remarks uttered against us. I conclude: *qui non manducat. manducantem non spernat*.³²

With respect to your health, which is so very dear to my heart, I say that this is something that must not be overlooked. So, in this regard, listen to what the doctors say along with your prayers. Furthermore, keep his most reverend Eminence informed so that people will not begin to say ... Canon del Bufalo is taking away my confessor, one of my examiners. This is something that the Institute must not forget. When all these things have been handled by you, then, depending on the air that would be most beneficial for you, a decision will be made to which House you will be assigned. I would, however, never advise you to select the one in Romagna, unless, of course, you yourself would wish that. You will be obeyed.

In Jesus Christ crucified, venerable Father Vitale, consider me to be, with esteem and respect, while asking also for your incessant prayers
Rome 1³³

P. S. As for the major difficulties involved in the ministry there, this simply proves that the glory of God will be greater because of the greater need, safeguarding, I repeat, reasons of

³⁰ Show whom you have chosen.

³¹ Not even a word.

³² He who does not eat should not spurn the one who does.

³³ As to the date, the only thing given is Rome 1. To what year and month does this letter belong? It seems that the letter should be placed somewhere between the months of March to October 1826. In fact, the letter must have been written after September of 1825, when Monsignor Antonio Maria Cadolini, bishop of Cesena, in writing probably to Monsignor Bellisario Cristaldi expressed his opinion of preferring the Missionaries of the most Precious Blood in place of the Servites, in the Convent of the Servites in Cesena, since they had been preaching retreats in that area. This information leaked out and was communicated to Corbucci who, as can be seen from this letter, related it to St. Gaspar.

Corbucci was superior in Benevento, as the address indicates, up to October 16, 1826 when he was then named as the president. From September 1825 to October 1826, St. Gaspar was in Rome, counting from the first day of the month of March until October 1826. So, very probably, somewhere within that time period, this letter is to be placed. Concerning Corbucci as being confessor, examiner, etc. in Benevento, referred to in this letter, consult what Fr. Antonio Mosti says in one of his letters, dated September 9, 1825.

your health. *Satis pro nunc*.³⁴

1521

October 5, 1826
Fr. Pietro Butti
Alatri

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

It is absolutely impossible to arrange for Missionary Liparelli to come there in November because of other commitments that have already been entrusted to him, besides the Retreat, called for by our rule, which is going to begin with the Novena in honor of Xavier.

I have understood what you told me about the young man Innocenzo.

Send the money for the maildelivery, subtracting the cost for the postal charges. When I was in the Province, I was able to manage things differently between the Houses. Now, it is necessary to do as follows, otherwise the other procedures will all get more entangled. With regard to the balancing of the account and the subtracting of what must be subtracted, I no longer have a recollection of anything. Sufficient for me is to know that you have handled things and in such a way that the family does not find itself short even one *bajocco* less than what, by agreement, was determined, and that neither should the House in Giano be harmed through some error.

Upon receiving the package through Tagliaferri, I shall send it on to you. With respect to this young man, I say to you (and let this be between us in secret) that either he is very confused by the devil or he is not mentally balanced. You simply cannot imagine the amount of patience that he demands of us and how laden he is with his imaginings of real apprehensions. May the will of God be done. Recently he was stationed in Pievetorina. I wrote and inquired whether he would like to return to Giano around November. I am still awaiting results. Generally speaking, every Missionary is complaining about him, which is not the case in regard to others.

Basically, he is a very good person. Perhaps if you were to write a line or so to him, he might become a bit more aware of his nature; God knows just what you should write. You do too. Father Biagio Valentini, without doing harm to anyone, is a man full of patience, but he is hardly able to handle this, and I repeat, hardly. So, prayers. I realize that perfection is not attained in a single day, but if the sick person pays no attention to the remedies for a cure, nor does he bother to listen to the advice that respectfully I keep giving him, what are we to do? That is why I have been reluctant about the Mass. However, my correspondence with you, as well as the insistence given by his brother in Rome, have hastened things. I repeat, prayers.

With regard to Frosinone, I, for the time being, have only one idea about a provisional hospice there. Anything more is known by God, content with what has been done and what will

³⁴ Enough for now.

be done later for the success of the affair. However, up to now, I have not been supported in that city. We shall see. Prayers.

Finally, do not cease praying a lot for me, and for our companions who have gone into the foreign missions, and, have others do so too. In Jesus Christ crucified, most revered Canon, I remain, with esteem, respect and gratitude.

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, October 5, 1826

P. S. Give your assistance to the situation in Frosinone and, *quasi aliud agens*,³⁵ write to Father Vittorio, concerning whose perseverance I am fearful, addressing it to Camerino for Pievetorina.

1522

October 10, 1826

Msgr. Ottavio Zolio

Bishop of Rimini

Rimini

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*³⁶

Venerable Monsignor³⁷

Present circumstances in our foundation in Rimini are urgently forcing us to have in that House missionaries who, together with what the devotion of the faithful is able to offer, are trying to maintain themselves only with the offerings made to them for Masses. These Missionaries, living together in their special circumstances, as a family, are not in a position to make this sacrifice. I, full of esteem and affection for them, therefore, have obliged them to be the bearers of this most humble letter of mine, while at the same time renewing my sentiments of esteem, respect and veneration for you, most venerable Monsignor. Asking you for your prayers, I remain and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspere C. del Bufalo

Mis. ap.

October 10, 1826

1523

³⁵ As if doing something else.

³⁶ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

³⁷ The bishop's response is found on the fourth side.

October 11, 1826

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

I received the package through Tagliaferri and the money in the amount that you indicated to me. Thank you for your efforts.

The situation in Frosinone is desperate. To consider new constructions, while the ones for the Rocca and the Annunziata, as well as that of S. Antonio are still pending, is absolutely impossible, keeping in mind the basic rules of prudence. Enough has been done. The Maestre were supposed to occupy our locale and we were to go to S. Agostino. God would not want that. *Satis dixi*.³⁸ Most revered Canon, with esteem, respect and gratitude, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, October 11, 1826

1524

October 12, 1826

Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor and very dear brother

Please do me the favor of sending replies to the questions, as you see them enclosed, that have been submitted by a responsible person. I presume that you will have one or the other available reports. I give you my thanks in advance. In Jesus Christ crucified, venerable Monsignor, I remain, with esteem, respect and affection

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant and loving brother

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

October 12, 1826

1525

October 16, 1826

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

³⁸ I have said enough.

Jesus Mary Joseph

My Monsignor

I shall be very punctual tomorrow morning. You have relieved me of a new anguish in saving me from a new debt. I would not want to see the Institute get into even greater problems. May the Lord give you a full reward. I kiss your hands, venerable Monsignor, and with esteem, respect and gratitude, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

October 16³⁹

Tomorrow I shall offer Mass for you.

1526

October 17, 1826

Mons. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁴⁰

Venerable Monsignor

I do not have words adequate enough to express to you the immense feelings of obligation that I have toward you. Please read everything that lies within my heart. I assure you that in the triduum in Giano I shall always have you in mind in a special way and I shall not forget to offer suffrages for the excellent Lawyer Paolucci. After the triduum, I shall go on to Assisi for the retreat to the clergy and the people. Recommend me often to God so that I will be able to respond to the exalted vocation of the holy ministry. Please, if you are able, I would like you to give me some indication of what has resulted from your recent meeting with the Holy Father, and, while maintaining our usual secret communication, this information could be very helpful to me. In a general way, you might advise me as to the time for my return, since dependent on that time is the scheduling of my duties. If, possibly, I could reside quietly in Giano until new orders are forthcoming, I would give thanks to God. From there, I would direct and assist in our affairs as best I can, keeping firmly in mind the policy of praying incessantly for a setup in Rome for our Institute. Keep me frequently in your prayers there in that sacred place of retirement, and, with esteem, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

³⁹ This was placed among the letters of 1826.

⁴⁰ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

M. Ap.
Rome, October 17, 1826

P. S. I shall be leaving next Monday. But, first, I would like to have a line or so from you.

1527

October 17, 1826
Fr. Rafaelle Rosati
Sonnino

Hail to the Blood of Christ

Dear Father Rafaelle

I would like to transfer you even farther from the confines of the Kingdom. Therefore, before the new scholastic year begins, I have the opportunity of assigning you to the House of S. Felice in Giano in the diocese of Spoleto. So, get your things together and with a mount go to Sermoneta, then on to Albano, and from there on to our hospice in Rome. Do so in such a way that you will be there by next Saturday evening. As for the travel expenses that you encounter, we will take care of that in Rome. Let us be in agreement on this. Pray for me, dear Father Rafaelle, for with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, October 17, 1826

Please, be exact. I shall be awaiting you.

1528

October 18, 1826
Gonfalonier of Spoleto

Jesus Mary Joseph

Your excellency

The problems in S. Felice in Giano are calling for my presence there in that sanctuary. I shall be traveling by way of the road to S. Gemine for reasons of the ministry. With this most humble letter of mine, I beg your excellency, as a favor, to deign to address a letter of yours to me in care of S. Felice in which you will verify the promises made concerning the pension which is due to that sanctuary. With this upcoming November, the year with its trimesterpayments will expire. You can imagine what stringent economical difficulties we are facing in that Mission and Retreat House. I place my trust in your zeal and concern, assuring you of our total gratitude. In a very special way, we shall keep you in our prayers so that the Lord will fill you with abundant blessings. Your excellency, with esteem, respect and veneration, consider me, indeed, as

Your most humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Miss. Ap.
Rome, October 18, 1826

1529

October 19, 1826
Fr. Luigi Cocci
Grutti

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Luigi

A couple of lines in a hurry. I shall be in S. Felice next Wednesday for the noon meal. At least, I hope to do so. I would like you to favor me with your presence for Vespers and the feast of the saint, as well as for my seeing you again. Pray for me who with all my heart am

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, October 19, 1826

1530

October 20, 1826
Fr. Pietro Butti
Alatri
Venerable Canon

Please find some way of distributing the printed material that is included here.

On that occasion, I ask that you inform the pertinent confraternities that since the Archconfraternity in Rome has established particular acts of suffrage for the primary promoters of the work, now that some members have already passed on into eternity, they now ask the aggregated confraternities to freely offer their own special suffrages, but sending a report of them for our Archives here in Rome.

When you are zealously engaged in promoting this very good work, you should check again to identify better those altars and churches where the confraternities are established, since one or the other may have been omitted in our records. Thus, the Archives themselves in Rome will be kept in due proper order. Venerable Canon, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, October 20, 1826

Confraternities aggregated to the Archconfraternity

S. Clemente, Cathedral in Velletri

The Cathedral in Veroli

S. Maria de Franconi, in Veroli

Carpineto, Diocese of Anagni

S. Maria Assunta in Cielo, in Pofi, Diocese of Veroli

S. Ippolito, in Ferentino

Santo Spirito, in Guarcino, Diocese of Alatri

1531

October 23, 1826

Msgr. Vincenzo Annovazzi

Suffragan Bishop Civitavecchia

Venerable Monsignor

This letter is a request that you please distribute the printed information, which is enclosed, to the various confraternities. On that occasion, we ask also that you identify the altars assigned to these confraternities so that we can check them better with the information we have in our General Archives.

Furthermore, please be advised that the Archconfraternity has decided to ask the confraternities joined together to offer, freely, special suffrages for the more zealous promoters of this good work. Some of them have already passed on into eternity and are awai[ting]⁴¹ this act of charity which has been promised to them. The results will be a source of joy and edification to all.

Pray for me incessantly and, venerable Monsignor, while kissing your hands, I remain, with esteem and respect,

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, October 23, 1826

Confraternities aggregated to the Archconfraternity

S. Francesco, in Civitavecchia

S. Giorgio, in Oriolo, Diocese of Viterbo

Chiesa dell'Ospedale, in Barberano

S. Egidio, in Viterbo

1532

October 27, 1826

Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

⁴¹ The page is torn here.

My venerable Monsignor and loving brother

Ex commissione, etc. etc.,⁴² I shall have to give the Retreat to the people and Clergy of Assisi. Everything has been arranged in a very limited amount of time. I was hoping to see you on Sunday the 22nd, the night for the meeting. But then, since I did not receive any announcement of it, I had to sacrifice this desire of mine to God. In the meantime, do not delay the customary meeting. When I return we will do that much more. In all things let us always adore the ever lovable divine dispositions. It was due to my inadvertence and lack of reflection that I did not inform you of this when we last saw each other. I was, to tell the truth, swamped with a thousand things on my mind. Let us not cease to pray for each other. Address your very dear letters to S. Felice. Pray for me a lot. Consider me, with esteem and respect and particular attachment, as

venerable Monsignor your

Humble, devoted, obliged servant and loving brother

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, October 27, 1826

1533

November 12, 1826

Mr. Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Camillo

In reply to your letter, I say that your letters could be addressed to someone with whom you are acquainted, and, you can use this one for others. For example, give this task to Canon Tarulli in favor of another priest, prepare another note etc. and everything by way of commission etc., *et capta opportunitate*.⁴³

The suffrages are to be offered freely and with devotion. For example, a Way of the Cross ... a rosary etc. There are no expenses here. The names of the deceased are as follows: Father Canon Antonio Aquari, the secretary of the vicariate of Rome, Reverend Father de Maura, the most reverend bishop of Terracina, Mr. Giocchino Finierola, Mr. Giuseppe Bennicelli. However, the names of these people do not have to be individually mentioned. I believe that I have answered substantially all the questions in your letters. Be diligent in carrying out this good work.

With regard to the Chaplets, ask the coachdriver if he has delivered them. Right now, I

⁴² From the commission, etc., etc.

⁴³ And seizing the opportunity.

have no recollection and I would not want to make a mistake.

I have the opportunity now of withdrawing for a bit of time to S. Felice in order to make my retreat. After that, I shall be going to Assisi to preach for the conclusion of the Jubilee year; next, back to Rome. Send your response to S. Felice.

With esteem and respect, I am

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, November 12, 1826

1534

November 12, 1826

Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci

Offida

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Giovanni Francesco

I am late in sending you a reply since I have been very, very busy. Thank you wholeheartedly for your very dear letter and with regard to the cloth, I believe that next year more will also be needed.

At your earliest convenience, please send the list of the enrollees in the Divine Blood, that you mentioned to me, to Monsignor Muccioli, bishop of Agatopoli and president of our Archconfraternity.

As soon as I can, I shall send you the 100 Chaplets, for which it will not be necessary, this time, to send any payment at all. The only thing I ask for is prayers.

I believe that the charge in Rome for each copy of the Month is 15 *bajocchi*. I will try to find out more. But, oh how happy I would be to have the reprinting done in Fermo.

I am here in S. Felice, where I shall remain until after the feast of St. Xavier, anxious to make my holy retreat here. Pray for me. After this, I will be going to Assisi where I shall preach the conclusion of the Jubilee year. Then, back to Rome. Pray a great deal for me, and, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, November 12, 1826

1535

November 16, 1826

Gonfalonier of Spoleto

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁴⁴

Venerable Gonfalonier

Out of sheer necessity, I am sending you these words of mine in order to learn the results of your promises in regard to what is owed to this House of S. Felice in Giano. I would like to be hopeful that, ever since the brief issued by our Holy Father in which he manifested his sovereign intentions with respect to this matter, you have given time to making the decisions that will bring this situation to fulfillment. With this trust, I urge you, with ever more zeal, to take care of the due payment, the only source of subsistence for this House.

With esteem and respect, venerable Gonfalonier, I say again that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

S. Felice, November 16, 1826

1536

November 16, 1826

Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

S. Nicola in Carcere

Rome

Hail to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

My venerable Monsignor

With respect to the meeting, you have probably received the notice already from our Severini.

I would have already completed the Retreat at Assisi if the sickness of Bartolomeo, whom I take with me, had not caused me to delay it. At present, he is gradually recovering; but if I had left him at the beginning, the sickness would have gotten worse for him. The charity and gratitude that I owe to him, who has accompanied me on the most laborious Missions, compelled me to decide to do what I had to do. Shortly, our own Retreat, according to the Rule, is about to take place. I do not want to neglect it, since I must think about my own soul as well.

On the 4th of December I will be in Assisi. I will expedite it as quickly as possible. From Assisi I shall go to Rome, surely before the holy feast of Christmas. Do not cease to pray and have others pray for me.

With great delight I heard of the warm welcome accorded by the Holy Father. God *fortiter et suaviter cuncta disponit*.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

⁴⁵ He disposes all things firmly and sweetly.

Finally, tell Canon Raffieri that the matter of Frosinone does not depend on me, but on the Holy Father. It would be too long to discuss it by letter. As for me, it is sufficient that I had no other part than to suffer because of the way that they handled it. Now an effort is being made to rectify it. I do not know whether we will be in time or not. I forgive everyone; and in all things I adore the ever lovable dispositions of God.

Pray for me a lot; and with the usual esteem and attachment, consider me as

Your humble servant and loving brother

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, November 16, 1826

P.S. Send your letters addressed to S. Felice. I urge you with regard to the data on our Albertini.

1537

November 17, 1826

Fr. Pietro Sutti

Alatri

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

I have received here in S. Felice in Giano your most appreciated letter at a time when I have withdrawn to make a retreat, a time of special comfort for me and for which I beg your prayers. Soon I shall have to be in Assisi to conclude with a special work the Jubilee year, and then, I shall return to Rome. In the meantime, if you find it necessary, write to me in care of S. Felice. You note from this that I am wedded to the ministry and not to my own wishes. I am content only when I do the will of God. The settlement of the situation between Frosinone and Veroli does not depend upon me. God knows how much I have done in behalf of Frosinone. I add nothing further. Recently, I sent your request or petition to the most reverend Tressurer. It would be fitting if your excellent brother, Lodovico, would go to see him. Meanwhile, let us offer prayers. I assure you that I have recommended him as much as it was possible for me. Thank you for your efforts in regard to the suffrages that I mentioned to you in my recent letter. As for Velletri, I will look into that.

Now, my dearest Canon, we come to the matter of Fr. Vittorio Tagliaferri. I have never really come to know this man as well as I have been able to do in this most recent time. I was unaware of the fact that he had always made his nature known in Alatri and I could hardly believe what the poor Father Biagio Valentini kept writing to me. He is a man whose life is good, but, by divine permission, is strange in mind. He is not one capable of community living, for it demands a great deal of virtue to live as a family, in my opinion. I wish I were wrong; I love him equally, I excuse his intentions; but, in a letter, one cannot describe sufficiently the sufferings that I have seen him cause for the Institute.

I have been slow in believing this, I have taken time, I have examined things, and I have come to the conclusion that I am faced here with something that is not ... but, perhaps we can better discuss this more one day, in person. The latest concerning Father Vittorio is this: he is departing from the Institute and is giving nothing to defray the cost of food in Pievetorina; he has so informed the superior there of this; and, Father Gregorio Giobbi, one of our members and a man of particular merit, not to do harm to the reputation of others, is replying with arrogance and boldness. It is our policy that anyone who is not paying room and board, once he has offered a Mass, until he is accepted as a Missionary, is to give from the alms offered for the Mass, one *paolo* to help pay for the food. Tell me, if the Society is in need of means, is it obliged to feed someone who is still not a Missionary! It would be the will of God if it were able ... and Father Vittorio himself was not in the least way ignorant of these policies.

Presently, the House in Pievetorina is pressing this matter and is not in a position to condone it. May God be blessed in all things. With room and board set at 50 *scudi*, realizing what is required to support one's living, tell me, is it possible to have anything left over? I submit this whole matter to your judgment. As necessary, ask me any questions, inform yourself candidly, and, if you do not believe what I say, which is something I cannot possibly imagine, then write also to Father Biagio in Albano. I have assigned him there because of reasons of health. Write likewise to Father Gregorio Giobbi, as well as to Father Camillo Rossi who was the recent superior during the past visitation in Pievetorina and one who is quite wellacquainted with Father Vittorio. Presently, he is stationed in Rimini. What am I hoping for in all this? His correction, his own good, and that he become educated and civil and not act in such a way as to bring vilification to the Province, the city or the family from which he comes. I repeat, I feel compassion for him ... it is the devil who is vexing him. Prayers.

A short while ago, he wrote to me to seek my counsel about his becoming a Jesuit; I replied in the best way that my conscience allowed. I have learned from others about his departure, since he himself has written nothing to me. May thanks be given to God for the large as well as the small crosses, however they may come. As for our Institute, it is a definite policy that once anyone leaves it, he no longer will be re-admitted. I wish him every good thing wherever God may be calling him, if, indeed, it is God who is calling. Let us mutually pray for this individual. With esteem and respect, venerable Canon, consider me to be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, November 17, 1826

1538

November 19, 1826

Msgr. Vincenzo Annovazzi

Suffragan Bishop Civitavecchia

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁴⁶

Venerable Monsignor

Thank you for your recent letter, and, I understand what you tell me about Barberano and Oriolo. I believe that I might not have mentioned other places in my letter with regard to the work to be promoted so as not to omit anything, etc., etc.

In the course of your apostolic and industrious efforts, do not cease praying for me. With esteem and respect, while kissing your hands, most illustrious and reverend sir, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in S. Felice, November 19, 1826

1539

November 23, 1826

Msgr. Nicola Mattei

Archbishop of Camerino

Camerino

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁴⁷

My Monsignor

I am writing to you as I have now withdrawn to make my retreat. I regretted very much having sent the dimissorial to you and I notice, in this regard, some confusion of ideas in the bishop of Veroli.

It is a matter of fact that I was unaware that Mosconi had accepted the task of giving the retreat to the nuns of S. Ginesio. I could not conceive of a retreat being given to the people since recently they have had a Mission. As for the nuns, I had advised all of our companions that they should not become involved because of the universal Jubilee year. We preferred to provide Missions for the people. He wrote to me about it later to S. Felice at the time when I was asking him to assist me for the retreat to the clergy and people of Assisi, where we are to close the Jubilee year; but then, we no longer had sufficient time. These are, however, mistakes that call only for tolerance, and, while we ourselves might believe them to be something that is out of order, it is not so in the eyes of God; particularly, I have nothing to be regretful about, not having been the cause. *Scit Deus quod non mentior*.⁴⁸ I make this observation because, with Mosconi in charge of the economy in Pievetorina, there was need now for the granting of a subsidy for the good progress of things there.

⁴⁶ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

⁴⁷ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

⁴⁸ God knows that I do not lie.

I have no words to describe to you the anguish that I experienced with the lifethreatening sickness of Bartolomeo, who had succeeded Vincenzo Severini as my assistant for the Missions. Through a veritable miracle of the most holy Mary, to whom I made a promise, he is now relieved. Because of this incident, I had to request the most reverend bishop of Assisi to postpone the retreat until the beginning of Advent. I have seen the work of God in all of this; while I was handling and I still do handle the matters dealing with foreign missions, the Holy Father had me informed that I myself should go. Pray a great deal for such a great good. *Ego enim sum vir videns paupertatem meam.*⁴⁹

As for our problems in Pievetorina, supported by your mediation and even more so by your prayers, little by little they will be improved. God's works are begotten in thorns.

With regard to the nuns in your archdiocese, please supply, for my own benefit, a general outline. Because of the unforeseen tasks that are sent out to me from Rome, I will find it useful to determine my schedule. For a bit more time, it will be necessary for you to please be so kind as to keep in touch with me. More about this as things progress. Make every effort to avoid having the retreats in succession for the benefit of the House in Pievetorina, so that on one occasion Giobbi would go out, on another occasion, Mosconi; that is the reason why I tried to bring them there together. After the Jubilee year, I will supply another man.

All of us are plunged into a vast sea. Let us be mutually helpful and compassionate. I can say that *patet cor meum*⁵⁰ with the desire to be of assistance to all; that is, indeed, a grace of God, our most loving Father. Father Luigi Mosconi will conduct Lenten observances in Pievetorina. Father Gregorio Giobbi will handle the moral case for the new year. You see to it that, for all Lenten preaching, a diocesan collection be taken up for the benefit of Pievetorina. Pray a lot for me and let us renew our pacts. Most reverend excellency, with esteem, respect and a truly constant affection, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, November 23, 1826

1540

November 25, 1826
Fr. Angelo Primavera
Bolognola

Hail etc.

Dear Father Angelo

⁴⁹ For I am a man seeing my poverty.

⁵⁰ My heart is open.

I have 50 Masses which are to be celebrated immediately. You are to return to me the required notification with the stipulated synodal offering of the diocese there, which, I hear, is one *paolo* and with a privileged altar. You distribute them and send me a reply, for my own peace of mind. I am writing in a hurry since it is time for the Retreat. I am etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, November 25⁵¹

1541

November 27, 1826

Mr. Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Camillo

More and more do your letters bring me consolation. I shall depart for Assisi next Monday. Please accompany me with many, many prayers. Presently, I am making the Retreat called for by our rule. Pray for copious blessings to my soul. The serious illness of Bartolomeo, who has taken the place of Severini in assisting me in my ministry, has compelled me to make this delay. Now, he is feeling much better.

With regard to the brothers and sisters there, how can a pious union exist, one that is canonically erected and aggregated, without pursuing some good work in common, at least the practice of the Chaplet? At any rate, as best you can, spread the good word around, *et satis provisum*.⁵²

That I come to Fabriano? Oh how much I would like to do so! But how can that be? Unless it would be for purposes of the ministry, nothing more can be done. So, let us meet with each other often in the Heart of Jesus Christ where I leave you now, most revered Camillo, expressing my total affection, esteem and gratitude.

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, November 27, 1826

P.S. Let me know if I have pending accounts. It would be good if you would, at your earliest convenience, send to me in Rome, four reams of stationery, two that sell for one scudo the ream, and two of the more refined type. Let me know the cost.

⁵¹ The only years when St. Gaspar was in S. Felice on November 25th are the years 1825 and 1826. We assign this letter to 1826 only because of the connection it might have with the letter of December 2, 1826 to Fuschi in which he speaks of the notification for the Masses.

⁵² And provided enough.

1542

December 1, 1826
 Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

Here now is a new inconvenience. At the tiros when I was with Canon Muccioli for the Missions in Santelpidio some years ago, the priest,⁵³ from whom the enclosed petition comes, offered himself to become a companion. I assigned him to Giano in the care of Bonanni, now a bishop. At that time, that was the only House of our Institute. His intention was to prepare himself for our ministries, which he then carried out. He did not imagine then the hardships which he mentions in his petition. He hoped that only with the offerings he received for Masses, along with his trust in God, that he would be able to set for himself a certain leeway for eventually settling his financial problems. However, ultimately, after almost eight years through which he has given his services to the great satisfaction of all the members of our Institute, he is now sending this petition to the Holy Father. At least, in this extreme case, a subsidy for this one time could be made from the Lotti, for the occurring holy feast of Christmas.

Most beloved Monsignor, do what you can for him. I recommend him highly to you, just as St. Paul gave his commendation for Onesimus. I will consider done to me what you will be able to work out for the person making this request. Full of esteem and respect, venerable Monsignor, asking you to inform me as to the outcome of this matter etc., I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, December 1, 1826

1543

December 2, 1826
 Luigi Fuschi
 Norma

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Luigi

Before leaving for the Retreat to be given in Assisi, as has been scheduled for me, I am sending a reply to your letter, certain as I am at this time that you have probably received the notification of Masses, and if that is not so, then ask Father Pietro Spina. If you have other

⁵³ This refers to Father Raffaele Brandimarte. As a matter of fact, Cristaldi notes: "Find out whether the petitioner Brandimarte could be a relative of the Fr. Brandimarte who is the librarian for His Holiness; to this ... a reply will be awaited". Cfr. St. Gaspar's response dated December 28, 1826.

Masses to submit, indicating the time for them to be said, send your response to Assisi or to Rome.

With regard to a House there, my heart burns with desire. However, if the bishop does not decide to lend a helping hand, how can we manage? We shall pray that the Lord will in some way clear the paths.

I give thanks to God for the progress of the oratory there. May the zeal of its promoters also be blessed. Finally, let us contact each other frequently and always in the Sacred Divine Heart. May Jesus be our love and may we all be with Jesus. Most revered Luigi, with esteem, respect and very special love, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, December 2⁵⁴ [vigil of the great Xavier]

1544

December 1826

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁵⁵

Venerable Monsignor

Oh with what regret did I learn of your sickness. Truly, your life demands a continuous miracle, and especially since you are advancing in age, you must govern it methodically and this is a very precise obligation. To work beyond your strength, except for a special illumination from God, is too great a risk. *Omnia adunque honeste*,⁵⁶ and that is not enough but *secundum ordinem fiant*.⁵⁷ I am anxiously awaiting further news from you. Indeed, this very morning I applied holy Mass for your recovery. This is the greatest thing that I, by divine authority, am able to offer to the eternal Father. I truly hope that the Lord will preserve you so that you can put order into our holy Institute and that it can promote ever greater good work.

I have already submitted the letter of procurement. The only thing that I am still regretful of is the use of the title of noble, appended really by mistake, and not willed to be canceled. Poor Frosinone! I am so sorry about what is going to happen without my being able to do anything more except to adore the divine dispositions.

⁵⁴ The year is 1826 because of the reference to the retreat in Assisi.

⁵⁵ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

⁵⁶ And all things honorably.

⁵⁷ Let them take place in an orderly fashion.

I add nothing further concerning the matters that are still pending, and I refer you to some of my other letters.⁵⁸

With respect to the matters dealing with Albano, my dear Monsignor, you, in the multiplicity of other tasks, should not overlook both the papers that I sent to you as well as those sent by Ratti. Insist that the Holy Father should put into force the Bull of Honorius. This is a matter that I recommend to your effective work. You already know that, after God, we have only you as the mystical cornerstone of this holy edifice.

I do not cease recommending to you everything that you already know about. I put everything as briefly as I can, and, I anticipate giving you my thanks for whatever you can do in behalf of Missionary Brandimarte, in accordance with the petition recently enclosed to you.⁵⁹ The rescript for the Province of Campagna for the installation of the Society is in your most reverend excellency's hands. When you have the chance to get to it, after your recovery, it would be a good thing for us to have a copy of it. I hope that you will be able to do whatever you can before you terminate your position as Treasurer, in case of a promotion. I am trusting in your benevolence, and with esteem, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

P.S. Excuse me if I do not copy this letter. Please send the enclosed to my House, as a particular favor. Excuse me for giving you so many inconveniences.

1545

December 18, 1826

Gonfalonier of Spoleto

Jesus Mary Joseph

Venerable Gonfalonier

If the order concerning the treasury there would have been directed to unburden the Commune according to what the Holy Father has established by way of an endowment for this sanctuary, I, in the first place, would have given you notice of that. But, unaware as I was of your decisions, I would not have written to Father Bartolomeo Corradi asking him to question you about this situation. So, I assure you that the collection that followed is to be used to cover the

⁵⁸ A few words follow, but they were crossed out.

⁵⁹ This letter is not dated. Father Giovanni Merlini, in his deposition, says that it belongs to December 10, 1826. Certainly it comes after the letter of December 1, 1826, addressed to this same Cristaldi, in which he recommends the petition in behalf of Father Raffaele Brandimarte, and it precedes the letter of December 28, 1826, addressed also to Cristaldi, in which he gives a reply concerning Brandimarte (Cfr. footnote 1, in the letter of December 1, 1826).

debts contracted in the refurbishing of this ample locale. Then, in regard to arrearpayments, concerning which I am in contact with the most reverend treasurer, you can question him, even though you may be incapable of asserting anything which might be connected to the papal brief itself. Hence, the current payments are for their actual subsistence.

Therefore, I beg you to take care of making this payment, keeping in mind, also, the anticipation of the trimestrial payment for the new year, as you are well aware. Meanwhile, please let me know if a receipt of mine to Father Bartolmeo Corradi is sufficient. You could see that the money be consigned to him in order to avoid the expenses of going and coming which is something that upsets a program of economy that requires the greatest care in its management. Awaiting your favorable reply, I remain, venerable Gonfalonier, with esteem, respect and gratitude

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

S. Felice, December 18, 1826

P.S. I shall be here in S. Felice until after the feast days.

1546

December 19, 1826

Gonfaloneier of Spoleto

Your excellency

From Fuligno, you will be receiving another letter of mine, substantially the same as this one. Unaware of your decisions, I begged Father Bartolomeo Corradi to ask you again to please look after the payments, in accordance with the papal brief. But, once I got to S. Felice, the urgency for getting these payments compelled me to contact you to draw forth the wellknown amount, while still asking you to make the residual payments, thus, placing yourselves in accord with the terms of the dispositions of our Sovereign. The accounts which I know the most reverend treasurer has requested of you pertain to the balance of arrearpayments which our Institute is taking up with the Reverenda Camera Apostolica. Otherwise, I, in the first place, would have given you notice. What is at stake here, as stipulated in the brief, deals with this past year as well as future years, and the payment of the endowment which is due to this sanctuary. Most venerable cavalier, with esteem, respect and veneration, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House, S. Felice in Giano, December 19, 1826

1547

December 22, 1826

Mr. Antonio Sarto
Mola di Gaeta

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Antonio

I can assure you that even though I am far away I have never failed to send a reply to the excellent Gagliardi, just as I am doing with this very same mail delivery. It is only too true that the affairs of the Institute are increasing day by day, and up to now, with the grace of God, I have not overlooked a single letter. This is indeed just a minor matter, but, in all things may God be glorified. I am making this known to you for your peace of mind, as well as for my own.

You recalled for me the outstanding Monsignor Manassi. Oh God! what a loss that was and what a suffering for me! Again, though, in all things, God's will be done. He will be our advocate in Paradise.

I knew already about the difficulties with the brotherinservice and it was truly a shame not to think about the required papers. You should continue becoming a saint, continue praying and have others pray also for me, most venerable Antonio, as I, with esteem and respect, remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Mission House in S. Felice, December 22, 1826

P. S. When necessary, send your letters to "Rome". Do not be frustrated by any delay that may be caused by the ministry.

1548

December 22, 1826

Domenico Antonio Gagliardi
Castelforte

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most illustrious sir

I am surprised to learn that you have not received my letters of response to your most appreciated letters. Patience.

That you are the promoter of our great saint is the precise will of God; have no doubt about that. St. Francis Xavier will make you even more courageous.

God knows how greatly I love you and esteem you and how I retain a continual remembrance of you and the most singular favors you have accorded us.

Bartolomeo sends you his best wishes. He has been very ill and I thought that I might lose him. But, now he is feeling better and is out of danger. Give thanks to God for me.

As for the oil of St. Xavier, it is sufficient that the sick man or woman place it upon the forehead, while making the Sign of the Cross, using a bit of cotton which has been dipped into the oil from the lamp, and wholeheartedly invoking the help of St. Francis Xavier. The cotton,

then, should be saved for a repetition of this devotion, three times in the evening as in a triduum form, or for nine evenings in the form of a novena. However, it can also be done only once, just as God will inspire the individual to do. If necessary, address your letters to me in Rome. If I should succeed in managing it, I shall try to come to that area soon to visit the Saint.

Arrange in March a date for a beneficial discourse to be given from the platform by one of our Missionaries in the event that I myself may be impeded. It is necessary that the bishop write and give his authorization to me. Have no doubt that this service will be provided. It would be useful, too, to arrange for a procession of the people in order to add spirit to this solemnity.

May Jesus be our love and, most revered Domenico Antonio, in the most holy Heart of Jesus, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

S. Felice, December 22, 1826

1549

December 22, 1826

Fr. Luigi Cocci

Grutti

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Luigi

I read your most dear letter late since I have just returned from Assisi. I understand what you tell me; do not become upset about it. For my own benefit, let me know whether you have located another subject so that I can decide on other means.

You probably have received the image of Xavier. Remember to take care of the pillow left behind by a citizen of Todi so that that problem can be brought to a conclusion.

Send your reply to Rome and do not be surprised if there should be somewhat of a delay that could easily arise because of an unforeseen eventuality. Pray a lot for me. Come and visit us soon, most venerable Father Luigi, and with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

S. Felice, December 22 (Happy Feastdays. Prayers) 1826

1550

December 28, 1826

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Jesus Mary Joseph

Dear Monsignor

Brandimarte is not a relative of that Father Brandimarte. In a hurry, but with all of my esteem, most reverend excellency, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

December 28, 1826