

## St. Gaspar's Letters

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2351

May 26, 1832  
Fr. Vitale Corbucci  
Fossombrone

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father Vitale

In order to speed up the sending of some images, since I had no other means available, I am making use of this mail delivery. In regard to the booklets that you mentioned to me, I have already sent them even before receiving your most recent letter, and I hope that they will soon be in your hands.

In the Lord I am also hopeful that the Mission turned out to be most fruitful of the grace of God.

With regard to the canonical erection there of the pious Union of the Divine Blood, here are the regulations:

1. You or the Father pastor must draw up the memorandum to the most reverend bishop of Fossombrone, and he will issue his rescript which will designate the altar etc.

2. The chancellor, then, is to send a letter of procurement to Monsignor Muccioli, bishop of Agatopoli, in which he petitions him to appoint a deputy priest in Rome who will take care of all the other canonical acts for the aggregation in Rome. That paper simply needs to have the seal of the curia and the signature of the one(s) who made the request.

3. Send the bishop's rescript along with the letter of procurement to me and then I shall take care of the rest. This is all that I have to say in reply to your letter. With esteem and respect (my greetings to the Monsignor), and kissing your hands, I remain constantly

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, May 26, 1832

2352

May 28, 1832  
Mrs. Emidia Santucci  
Matelica

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed lady

For this year, let us do as follows: I shall send Merlini, a very capable Missionary, who along with another Missionary companion, on the final seven solemn days in preparation for the feast, will give a type of Mission. I know that it is not really a Mission; but they will do an excellent work. Arrange housing for them in some pious place, which you judge best. They will be punctual for the appointment, have no doubt about that. If, in addition to the seven days in preparation, you would want to have seven days in thanksgiving after the feastday, I shall have the Missionaries stay on; in that way, the good work will be maximal. Therefore, seven days before the first Sunday in July, they will be there. Send a couple of lines in reply. I will take care of the travel for the two Missionaries; you people take care of providing food and lodging, in keeping with our regulations. Better than this we cannot do for this year. Send your reply quickly, or have someone send an answer. I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, May 28<sup>1</sup>

2353

May 28, 1832

Fr. Luigi Grossi

Lenola

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Archpriest

What you were pleased to say to me in your recent most appreciated letter is only another sign of your kindness. In all things may praise be given to the Lord *a quo bona cuncta procedunt*.<sup>2</sup> Oh how many obligations I feel compelled to express to you! I shall say everything by shouting up to the throne of divine mercy: "*Dominus retribuet pro me in benedictionibus dulcedinis*".<sup>3</sup> I kiss your hands and with every bit of respect and esteem, I ask you to extend my best wishes to the most reverend bishop and to urge the propagation, ever farther and wider, of our great devotion. I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, May 28, 1832

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<sup>1</sup> The year must be 1832. Cfr., in fact, the letter to the same person, dated May 8, 1832.

<sup>2</sup> From whom all good things come.

<sup>3</sup> The Lord will repay on my behalf in sweet blessings.

P. S. If you should have one or the other copy of your teaching for the Missions, I would be happy to have it.

2354

June 4, 1832

Giovanni Calvi Sora

After the feast of the Divine Blood, which falls on the first Sunday of July, I shall be leaving for the Province. As soon as I get to Frosinone, I shall contact Sora for the mounts, and I shall then come for the Retreat. This is all that I wanted to indicate to you, intending with this letter of mine also to fulfill my duty to the Prior of the Confraternity. Give my regards to anyone who has a remembrance of me, and, with the fullness of esteem and respect, I am and will constantly be

(there is no signature]

Rome, June 4, 1832

2355

June 1832

Fr. Pietro Spina

(a fragment)<sup>4</sup>

After Cascia,<sup>5</sup> leave for Macerata Feltria where you will be the Superior and the Director of Retreats. The position of economist will remain with President Santarelli, for whom you will supply whenever he is absent. In this way, too, you will be able to take part in the preaching, to which God is calling you in these troublesome and tempestuous times.<sup>6</sup>

2356

June 4, 1832

Sister Annunziata Bonarelli

Monastero di S. Cecilia

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Esteemed Sister Annunziata

How obliged I am to you! On my return we will talk in person about the biography of

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<sup>4</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Spina

<sup>5</sup> The Saint's letter, to which this fragment belonged, must have gotten to Fr. Spina either in Cascia, during the Mission there, or perhaps even before that in Pievetorina, or in some other locality where, presumably, he was exercising the ministry.

<sup>6</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Spina (troublesome and tempestuous times).

Albertini. In the meantime, try to extract from the folder that I am sending you whatever is usable. Full of obligations, I am with esteem and in a hurry

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House (Rome) June 4<sup>7</sup>

2357

June 7, 1832

Fr. Rafaele Rosati

Rimini

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Father Raffaelle

Let me know whether you received the two certificates for aggregators, one for Father Paolo Manzi, pastor of S. Maria in Campo in Spoleto, and the other for Father Gaetano Pasquali, curate in Cutedino. In your letter of response, in case I have to send other certificates, please note down the names of the subjects as above, since I have not saved a copy.

With regard to the alms for Masses, it seems to me that we are all even. I would like to have an exact report of what you have taken in and paid out on your trips for the ministry. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Send your reply to "Rome".

Civitacastellana, June 7, 1832

2358

June 7, 1832

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

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<sup>7</sup> In what year? Many times the Saint spent the month of June, or part of it, in Rome. We do not count the frequent stays of a day or so when he was in transit between ministries or visits to the Houses. Nevertheless, according to every indication, this letter would belong to 1832: in June of that year the Saint was preaching the Month of the Most Precious Blood in S. Andrea delle Frate; but he had to go for a ministry to Civita Castellana, where he was located on June 13 (being substituted for by someone else during his absence). Upon his return he completed it. The context seems to be in agreement with this fact. In addition, this letter, because of the writing, the paper and the ink, is altogether similar to the one dated: "House (Roma) June 26, 1832", and addressed to the same Nun.

When I was in Alatri, through your services, I implored condonations in accordance with the enclosed note, which you will send back enclosed to me in Rome, since I do not have a copy of it. Now, for the sake of precaution, I would like to have a confirmation of this. As for Tagliaferri, I recall with certainty that he received condonation, and, it seems to me, so did the other two. A couple of lines please. I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

In behalf of the pious organizations, a triduum or so of encouragement conducted by a Missionary.

Civitacastellana, June 7<sup>8</sup>

2359

June 10, 1832

Fr. Giovanni Chiodi

Vallecorsa

Send the chocolate to Rome. Keep only one pound for your own personal use. A coach will be coming. I shall respond in another letter of mine etc.<sup>9</sup>

2360

June 12, 1832

Luigi Baldi

Meldola

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Luigi

The petition has been consigned to the most reverend Treasurer; but, he told me that he does not know how he can succeed in the concern. I can assure you that I have given it my strongest recommendation, and that is why I asked you for those documents so that I could send them along with the petition, as I have, in fact, done.

I am comforted by the good work being done and especially that the devotion to the Divine Blood is being spread abroad.

May Jesus be our love. In Jesus Christ crucified, I am constantly

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

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<sup>8</sup> The year is 1832, because of the preaching done in the prisons of Civita Castellana.

<sup>9</sup> This communication was placed by St. Gaspar in a letter of Father Giovanni Merlini to Father Giovanni Chiodi, written from Civita Castellana on June 10, 1832. In it, Merlini speaks to him of the work being done on the House and church of S. Antonio and that he will be in Vallecorsa within a short while.

Mis. Ap.  
Civita Castellana, in the course of the ministry, June 12, 1832

2361

June 12, 1832  
Msgr. Antonio Begni  
Bishop of Montefeltro  
Pennabilli

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>10</sup>

Venerable Monsignor

I understand what you were pleased to tell me relative to the Mission in Val di Teve. After the feast of the Divine Blood, the rounds of the Monasteries will begin. Only have them write to me in Rome, which ones wish to be first, which ones later. Then, when I send a reply, I will say more about the mounts needed and the exact days involved.

Within three days, two of our workers will be arriving in Macerata Feltria, very capable men, to do good work for the glory of God. Being assisted by the two Houses of Rimini and Macerata Feltria, the projects leading to the glory of God will be extended even further, thus meeting the urgencies of our times. I kiss your hands; with esteem and respect, as I ask you for your prayers, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.  
Civita Castellana, June 12, 1832

2362

June 13, 1832  
Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris  
Piperno

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Reverend Mother

Here I am sending a reply to your very kind letter. I understand about the holy Missions and I acknowledge that the method used by the Capuchin Fathers differs from ours. So, I do not know whether the Oratory has been revived. Nevertheless, it is you who should urge, insofar as you can, this revival. The same is true about the other pious organizations, in particular, remembering our devotion. But, just why our handling of the ministry in Piperno has been excluded, even though I said that I would take care of the expenses for the Missions, I am not able to understand; even more so since the bishop had contacted us, knowing that we do not

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<sup>10</sup> Christ loved us and washes us in his blood.

become involved anywhere unless it is very clearly the will of God. Taking everything into consideration, in all simplicity, I can only adore the ways of divine providence. I would be truly grateful if the bishop, in the future, would write very carefully of things in order not to give rise to inopportune remarks.

With regard to your soul, continue your development while following the method of de Sales. In the meantime, I advise you to remain calm in God. allow yourself to be led by the Lord down the ways of virtue and let us make progress with alacrity of spirit on the road to perfection.

With reference to your mother, what can I say? You are in a better position to recognize the status of things. In general, I would say: 1. her vocation was not for cloistered life; 2. education can offer your mother an apostolate; 3. she can be the source of example to her family; 4. she should examine to see where she can best enjoy good health; 5. in case of any doubt, I would request an extension of the permission, so as to learn better the will of the Lord.

Pray for me a lot, a lot, a lot, so that I will be able to prepare myself for the eternal years. I am writing while engaged in the ministry; so, this will have to do for now. Send your reply to "Rome". With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Civita Castellana, June 13, 1832

2363

June 16, 1832

Mr. Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Camillo

I ask you to remember about the cloth. Likewise, I would like to ask you for 24 or 30 pork salamis (I do not know the name) but give me your assurance that they are quite good. I have been asked to get them. Please excuse me. I am in a hurry.

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, June 16<sup>11</sup>

2364

June 21, 1832

Fr. Giovanni Chiodi

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<sup>11</sup> The year is 1832 as is apparent from the notation made by Possenti himself as well as from the outline of two letters from Possenti which are found on the second page of the letter which the Saint wrote to him on June 26, 1832.

Vallecorsa

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Giovanni

I have received Archpriest Grossi's doctrine for which you will give him my thanks; also, the chocolate which has already been put to use in the Institute.

I consigned the wax to Merlini.

What is the name of the President of the association of St. Xavier in Spoleto to whom the images are to be sent? Otherwise, how and to whom are they to be forwarded? Write and let me know. It is difficult for him to go to the post office as President of the association.

As for sending you an image or so, I presently do not have the convenience nor the opportunity. *Non expedit*<sup>12</sup> to hire a coach delivery.

Merlini will be bringing the tin sheeting, so work this out with him. Prepare a room for him as well as for the Brotherinservice. He will be making the visitation of the foundation there, called for by our rule etc.

With regard to Santarelli's baggage and the keys, I know nothing of this up to now. You look into it immediately, as Santarelli is being insistent.

Pray for me. Send me quickly the notification of the Masses. I have already instructed Merlini to check out this account and the alms offered.

In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, June 21, 1832

As for next Lent, I believe that it will be your turn to handle the Lenten series in Nepi. So, *ad cautelam*,<sup>13</sup> make your preparation. A sermon is delivered each day.<sup>14</sup>

2365

June 21, 1832

Fr. Giuseppe Ottaviani

Osimo

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

You are welcome in all of our Mission Houses. All you have to do is drop me a word or so concerning your clear decision so that I can supply you with the necessary letters. See which

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<sup>12</sup> It is not expedient.

<sup>13</sup> As a precaution.

<sup>14</sup> This postscript is found on the fourth siding.

House you like best and write and let me know. The Province of Campagna is the most serene, but at the same time it is the most distant. There is the new foundation in Nepi which the good Brandimarte, who handled the Mission in Ancona, is activating. It is on a welltraveled road and is not far from Rome. You figure out what you would like to do.

With regard to the affair of the Institute, and the pious legacy, I trust in your efficacy and industry, because of the suffrages that remain pending. I recognize the condition of our times; but, nevertheless, it seems to me that it would be for more peace of mind to adhere to what I suggest.

I give thanks to God that our great devotion is being spread farther and farther abroad. Prayers. I kiss your hands, and, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, June 21, 1832

2366

June 21, 1832

Fr. Giuseppe Maria Silvestri

Bauco

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Canon

After the feast of the Divine Blood, I shall be leaving for the Province. Once I have arrived in Frosinone, I shall send for the mounts. The only thing that I ask you to take care of is free passage at the borders. If, because of the confusion of the times, some difficulty should arise, please keep me informed of this through the mail. With esteem, but in a hurry, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, June 21, 1832

2367

June 21, 1832

Fr. Vincenzo Pallotti

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Very reverend Father Vincenzo

I am sending the documentation of your Masses. With regard to the 30 Masses celebrated for the Institute by his Eminence Frasoni, I do not know whether the offerings have been disposed of or not. In all of this, I rely on your charity.

I do not have more Masses for you. If you have any available, I would be happy to have

them.

Pray a lot for me, and, while kissing your hands, I remain, in Jesus Christ

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House, June 21, 1832

The more that we exert our efforts in spreading the devotion to the Divine Blood through a perpetual cult, to that extent will the Lord look mercifully upon us. I remember the relics.

2368

June, 1832

Fr. Tommaso Meloni

Pievetorina

Hail to the Blood of J.C.

Esteemed D. Tommaso

I am sending you 20 Masses to be celebrated. Before sending you offerings, I would first like to be certain of your arrival in Pievetorina and then you shall have them immediately.

In Capradosso they had the faculties, which, according to Liguori, a Cardinal Abate can *a iure et ex se*<sup>15</sup> grant. It will be necessary to make an application for other special ones, for the Cardinal himself will have to submit a petition for them.

Have no doubt about it, later on I shall make an effort to get other Masses for you. With reference to the *scudo*, I have given instructions to Merlini as to the reimbursement. I would like to have a reply from you on this matter. You shall soon collect your pension in instalments, and I shall send it to you by mail, after subtracting something for expenses.

I have provided a copy of Gavanto<sup>16</sup> for that House. I shall send it as soon as possible.

I understand everything else that you bring to my notice. Keep your eyes on the Crucifix: and here are three reminders from S. Giuseppe Calasanzio:

"The servant of God speaks little (speak and write to me)

"The servant of God works hard

"The servant of God bears all" (Useful reminders to the Clergy)

May the Crucifix be our book: therein do we read to learn how to act. I kiss your hands. Let us rejoice amidst our crosses. Are we at that level: *superabundo gaudio*?<sup>17</sup> Prayers. With esteem, I am

Your devoted servant

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<sup>15</sup> From the law and of itself.

<sup>16</sup> *Gavanto* : cf. biographical section.

<sup>17</sup> With superabundant joy.

*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 M. Ap.  
 (Rome, June 1832)<sup>18</sup>

I recommend the moral cases to you, etc. Concise, pithy and clear solutions.

2369

June 23, 1832  
 Fr. Tomasso Meloni  
 Spoleto per Giano S. Felice

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Tommaso

I have sent another letter of mine to Pievetorina from whence they will forward it. In that letter, I sent you 20 Masses to be celebrated.

I am repeating that in this letter.

As regards you, here is what I must submit for your consideration.

1) In Rome, I have spoken to the Archbishop of Cammerino. He loves the Institute a lot and is considering transferring it to Cammerino. That is something that will not take place.

2) Crosses *ubique locorum*.<sup>19</sup> Courage.

3) With regard to the Moral cases, you could schedule the meetings, adhere to brevity and stick to Liguori. That is the method for this year. One or the other additional meetings could be held.

4) I have obtained a Gavanto, the edition by Merati, and I shall send it as soon as possible. It seems to me that I sent a copy of Layman; you already have Liguori. If necessary, I shall send a copy of Reinfestuel who is also an accredited author.<sup>20</sup>

5) Tell me whether God inspires you to go along with my wishes. By serving the Society in this manner, you are relieved of the Missions. Please do me this favor. If this should cause you anxiety, write to me immediately, so that I can make other arrangements, but, you shall remain there. I would like you to be amenable to these humble reflections of mine. Send me an answer, and in the meantime, do not leave. Write to me in the earliest postal service.

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<sup>18</sup> This letter must be dated June of 1832 and probably in the second half. In fact, in the Book of the Congressi of the House in Giano, under the date of July 4, 1832, it mentions that Meloni, having returned from the Mission in Capradosso on June 8, was in the process of leaving for Pievetorina, for the solution of Moral cases, in keeping with the orders received from the Director General. His departure occurred later than foreseen for reasons which escape us. In the Book of the Congressi of the House in Pievetorina, the presence of Meloni is recorded in the Congressus of July 13, 1832. He was not, however, exempted from the office of solver of Moral cases. During the second half of June, the Saint was located in Rome to preach for the Month of the Divine Blood.

<sup>19</sup> At every location.

<sup>20</sup> Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Textbooks

The *scudo* that you have received was for the one that you gave to Brother Francesco.

I shall send the Mass offerings along with the pension, as soon as I collect it. I shall write to Fr. Alderisio in the next ordinary delivery. I kiss your hands, and with all the usual affection and esteem, I am

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, June 23 (1832)<sup>21</sup>

P. S. In reference to preaching in the church of Pievetorina, you shall not preach much for now, to offer them a variation of preachers. Rather, you will preach to the retreatants and in particular to the priests. Your work is more useful to me now in Pievetorina because of the recent transferral of our men, due to the establishment of the new foundation.

### 2370

June 26, 1832

La Sig'ra Annunziata Bonarelli<sup>22</sup>

S. Cecilia

Roma

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Sister

Let me know at what time I can come to celebrate holy Mass on the morning of the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles. Make sure that I do not interfere with the Sung Mass, with its organ music and other things. Otherwise, I could come on another morning.

Pray for me, and with esteem, I am

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House (Rome) June 26, 1832

### 2371

June 26, 1832

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<sup>21</sup> In the date, the year is deduced with certainty from the *Libro dei Congressi* of Giano, where, under the date July 4, 1832, it mentions that by order of the Director General, Fr. Tomasso Meloni was about to depart at the time for Pievetorina in order to assist with the solving of Moral cases. Furthermore, this present letter jibes perfectly, in all the elements of its context, with Letter n. 308 (June 1832) and n. 309 (July 3, 1832) which are indeed from the same period of that year, 1832.

<sup>22</sup> Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Ministries, Secondary

Camillo Possenti  
Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

I wrote to you about the cloth or the material. Let me know whether it is coming or not. With that delivery, please send along four reams of stationery; the small sheets similar to the one on which I am writing. Another ream of paper for memoranda, two more of the "*carta palomba*" for letterwriting as usual; and one more, for packaging, of the sturdier type of paper.

Ordinarily, with permission, the bishops are provided with faculties dealing with the papal enclosure. So, give me your daughter's name, her age and where the monastery of S. Lucia is. Also, the reason why she wishes to enter and for what period of time. All of these items are to be provided.

I am writing in a hurry. In Rome, the devotion to the Divine Blood is being very widely propagated. I am full of an endless number of obligations to you.

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, June 26, 1832

2372

June 28, 1832  
Fr. Raffaele Rosati

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Raffaelle

Please celebrate the number of 20 Masses at a privileged altar. Tell Gamboa to give you the offering of 15 *baiocchi* each from the money that he knows he will be receiving from me. I give thanks to God for the good work done in Pennabilli. For my own information, let me know whether you have any Retreats for nuns; whether you are prepared, in theory, for the matters to be covered in this branch of the ministry. Indeed, encourage the foundation in Pennabilli; I have written to the archdeacon that he should contact me. Pray for me, and with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, June 28, 1832

2373

July 2, 1832

Camillo Possenti  
Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Camillo

I thank you for your kindness in sustaining so many troubles that I cause you. I have already set in motion the memorandum in behalf of your daughter, and I shall do everything possible to expedite the issuance of the desired rescript.

If I am still in time, you can send four rolls of cloth instead of three. Pray and have others pray too for the one who with esteem and respect renews himself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, July 2, 1832

2374

July 2, 1832  
Msgr. Antonio Begni  
Bishop of Montefeltro  
Pennabilli

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>23</sup>

Venerable Monsignor

In reply to your most appreciated letter, here is what I must indicate to you with reference to the Retreats for the nuns as well as the extraordinary visit. In Macerata Feltria, Father Nicola Santarelli could conduct them. I shall ask him to get in touch with your most illustrious and reverend lordship. For the evening of the 10th of this current July, send the two mounts to Rimini and one of our members will be coming there to the venerable monastery of S. Antonio. After Pennabilli, he will move on to S. Agata. For the evening of the 18th of July the monastery of San Marino will send two mounts to Rimini to pick up the other Missionary for the Retreats; then this one, after San Marino, will move on to Monte Cerignone. My companions have already been given this pertinent information by me. You will please look into anything more that may be needed. I kiss your hands and, asking you for your prayers, I am and will constantly be, with total reverence and esteem

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, July 2, 1832

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<sup>23</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

## 2375

July 3, 1832  
Fr. Tommaso Meloni  
S. Felice di Giano

Hail to the Blood of J.C.

Fr. Tommaso

I have already written that the offerings for your Masses are in Fuligno. I also wrote in a couple of my letters that the number of Masses that you are to celebrate is 20.

I beg you to move on to Pievetorina, and help out in the good work being done by that House. also, get yourself ready for the Moral cases. Figure out how they are to be divided and how to supply hoc anno.<sup>24</sup>

Let me know whether the Gavanto has arrived in Pievetorina, etc., for you will then place it in the library, writing inside: "Mission House, etc." In a hurry, begging you for your prayers, I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, July 3, 1832

Pedini will soon be back, etc.

## 2376

July 5, 1832  
Fr. Giovanni Chiodi  
Vallecorsa

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Giovanni

I received the notification of the 45 Masses. As for the offerings, I have given the responsibility to Merlini.

Father Amici, if I am not mistaken, is leaving for Ascoli to be in charge of the monastery of S. Angelo.

With regard to the accounts, work them out with Merlini. I am speaking of what has taken place. As for the rest, keep in very close touch with me for I am one who is not at all in favor of amassing debts. In other words, anyone who orders something should pay for it. Now, unexpectedly, I had to give Santarelli 10 *scudi* because of his dealings in Vallecorsa. Please note this matter in the ledger; concerning this situation, I had no knowledge. This was an altogether new method of doing things. You make your own judgment.

As for other matters, I have written to him that he should figure things out there with

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<sup>24</sup> Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Moral Cases (Pievetorina)

regard to administration with the ones to whom I have granted credit, Palombi and Cardillo, in whatever way he can, and as Merlini knows best how to manage, as well as De Mattias etc. Otherwise this will never come to an end. Our Institute does not have the wherewithal for construction costs. *Cogita de fundamento*.<sup>25</sup> We manage according to our resources as well as by keeping in contact with me in anything that deals with the future.

Whether you are to remain there permanently, I cannot say. I can see the probability of your returning to Albano, perhaps. I cannot now come to a decision. So, with regard to your baggage, do not make any moves until further notice. Surely by the feast of the Assumption, you will have a decisive answer as to whether you will remain there, and, if one particular thing pans out, you will remain there without further ado. So, in the meantime, count on staying there and have them send whatever you need from Albano.

There is the burden of the cases there, etc. I have gotten Santarelli's baggage and they will be arriving soon.

It will be necessary to collect from the Milizia heirs etc.

With reference to your possessions in Albano, work things out with Father Camillo Rossi. You will not have to write to the bishop of Ascoli. Nothing more is to be done in that diocese.

Let me know whether I have forgotten anything. Pray for me who remains

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, July 5<sup>26</sup>

I am sending you 20 Masses to be celebrated immediately at a privileged altar. Send back your notification.

Form the new Brother well and write to me about this.

Look after everything.

With Silvestri arriving there, let this be between us, pay no attention to his strange behavior, for they are the product of the devil. ... Prepare a clean room for him.

See to the cleanliness of the beds etc.

2377

July 7, 1832

Fr. Tommaso Meloni<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Think about the foundation.

<sup>26</sup> The year is 1832. (Cfr. the letter of June 21, 1832 to this same person).

<sup>27</sup> At this point the Saint had added: "*Vice Superiore nella Casa di Mis'e e Sp'i Es'it*". Then, he crossed out those words. It seems that Meloni had been given that position in the House at Giano. If he accepted it (a very doubtful thing), it must have been a question of a real exception, and for a very short time.

Cammerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Blood of J.C.

Esteemed Fr. Tomasso

Our very excellent Brother Nicodemo will be coming, and you will place him in one of the vacant rooms in the Missionary wing of the building, but in the area that is usually occupied by the Brothers. Please see to it that he is lacking nothing and encourage him. The position to which he is assigned is that of the kitchen, for Br. Franco must return as cook to S. Felice in Giano. As soon as you notice that Nicodemo no longer needs the direction of Franco, for the latter must assist and instruct the newcomer for a sufficient number of days, then, without further notice, send the aforementioned Franco to Giano, informing me that he has departed.

For the glory of the Lord bear the inconveniences that I cause you. Help me there in every way, and according to the rule.

For a short while, at least, and as long as you can handle the situation, please, you will be entrusted with handling the Moral cases. You think about how to arrange and divide up the groups, which this year could undergo some modifications because of the circumstances, safeguarding, however, the essentials. For this kindness on your part I send you in advance my humble and sincere thanks.

Let me know whether the Gavanto has arrived. Regards to Canon Aloysi. I kiss your hands, and I am in J. C. Crucified

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, July 7, 1832

2378

July 11, 1832

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Camillo

I hope to have the grant for your daughter one of these days, and I will send it to you immediately. Such permissions are not that easily obtained. I repeat, however, that I am hoping to get it.

Up to now, nothing has been received of what you were pleased to mention. Still, I am hopeful that everything will be arriving. In the meantime, in two packages or packets you will be getting your reimbursement in accordance with the account here listed as well as in keeping with your two letters.<sup>28</sup>

From the first letter: for linen cloth 20 canne                      13:20

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<sup>28</sup> The writing in this account is that of Luigia Del Bufalo.

For salamis, at 20 baiocchi the lb. 30i/2 lbs	06:10	
One ream of <i>Vaseto</i> stationery		01:20
One ream of paper for memoranda		01:60
One ream of <i>Palomba</i>		02:00
For packages		
	01:50	
For wrappings for the salamis		<u>00:00</u>
	total	25:66
amount on hand		96
amount to be paid		24:97
amount for cloth		04:69
total scudi		30:31

Finally, I ask you for 1000 copies of the Chaplet, printed as usual; however, only half of them as usual, and the other half should present the usual Chaplet but preceded by the strophe: "*Mentre il Prezioso Sangue*" just like the printed sheet which is enclosed here, designated with the n. i. Then, the first mystery is to be printed as in the booklet of the Chaplet. Between the first mystery and the second, the strophe to be sung, corresponding to the Meditation in the first mystery. In this way, in each mystery there will be a Meditation and a hymn that is pertinent, as indicated on the sheet labeled n. 1. (I repeat, the mystery is to be done as in the booklet of the Chaplet).

After the Chaplet, the song of praise indicated in the small booklet printed in Spoleto n. 2 is to be inserted (look toward the end) It begins: "*Su lieti cantiamo*". After that, the "*Viva viva Gesu*" is to be printed just as in the booklet of the Chaplet.

Then, the Offering of the Heart is to be printed as on page n. 4. Next, the other Prayer of Offering as on page n. 4. Next the small page n. 6. , followed by the short page n. 7.

The headings to be added to the pages for verbal variety, I leave to the sagacity of Mr. Possenti. The main thing to look for is exactness. Likewise, try to maintain the greatest possible thrift in all of this, as Mr. Possenti, most beloved in the Lord, is wont to observe. I repeat, 500 of the old form and 500 of the new edition. But, now that I think of it a second time, let the complete 1000 be of the new arrangement which I hope God will bless abundantly. At the end of this new edition, add the "*Eterno Padre io vi offro etc.*", the brief ejaculatory prayer which has an indulgence of 100 days, just as it occurs in the Chaplet book. In order that I can keep my books in order, let me know the cost. In general, see that the 1000 newly edited copies are done as I have just indicated above. The frontispiece should have the following: "*Coroncina delle Adorazioni dei misterj del Preziosissimo Sangue di Gesu Cristo ed altre devote preci per uso delle Case di Missioni e Spirituali Esercizi erette sotto tale augustissimo titolo del Divin Sangue*". All of this will not, however, prevent in its time the reprinting there of the oldstyle booklet.

Notice for Camillo

Needed will be the printing of an openstyle page to be distributed to anyone who does the enrolling. Here is an example

Certificate  
for aggregatiing people in the Archconfraternity of the most  
Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
On this day ... of the month of ... in the year ...  
enrolled was ... in the group of brothers and sisters of  
... (here a line should be left blank)

The good work to be done is to recite seven Glory be to the Father, etc. every day, in adoration of the seven principle sheddings of the Divine Blood.

During the year, the selection of a time to de spent in prayer, praying in particular for the holy Missions, Retreats and other pious works promoted by the Missionaries under the most august title of the Divine Blood, which period is . . . (here a line is to be left blank).

List of Indulgences

Each year, plenary

Partial, each month and each day

(Here the indulgences are to be listed)

Dear Camillo

We are to have from the printer an exactness in the printing as well as in the correcting of the printing. 2000 of these certificates are to be printed.

With esteem, respect and gratitude, dear Camillo, I remain in the meantime

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, July 11, 1832

2379

July 12, 1832

Fr. Raffaele Rosati

Rimini

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Rome, July 12, 1832

Most esteemed Father Raffaelle

With regard to the opposition offered to you by your relatives, as you describe it to me in your second last letter, you should meditate on what has been suggested to others with reference to vocations. The gifts which the Lord has granted to you for the ministry are those that are realized in that ministry itself. Give whatever comfort you can to your relatives, keep in contact with the most worthy Archpriest Grossi and by utilizing all of the appropriate means available see that you do not abandon the doing of good work, as you continue to cooperate in another.

Now, with reference to your most recent letter, I say, in all sincerity, that you should apply yourself to an even more profound examination of yourself.

The question you have with regard to *quis videretur esse major*,<sup>29</sup> the problem is solved by Jesus Christ. I add nothing further. But, if I wanted to propose arguments, I would be able, with the grace of God, to produce them and as many as would be needed to convince you, whom I esteem and love greatly in the Lord. You would discover that in your recent letter, you may have made more misjudgments. For example, relative to dealing with nuns, you were new at it and so was Gentilucci.

For me, it was a matter of indifference whether you or the other went; likewise, in telling the Superior that you both, for your instruction in common, should read whatever was pressing, I believe, was not out of order. Let us do one thing: let us place everything in the Heart of Jesus Christ, where I now leave you as I say that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

2380

July 12, 1832

Luigi De Angelis

Concerviano

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>30</sup>

Most esteemed Luigi

Whenever God may summon our workers to the holy Mission in Concerviano, this good work will be able to be begun immediately after the feast of St. Francis Xavier, since during its preceding Novena we shall all be making our Retreat and be turning our attention in a particular way to our own selves. The Mission could be arranged to precede the feast of all Saints, or during the octave of all Souls etc. and thus have the Mission come before the aforementioned Novena. With the Lord's illumination, you make your decision. It will be up to your own zealous activity to work everything out with his Eminence the Cardinal Abate, so that all things will be observed with the proper order that God himself, who is order by essence, would like to see observed: "*Omnia honeste et secundum ordinem fiant*".<sup>31</sup> May you who are handling everything in such a holy way be blessed.

I understand all that you tell me about the Convent in Longone. Prayers, so that in this matter, too, the will of the Lord be done: "*Cibus meus est ut faciam voluntatem patris mei, qui in*

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<sup>29</sup> Who would seem to be the greater.

<sup>30</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

<sup>31</sup> Let everything be done be done honorably and in order.

*caelis est*".<sup>32</sup> Finally, my dear friend, let us continue to use our time in such a way that *dies pleni inveniantur in nobis ... quod enim non est aeternum nihil est*.<sup>33</sup> May Jesus be the love of our hearts; and in his adorable Heart, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, July 12, 1832

2381

July 13, 1832

Msgr. Annibale Ginnasi

Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>34</sup>

Venerable Monsignor

The priestworkers in S. Galla have asked me to resume the position of Secretary of that pious organization together with the help of Father Filippo Gonnelli, because there was no one else to be found who could better carry out this assignment. You have had the practice of preaching occasionally to the poor. Let me know whether you would be willing to resume doing this for only the Tuesday nights of the upcoming September, around the *Ave Maria* hour, instructing them in what you feel the poor need, as for example, to speak of Baptism. You could follow in the footsteps of Father Segneri using his precious work *Il Cristiano istruito nei suoi doveri*. While awaiting a line or so from you, through the kind services of Canon Muti, with esteem and respect, I have the pleasure of renewing myself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House, July 13, 1832

2382

July 22, 1832

Ignazio Lesinelli

Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Ignazio

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<sup>32</sup> My food is to do the will of my Father, who is in heaven.

<sup>33</sup> Let full days be found among us ... for what is not eternal is nothing.

<sup>34</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

Enclosed is another notification of Masses. The occupations of the ministry have impeded me from seeing you as often as I would indeed like. But we do see each other always and often in the Divine Heart where I now leave you as I repeat with full respect and esteem, as well as my regards to your sisters.

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, July 22, 1832

2383

July 22, 1832

Fr. Giuseppe Ottaviani

Osimo

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Canon

Uncertain about your situation, I limit myself presently to saying that I am a director of pious groups and not the boss. Whenever any project is to be undertaken, it will be necessary to make preparations and have it approved. Check with the Vicar to see by whom. I believe by the Bishops and Regulars. The building, I believe, would be covered by unfulfilled Masses. The visits by chaplaincies, solid and stable. Awaiting your reply by prompt mail delivery, and with the desire of bringing this matter to a conclusion, I, full of esteem and gratitude, remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, July 22, 1832

Tell Canon Tauri that if it were something within my power I would say go ahead and do what you wish to do; but I am bound by the canons. If, however, there is a *ratio dubitandi*<sup>35</sup> though it does not appear to be so, then the Church will decide.

2384

July 24, 1832

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

With regard to our accounts, here is yours. Note now the money received and decide.

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<sup>35</sup>A reason for doubting.

I am awaiting the other rescript, day by day.

With respect to the printings, for now, 500 usual Chaplets, printed in the usual way. New and unforeseen expenses prevent me from doing anything else. I am in a hurry. Asking you for your prayers, I remain, with esteem

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, July 24, 1832

Let me know about the money withdrawn.

2385

July 24, 1832

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the Divine Blood

In reply to your very kind letter, here is what occurs to me to say. I am not able to give you the precise date of my arrival in Piperno. I would hope that it could be toward the beginning of August. I say; I would hope so, because so often unforeseen situations occur. I will also have to go to the Mission in Sermoneta which will take place the 15th of August. So, we shall see what the will of God is. This is as close as I can state now. You take care of getting the faculties that I will need.

In the meantime, thank you for your concern, as well as that of the excellent Canons Loffredi, whom I would not wish to inconvenience if I would be able to obtain lodging with the Capuchins. However, because of the distance from their convent, I would do better, on this occasion, by staying in the Loffredi house. I say: on this occasion, because as a matter of policy I do not, I repeat, like to cause anyone inconvenience. In the meantime, prayers. In the adorable Heart of Jesus Christ, with esteem and respect, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, July 24, 1832

2386

July 26, 1832

Fr. Pietro Spina

Macerata Feltria

Hail to the Precious Blood of J.C.

Rome, July 26, 1832

Esteemed Fr. Pietro

I am sending a reply to your most appreciated letter. I have tried to make provisions for the House in Pievetorina. Assiduous prayer will be the principal support for all of our Houses.

In regard to your state of dejection, note what follows.

At times one's inclination is helpful to the ministry; at other times, it is necessary (in connection with the spirit, I say with De Sales) to scale the Lord's mystical mountain. Preaching is a duty enjoined upon us from the time of our Diaconate. It is true that it is quite a different matter to fulfill it in actuality. However, in that execution we must make the effort to do so with a true spirit of zeal. If a helmsman, in maneuvering his ship in contrary winds, gets more merit for his efforts, what will happen to you? A sin that is prevented, a soul that is improved, what a great good for the glory of God! The results show that God is with you, for he grants you even the gift of evoking compunction. What you will say will be just right. Let this be for your comfort.

The Lord wishes three things from you: 1) the selection or confirmation of a spiritual director in whom you will place blind obedience; 2) the spirit of trust, often repeating: *fiducialiter agam*;<sup>36</sup> 3) the spirit of prayer and humility, in addition to study etc. These things, even though one may already possess them, we must try to acquire to a greater degree. So, make the effort and you will go forward. Some day you will thank me.

The meeting with the foreign Missionary was very pleasant.<sup>37</sup> How admirable is the Lord!

In regard to Antonio's trip, I have written to Fr. Fontana and told him clearly that it should be paid for by Rimini, according to the rule. I have enough to look after. To balance the accounts, send him Mass stipends, if you have some extra ones. Come to an agreement between yourselves.

With esteem and attachment, I am in J.C. Crucified

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

P. S. Write to De Victoriis concerning your problem.

2387

July 28, 1832

Fr. Giuseppe Maria Silvestri  
Bauco

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<sup>36</sup> I shall act with confidence.

<sup>37</sup> It is difficult to say precisely of whom he is speaking. Probably, the Saint is alluding here to his meeting with one of the Missionaries "who went off to preach to the infidels". He would recommend that they become propagators of the devotion to the Most Precious Blood in the Foreign Missions, supplying them with the faculties and with printed matter for enrollment in the Pious Union. One could also surmise that it was a meeting that Spina had had and then wrote about it to the Saint in a letter to which the present one would be a response.

## Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

The Lord has indeed disposed things well; the Retreat time remains set for this upcoming November. At the proper time, I will inform you about the coach arrangements. Shortly after the Retreat in Sora, our Retreat, called for by our rule, will begin, requiring us to withdraw to our Houses. So I would say that you should indicate to me the number of Missionaries that I should bring with me to Sora. While I am attending to the Retreat for the Sacconi, I will assign the other men to the Mission in S. Donato etc etc. So, if that Mission can be scheduled in October, in preparation for the feast of all Saints, then I could tell whether I would be able to manage to give first the Mission in S. Donato and then the Retreat in Sora. But with regard to S. Donato and anything else that may be needed, I assure you of very capable workers; I shall get involved personally only if conditions allow. As for the Sacconi, we are all set.

I shall be awaiting your clarifications and specifications. I kiss your hands, and, while asking you for your prayers, I am and will constantly be, with esteem and respect,

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, July 28, 1832

2388

July 28, 1832

Giovanni Calvi

Sora

The delay of the Retreat was the disposition of the Lord. Canon Silvestri tells me that it could not be arranged for the arrival there of your sovereign. So, it is clearly the will of the Lord that the time be set for the feast of the Saints. In time, I shall write concerning the coach arrangements. In the meanwhile, send me word concerning the state of your health which I hope is favorable and for which I do not fail to pray. Give my greetings to the Prior and to the brethren of the Confraternity. With the fullness of esteem and respect, consider me to be, in the Heart of Jesus Christ crucified

(there is no signature)

Rome, July 28, 1832

2389

July 1832

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

A bolt of material or cloth of *Canepa*, the usual type, will be needed for shirts for our Brothers. Excuse this inconvenience. Also, another two reams or even four of stationery similar

to this paper I am using. See that the price is not raised by the producer etc. There is also the other shipment, once the printing is done, which you will have sent, and continue sending etc, using a safe method, and being thrifty in the expenses.<sup>38</sup>

2390

MayJuly 1832  
Fr. Giovanni Chiodi  
Vallecorsa

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Father Giovanni<sup>39</sup>

You will be receiving a case containing the Madonna which will be included in the inventory of that House and to be used for holy Missions. So, that should be everything. I was told that the other one was not so beautiful. It will be used in the new Mission House either at the head of one of the hallways or at the doorway entrance. I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

2391

August 1, 1832  
Mother Eletta Marchionni  
Sezze

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Sermoneta,<sup>40</sup> August 1, 1832

Very reverend Mother

In reply to what you suggested in your recent letter, I must advise you of three things.

First, that the selection for that diocese of the man of whom you speak to me would be an

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<sup>38</sup> These words, lacking the customary complimentary beginning as well as the closing signature, were written on the inside of a sheet which served as the covering around other letters or documents etc. In fact, the address is on the other side of the sheet and not on the fourth siding as was the usual procedure. When did St. Gaspar write these words? In comparison with the letters to Possenti of the 11th and 24th of July, 1832, of the 16th of August and the 16th of September of 1832, it appears that this writing should be assigned to a time between the end of July and the beginning of August 1832. Probably wrapped within this outer covering were the *soldi* that he mentions in his letter to this same individual dated July 11, 1832. Or, it covered the rescript which St. Gaspar mentions in his letter to this man dated July 24, 1832. (Cfr. also the letter of August 16, 1832). For these reasons, we assign it to July 1832.

<sup>39</sup> This letter is not dated. It left from Rome, as is seen from the postal marking. With great probability, it should be assigned to MayJuly, 1832 when Father Chiodi was in Vallecorsa.

<sup>40</sup> First, he had begun writing "Roma" but then wrote "Sermoneta". The postal marking "Velletri" confirms that this letter was not sent from Rome.

excellent one. I would regret losing him as a companion in the ministry; but, the glory of the Lord renders everything pleasant.

Second, precisely because he is my companion, it is not within my competency to propose him.

Third, I do not have the means for proposing him. In the time of Monsignor Manassi, please note, I was charged to find a subject; so, I was interrogated; furthermore...the most reverend auditor<sup>41</sup> was an intimate acquaintance of mine and hence I was able to have access in the handling of this great good. Presently, I do not have the good fortune of recognizing him, not even by sight. Indeed, I maintain the policy of taking care of whatever God clearly wishes of me, and to respond to those things once I am asked. God wishes to have order and this is what I seek to adhere to. So, you go ahead and act and work things out as you feel the Lord is directing you. I shall not fail to pray for this matter.

With complete respect, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

2392

August 4, 1832

Fr. Angelo De Carolis

Fumone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

I have contacted his Eminence Odescalchi for the rescript for the feast of St. Xavier. If I manage to get it, you will have it immediately. Always address your letters to me in Rome, for now I shall be leaving for a Mission. If you think it is a good idea, see that Cardinal dal Marchese Longhi is reminded of the matter. It would be well if, on that occasion, a Missionary were to offer a bit of encouragement there. In that case, write to me in Sermoneta where I am going for a Mission.

With esteem, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, August 4, 1832

2393

August 7, 1832

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<sup>41</sup> Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi.

Luigi Baldi  
Meldola

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Luigi

While in the act of the ministry, a couple of lines. Note that the present Cardinal Mattei (formerly the General Treasurer) before being promoted, told me clearly that he could not go along with my efforts in your behalf. Thus, what you write to me is the source of anguish for me, realizing the incapability that I feel in not being able to offer my help to you. I repeat, if I had the means of offering my help, I would surely do so. However, in this matter, I have not been able to succeed in my intent. Let us place our trust in God who is the Father of all, and let us repose in his adorable Heart where I am and will constantly be

Your humble devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Frosinone, August 7, 1832

2394

August 9, 1832  
Fr. Raffaele Rosati  
Rimini

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Raffaelle

With regret did I learn of the quite sorrowful situation of which you gave me details. I have no doubt that you, with an industrious charity, have made every possible effort to prevent the happening. So, now let us not cease praying and have others do so too so that everything will return to good order, aided by the abundance of divine mercy, and trying to conceal etc.

After the completion of the second extraordinary visit in S. Agata, you will return to Rimini. I am quite sure that you have learned the regulations for monasteries, and in this regard, I feel at ease. Once you have completed the ministry, and wishing to have my advice, do not take up correspondence with anyone with regard to your soul. As a matter of practice, keeping in mind what I myself have learned from excellent teachers, you will gradually become formed for the ministry, while giving evermore prominence to the glory of God. In time, we will say more.

You will conduct the Retreat, called for by our rule, for the Community in Rimini this coming November, adhering to the directory. You will also preach the Lenten series in Pievetorina. Finally, after a day or so of rest in Rimini, in keeping with our regulations and our ministry, you will conduct a Retreat for a certain Community or Conservatory whose title I cannot now recall; it will be made known to you by our companions.

Pray for me a lot; I will do the same for you, with the desire for that eternal union in

Paradise. Do not fail to always keep in your remembrances the good Majorano<sup>42</sup> who has died. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 9, 1832

P. S. Celebrate 30 Masses for all of September and not beyond that.

P.S. For your reply or any necessary correspondence, address them to "Rome".

While Silvestri was passing through Rome, on his way to Pievetorina, he asked me for a cincture from Rimini which I gave him. Let me know whether this has been entered into my accounts.

2395

August 9, 1832

Fr. Tomasso Meloni

Roma per Cammerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Precious Blood of J.C.

Esteemed Fr. Tommaso

*Per multas tribulationes oportet nos intrare, etc.*,<sup>43</sup> but, *cum ipso sum in tribulatione, etc.*<sup>44</sup> Hence, courage in the sufferings encountered there. *Omne gaudium existimate fratres, etc.*<sup>45</sup>

In reference to Sig. Morelli, it is morally impossible, as far as I can see, that he could give the animal, etc. Therefore, we should be thinking about ways and means, *et cum facultatibus*,<sup>46</sup> of doing so and of freeing ourselves of him. You keep on looking into the situation.

Your observations in regard to the Cases are most justifiable. I hope that *in lumine videant lumen*.<sup>47</sup>

The receipt is all in order.

I am sending you another 30 Masses, to be celebrated throughout all of September with the assistance of another Companion, if that should be required by you.

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<sup>42</sup> Fr. Nicola Maiorano died in the House in Frosinone on August 1, 1832.

<sup>43</sup> It behooves us to enter the kingdom of God through many tribulations.

<sup>44</sup> I am with him in tribulation.

<sup>45</sup> Brothers, consider everything a joy.

<sup>46</sup> And with faculties.

<sup>47</sup> In light may they see the light.

I never cease recommending to your charity the observance of the rule, for, even though for you some practices could admit *epikeia*, still, in the nature of the Institute, for very just reasons, we must adhere to what our regulations require: *ne exemplum infirrrret ipsam observantiam. Et ideo dicit apostolus: "Omnia honeste et secundum ordinem fiant"*.<sup>48</sup>

Let us be courageous in our holy ministry. Its urgency is becoming more and more manifest. I am constantly

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House at Frosinone, August 9, 1832

Send your answer to = Rome = whenever necessary

2396

August 1832

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Here is my response to your letter.

1. With regard to the prayer called for by the rule, it is a very good thing to fulfill it.
2. With regard to recreation in common, I observe that the spirit of the rule is directed toward the promotion of charity; in general, I do not see why so many small observances are going into disuse.
3. With regard to the attraction, this is a working of God to which it will be necessary for you to prudently abandon yourself. Let me know later how the thing develops so that we can better recognize the ways of the Lord.
4. In times of sickness, generally speaking, abandonment to God, especially at that time, is very much indicated, unless the Lord is directing your soul in some other way. Then, too, it is a good idea to assist our human makeup with that remedy which is not repugnant, but rather is in harmony with the will of the Lord.
5. As for your headaches, let me know how you are progressing, and whether this distress continues as usual. If so, how helpful it is to make an offering of it to Jesus.
6. Your greatest suffering lies in your imagination. There is where the devil seeks to stir up a storm. Be courageous; your heart is right with God.
7. See that your sacramental confession is kept simple, otherwise it will cause the imagination to do tricks and a firmer hold on peace will be retarded.

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<sup>48</sup> Let no example weaken observance itself. And there fore the Apostle says: Let all things be done honorably and in order.

8. Rely firmly on those words: "*credo remissionem peccatorum*"<sup>49</sup> and be at peace. Say often: "*spiritu principali confirma me*".<sup>50</sup>

9. As for the locale for prayers, try to select the one that is most suitable for you. In this regard, de Sales has some beautiful writings. Taking a solitary walk could produce an aspiration for God that is quite fruitful etc.

10. In your activities, proceed with simplicity and avoid so many subtleties. Again, in this regard, one is to strive for a virtuous conquest over the imagination which continues to germinate, may I use that expression, the most minute reflections. In each and every thing, we should try to do our best. but, at the same time, we should say: "*adiuda me et salvus ero*".<sup>51</sup>

11. Finally, pray for me and have others do so too. Serve God with cheer; have trust in his mercy: "*fiducialiter agam et non timebo*".<sup>52</sup>

12. With regard to the devotional materials, either the case will be able to get to Rome in time for the feast of the Assumption, and you will send it; or it may not be able to get to Rome, and you will send it to Sermoneta, as soon as you learn that I have arrived there for the holy Mission.<sup>53</sup> May Jesus be our love, and, in his adorable Heart, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant<sup>54</sup>

2397

August 15, 1832

Fr. Francesco Paradisi  
Montalto

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Canon

You, I think, are quite convinced that in this valley of tears there is only suffering. The world is like a hospital; we all have our ailments. Charity, prayer, suffering are the scales of our sanctification.

It is a thing of longstanding that in Pievetorina the devil agitates and upsets things in a

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<sup>49</sup> I believe in the remission of sins.

<sup>50</sup> With a principal spirit strengthen me.

<sup>51</sup> Help me and I shall be saved.

<sup>52</sup> I shall act with confidence and shall not be afraid.

<sup>53</sup> This letter does not have a date. From the reference to the Mission in Sermoneta, which was conducted in August of 1832, the year must be 1832. From the reference to the feast of the Assumption, this letter must have been written at some time during the first half of August, and probably from Frosinone. Cfr. also the letter of September 8, 1832 to this same addressee.

<sup>54</sup> There is no signature.

special way. I have learned this from a number of external cases. Because of the extensiveness of the projects in our Society, I lack the time to carry out each and every visitation personally. This year, that will be handled in Pievetorina by Father Beniamino Romani who will then remain, along with the others, in our House there. Pray for me and have others do so too. While urging you to zealously look after our organizations there, I am and will constantly be, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, August 15, 1832

2398

August 15, 1832

Fr. Nicola Palma

Napoli per Teramo

Hail to the Divine Blood

Rome, August 15, 1832

Venerable Canon

When I returned from the Sacred Ministry, I received one of your most precious letters with immense consolation for it assured me of your health and of the good which you intend to promote through your Ecclesiastical and Civil History of that City and Diocese, a work, surely, of no little exertion and one of utility for all the interests of divine glory.

With this present mail delivery I am sending Mr. Quartaroli's donation of money, in the amount of 11 Roman *Scudi*, *salvo equivoco*,<sup>55</sup> to Father Giovannelli. Whether half of that is to be used for Masses depends on the number of the offerings which he intends to stipulate. Please be kind enough to ask Mr. Quartaroli about it, so that it will be fulfilled exactly according to his wishes. I shall await an answer on this matter in your charity. Check also the time that is agreed upon for the celebration thereof. If it is acceptable, I would like to have a certain reasonable leeway in time, since this is a question of Masses of devotion. Likewise, I would like to have it arranged that they could be said *ubique et a quocumque*.<sup>56</sup>

With the two hundred copies, I will surely be able to build up devotion to my dear Saint, the great Xavier. Please give him at least a small tribute (whenever you can) by making a pocketbook summary of his Life, a size that is suggested in the thoughts you expressed to me. Such a compendium is read very easily by anyone at all. Again, let it be written in such a way that even a Nun, for example, could read it.

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<sup>55</sup> Safeguarding being mistaken.

<sup>56</sup> Everywhere and to anyone.

Take care of yourself; greetings to all who remember me. Also, make every effort to extend our devotion and our Pious Works more and more, besides continuing your ministry of the Holy Missions. I kiss your hand; and I am with the fullness of esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

P. S. I shall await the printed copies of the Fridays. The money will be sent to you by Father Giovannelli.

Promote the 10 Fridays in honor of Xavier preceding the feast day, wherever you can, for the conversion of sinners, etc.

2399

August 16, 1832

Fr. Vincenzo Giovannelli

Ascoli Piceno

Hail to the Divine Blood

Father Giovannelli

Having returned from a few Missions, I now inconvenience you with this most humble letter of mine. The purpose of it is to ask you to collect 11 *scudi* from the post office. They are to go to Canon Palma of Teramo who will then see that they are sent on to Mr. Quartaroli for some printed materials. Try to arrange a safe occasion without cost. Please excuse this inconvenience. Pray for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, August 16, 1832

2400

August 16, 1832

Fr. Pietro Spina

Macerata Feltria

Hail to the Blood of J.C.

Esteemed Fr. Pietro

Whenever the arrangements which I have made affect your state of health, I would say that, as a matter of exception and not of policy, you and Santarelli should divide the work of the Mission as you wish.<sup>57</sup>

Likewise, if God so inspires you, continue to open up your heart to me, so that I can lend

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<sup>57</sup> Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Valle di Teva

you a bit of help. You have, however, your own Spiritual Director and do not have need at all of my instructions. Still, in case, here I am *pro viribus*<sup>58</sup> and in my own wretchedness, ready at any word from you.

I am sending you and Santarelli, if he needs them, 20 Masses to be celebrated within the month of September, with the usual notification thereof. I shall promptly send the offerings as soon as I have that notification.

Finally, it will be to your greatest merit that you continue to work among thorns. A helmsman, who steers a ship through violent storms, deserves more of a reward than the one who handles his ship in calm weather. You understand me. Keep your glance on Jesus: and in his adorable Heart, with esteem, consider me as

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, August 26, 1832

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<sup>58</sup> In accord with one's strength.