

## St. Gaspar's Letters

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2851

February 11, 1835  
Fr. Pietro Butti  
Alatri

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

Willingly will I send Father Biagio Valentini to Alatri to do some good work, as you proposed with such great interest for the glory of God. Father Biagio could be in Alatri on the morning of Sexagesima Sunday so that, after the noon meal, he could begin the work and complete it on Quinquagesima Sunday, with the general communion in the morning, in keeping strictly to the practice that has been worked out. You should send the mount on that same Sunday morning, after the footman has attended Mass, and thus by midday Father Biagio could be in Alatri.

According to our rule, "*numquam solus*",<sup>1</sup> let me know whether, as a companion, he will stay with you, or whether he will stay in some pious place. If he is to stay with you, then we can spare sending along a companion as we usually do, since you are a Missionary *in subsidium*,<sup>2</sup> whom we admitted at the beginning. If he is to stay in some pious place, the same thing would hold; he would be allowed to travel *absque socio*.<sup>3</sup> A line or so in prompt response, in keeping with our rule. As for the other matters, prayers. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Albano, February 11, 1835

2852

February 13, 1835  
Luigia del Bufalo  
Rome

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<sup>1</sup> Never alone.

<sup>2</sup> For support.

<sup>3</sup> Without a companion.

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece

Let us begin with Brandimarte.

1. He says that when his relatives come, you should tell them not to go to Nepi.
2. He wants me to give him ten *scudi* so that you can pass them on to his folks in Rome, since neither will the brother be going to Nepi. He tells me that he will repay them halfway through Lent. Withdraw them from that packet of 40 *scudi* and write on top: "Father Rafaele Brandimarte is to restore ten *scudi*". This concludes that business.
3. The aforementioned Brandimarte says that the opportunity for packaging should be found in Rome, since he does not have any.

4: I add that if there should be any expense involved in sending him the package, it should be marked that it is not to be forwarded. He says that you have seven *paoli* to spend for this. Inform me about everything. Should there be some mixup, write to him and hold off doing what he wishes in regard to: 1. Eight linked Chaplets and four made of wood, similar to the ones recently sent. I suppose that they are those linked with iron wire. If that is so, then tell him that if he wishes, they can be ordered. So, when you send him the ten *scudi*, as referred to above, you can give him this information. 2. He wants a skullcap, mediumsized, and you already know the type that is used. If, with those seven *paoli*, you have to bear some further expense, do as you see best. Otherwise, you will have to check with him. Keep a record of all of this (tearing up this letter of mine) in the usual ledgerbook.

5. I shall be sending three *scudi* to Verili. You are to include these with the 4,45, addressed to me, that you will collect at the postoffice. They will be coming from Ancona from Canon Father Giuseppe Ottaviani, so that they can be sent on to Rimini to Canon Father Vincenzo Fontana for the traveling that he will be doing in the not too distant future. Totally, this amounts to 7,45 *scudi*. To that amount, bring it to the total of 20 *scudi* in all, drawing the additional money from the 40 *scudi* that I mentioned above. Make a notation of this, saying: "Withdrawn for the traveling expenses of Canon Fontana, including postalcosts ..." I hope that I have made everything clear. Address that money to Rimini to Canon Fontana.

6. At your first opportunity, send here to Albano a load of prepared duck feathers, that is to say, good ones. Mark down the cost, as usual, and send me the information for our economist here. Also, send here to me, immediately, the cassock from Frosinone, for on Monday Merlini will be leaving and it will be needed. Send it along with the bundle of feathers. You have probably written down the mailing of the various packages. However, see that the container and other things are properly returned, while maintaining a record of everything. I am trusting in your exactness.

7. Until I return, hold on to the chalice sent by Lesinelli. I shall write to him about it, either in this maildelivery or a subsequent one.

8. Let me know, in detail, the cost of the package, for example, the one to Fuligno and the cost of mailing the 20 *scudi*, which you will be withdrawing, as I indicated before.

9. It would be a real help if the iron for making hosts were to get here next Sunday. I would give it to Merlini. Furthermore, it will be needed in Frosinone, but then it is to go on to Vallecorsa to whom it belongs. Write in detail.

10. I have received the cheese; it is truly excellent. A thousand thanks. I hope to send a bit of broccoli.

11. It will be necessary to get from Giovanni, the celebrated master, a bit of leather and Roman calfskin in order to make some shoes for the Brothers. In all, spend about 7,50 *scudi*. Buy one calfskin, or a half, depending on how big it is. I know that this request will take a bit of time, but, in general, send it as soon as you possibly can. Let me know the price. The money for this you can extract from the cashbox which pertains to the Province. You already know this. The box, which I am sending along with the letters that you are to seal immediately for the maildelivery since I do not have the time to seal them (and see that they are mailed immediately), contains the key that Father Biagio<sup>4</sup> presumes is the key to the cashbox. You let me know. It contains a sheet from Tor de' Specchi which you can read together with Cencio.<sup>5</sup> Perhaps, if I have the time, there will be one or the other package which is to be forwarded by hand. If it is not already sealed, seal it. I hope that this is clear. Finally, there are two books which are to be bound by Minu, as usual. Write and let me know the cost which you will record under Albano. In the box, there are two old medals along with a letter from Merlini. Until I return, put them in one of the drawers of the large cabinet.

Send me a very simple cincture for a Brother. The red vestment for here might possibly be blessed by Monsignor Muccioli.

I am

*V. A. Z.*<sup>6</sup>

Albano, February 13, 1835

Read all the directions carefully.

2853

February 13, 1835

Fr. Antonio Sebastianelli

Nepi

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Antonio

I am sending you 30 Masses to be celebrated as you wish. However, it is necessary that they be said by the 20th of March and not beyond that. Send me the customary notification.

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<sup>4</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

<sup>5</sup> Vincenzo Severini

<sup>6</sup> Your most affectionate uncle.

I feel that the following attitude would be to the glory of God and a very prudent action. In Lent, there is much to be done in the diocese and you can do a lot of good work by helping with etc. Your departure "perhaps" after Easter. Think it over at the foot of the Crucifix. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, February 13, 1835

2854

February 13, 1835

Fr. Tomasso Meloni

Cammerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Tomasso

Here I am sending you a reply to your most appreciated letter.

1) In reference to keeping the mule at Giano in good shape, I shall give prudent advice when I get to Giano.

2) With respect to Fr. Massinissa Mataloni, I would like you to know that I have conducted myself in this way. He had been a Novice with the Vincentians. However, having obtained information from the Superior General of that Congregation, I have considered him to be in the highest degree acceptable. It is only because of his health that he is being called back to his home town. He wrote to me, and not knowing anything, I answered him that if God were calling him to join us, I would not be opposed to begin negotiations. I have not received any reply from him. In case he does join, he would have a year of probation. We shall see.

3) I have never received any information about the situation with Brother Pietro. Indeed, at the time that Pietro wrote to me, I did not fail to emphasize that he be given that advice which I thought necessary. So, I have forbidden and I still forbid him to be readmitted in case he should return, since he has departed our group already once before. Let this letter of mine be a confirmation of that.

In regard to the provisions acquired there *hoc anno tantum*,<sup>7</sup> you will recall that during the last Visitation, I came up with some money that I had intended to use for Giano. Once it was used at Pievetorina, I had to figure out something else for the provisions in Giano. The deficit is not to be charged either to your place or to Giano but to me: that settles the matter. Giano did not have any cash<sup>8</sup> to use for provisions. So, everything has been my doing. For Pievetorina, it is appropriate to point out that that House is not rich, but what was mentioned above had to be done

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<sup>7</sup> In this year only.

<sup>8</sup> *Numerario*: in this context, this word would mean cash.

in order to take care of the situation, etc. The goods could have been sold and the money sent there. Yet, Pievetorina already has signed everything as if it had been sold. So, nothing is lost. In Giano provisions could have been made with the money: but, for just reasons, *hoc anno*,<sup>9</sup> I have not been able to do that. after making the investigation, I had to conclude this: *standum in decisis*.<sup>10</sup> The matter is finished. In another year each House will take care of its own problems.

5) I am not unaware that your warnings arise from a deep affection for the Society. However, to make good judgments, one must have the reports and the full knowledge of the situation. It appears to me that your spirit might have need of studying the life of De Sales, and to imitate him in whatever way he is imitable. At the time that I sent the clothing by special delivery, you thought that it was Bartolomeo who might have laid down some conditions. He was not even in Rome at the time.<sup>11</sup> Fr. Chiodo is handling himself with a bit more composure.

6) Let us all work for the good of the Society, and let us realize that the agitations, the disturbances and agonies are all produced by the enemy of what is good. Let us be concerned about ourselves. If soandso no longer wishes to remain in the Society, for example, *ipse videat*.<sup>12</sup> I shall say with Xavier, and you should too: "*Oblivioni detur dextera mea si obliviscar tui, etc.*"<sup>13</sup> God gives the vocation to the Institute, the ministries in the Institute, the method of life that is to be lived in a Community way in the Institute. But, there are crosses. ... Do you not know that one must live and die on the Cross? *Satis*.<sup>14</sup> Courage.

7) I have understood everything that you told me about the matter that is pending.

8) I thank you for the notable work that you have endured in writing, etc. *Dominus retribuet pro me*.<sup>15</sup>

9) Let me know: would you be in condition to be able to something during Lent? If you cannot, say so. At least to supply in Giano as a helper? This, indeed, only during Lent. Think about it. I shall have to substitute there for one of our men who is assisting the young men with their studies, etc.. And this is a consideration that obliges me to leave him with Fr. Chiodi the Lenten preacher. I shall await your reply.

10) If I have forgotten anything else, let me know. With all esteem and affectionate

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<sup>9</sup> In this year.

<sup>10</sup> Stand by what has been decided.

<sup>11</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Meloni

<sup>12</sup> Let him see for himself.

<sup>13</sup> May my right hand be given to oblivion if I forget you.

<sup>14</sup> Enough.

<sup>15</sup> The Lord will repay on my behalf.

respect, I am in J.C. Crucified

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House at Albano, February 13, 1835

(On the fourth facing, next to the address, we read:)

A package will be arriving from Fuligno in which you will find the cloak for the new resident student, Carpini.

In it also is the Novena to St. Augustine, which is to be placed in the library, writing in it, etc. etc.

There is another package for Fr. Chiodi, also.

If the opportunity arises, send someone to Fuligno to Fr. Petruccioli.

2855

February 15, 1835

Cardinal Francesco Falzacappa

Bishop of Albanp

Albano

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>16</sup>

Your Eminence

Father Stefano Pizzi assures me that he willingly will go likewise to preach the Lenten series in Civita Lavinia. I trust in God that he will do great work.

I am writing from Albano where I shall take care of the Sanctified Carnival in remembrance of the sorrows of most holy Mary. I shall not fail to pray for your most reverend Eminence, certain of your charity in keeping my soul in mind, especially at the holy altar.

I kiss the sacred purple, and, most reverend Eminence, with esteem and respect, I renew myself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

February 15, 1835

2856

February 15, 1835

Fr. Pietro Spina

Velletri per Sermoneta

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<sup>16</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Pietro

I understand about Fr. Pizzi's Retreat and it is all right. In all things, observe the rule.

I believe that there is a pair of socks in the package containing Viola's cassock. Let me know how many pairs, according to the accounts, are missing. I notice that in Albano they have been used by mistake.

I will find out what can be said concerning Sardagna.<sup>17</sup>

With regard to the clothing for the Brothers, later on they can do what you suggest. But it has been done differently up to now, for that is how others of our group considered it best. In general, I am not particularly in favor of having them do their own shopping, for they might get into the habit, a very easy thing to do, even though in trifling matters, etc.

I shall find out about the books and I will send you a report.

Wholeheartedly shall I pray for your good parent. How sad it makes me feel to hear that he is so uncomfortable. Prayers: for his soul, in the first place.

Am I forgetting anything? Pray for me, who with esteem am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

(Albano) February 15, 1835<sup>18</sup>

2857

February 17, 1835

Ignazio Lesinelli

Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>19</sup>

Venerable Ignazio

I thank you most sincerely for the donation of the chalice to the Institute, so very needful of help in the many programs to which it is dedicated and particularly for those things that pertain to the cult of the Lord as well as the proper treatment of the sacred objects relating to the ministry. This is another attestation of your most singular piety, your special zeal and your religious affection for the Lord's Society. "*Dominus retribuet pro me in benedictionibus dulcedinis*".<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Sardagna

<sup>18</sup> As for the place of origin, cfr. the footnote in Lett. n. 2832 of January 16, 1835. On the same day the Saint wrote another letter dated from Albano; and likewise the 13th (cfr. Lett. n. 2854) and the 17th of February, 1835.

<sup>19</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

<sup>20</sup> The Lord will repay on my behalf with sweet blessings.

I am enclosing a page concerning which we have come to an agreement. I did not think it should be too wordy since, in sending it to you by mail, it would then become much heavier. But, it seems to me, that it should be adequate, for the time being, for addressing this to the pious attention of the excellent, most reverend bishop of Acquapendente. I ask you to extend to him my very best wishes, recommending me to his prayers. All that is needed is for someone to reproduce this in good handwriting.

I am here in Albano preaching the Sanctified Carnival time in remembrance of the most holy Sorrowful Mother. I am never forgetful of you and everything that regards you. Pray for me in a particular way. Give my greetings to your sisters. With the fulness of esteem, respect and gratitude, I renew myself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, February 17, 1835

2858

February 18, 1835

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

With regret did I learn of the death of the good bishop, the most reverend Domeniconi.<sup>21</sup> Assure his nephew, the Canon, that, miserable thing that I am, I shall not fail to pray, at this most sorrowful time, for this worthy prelate. This will be our continual meditation!

I am writing on this very day to Father Biagio<sup>22</sup> who is always ready to follow your commands. I am hopeful that the Oratory will be revived.

I shall also pray for a successful result to your cause.

At the same time, Father Biagio will be able to go to the Conservatory, if you wish him to do so.

Pray for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, February 18, 1835

2859

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<sup>21</sup> Msgr. Francesco Saverio Domeniconi, Bishop of Alatri, died on February 16, 1835.

<sup>22</sup> Fr. Biagio Valentini.

Middle of February, 1835  
 Luigia del Bufalo  
 Rome  
 Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece<sup>23</sup>

At the first opportunity that you have, send me those two silverplated lamps that are still in the large cupboard. Let me know the cost.

Tell Cencio<sup>24</sup> that he should find out at the Gesu what the price of the Sardegna is. Manucci was selling copies of it, when the Jesuits had it printed. Right now, I need to know the cost and whether they have any copies for sale.

Have Minu get an estimate on the work by Liguori entitled: "*Glorie di Maria*". This time, it would be a good thing to provide a new copy. You are to send it to Sonnino, to Missionary Father Pietro Buffoni. Let me know the price and, if the 40 *scudi* are all used up, take this from the cash box, noting down that is was: "For Father Pietro Buffoni".

It will be necessary to have Giovanni<sup>25</sup> find out, at his convenience, whether the Archbishop of Camerino has arrived. Cardinal Mattei resides on the Corso near the Piazza Colonna. In regard to those two lamps, that I mentioned before, we will have to purchase a couple of ribbons; note the cost of them and enter this under Albano.

I urge you to take care of the package to Sabina. Perhaps Giovanni could go there, in accord with the idea of his Eminence Lampbruschini's dean. You will have to sew it well and be very careful about the addressing.

Go immediately to Pelzolet and pick up the two overcoats; send them here at the earliest possible time. I am referring to the two overcoats that Bartolomeo<sup>26</sup> left there with him. Let me know the cost of the iron for making hosts.

With Pietrone's help, try to contact the brother of Nicodemo so that he can bring here what you know about.

The expense of the 80 *bajocchi* for Fuligno, you are to enter separately, that is, 40 *bajocchi* to Giano and 40 to Pievetorina. Upon my return, we will work this out. I repeat, enter them on separate sheets.

You will have to send to me here one complete ream of stationery, but it is to be divided as follows: one third of it is the smaller type for letters, one third of the ordinary type that is on

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<sup>23</sup> This letter does not have a date, but, by comparing it with the one (n. 2861) written to Can. Fr. Giuseppe Ottaviani on February 20, 1835 (for example, the reference to the rules to be sent to Santelli, found in both letters) it is to be placed around that same date: middle of February 1835.

<sup>24</sup> Vincenzo Severini.

<sup>25</sup> Giovanni Minicucci.

<sup>26</sup> Bartolomeo Panzini.

hand, and one third of the type of cheaper quality for letters. You would do well to put this all in one full package. That way, we spend less for gratuities, adhering to the system we have always followed.

I recommend Cotino's mail bulletin; you probably do not have Don Camillo's.<sup>27</sup> So, enclose it for him to Sermoneta where he will be going to preach the Lenten series; but, not before Saturday. I repeat, write also to Brandimarte about the seven *paoli* so that he will know that you do not have them.

You will have to send quickly the offering of one *scudo* for a Mass in S. Lorenzo Outside the Walls and then get the usual notification. Provide this *scudo* and upon my return, I shall make a reimbursement. Indeed, note it down on the sheet of reminders.

It will be necessary to provide a copy of Baldeschi for Sonnino. As usual, enter it under Sonnino and send me word of this. Include with it a copy of the *Direttore diretto*; put it all together and send it to Verili, saying to him, in my name: "This is to be placed in the library".

Write a couple of lines to Monsignor Santelli, informing him that Canon Ottaviani of Ancona is awaiting the rules for the young people's organization. Inform him that those rules have never been received. The only thing that he did receive was the certification for the aggregation to the Organization del Pianto, and nothing else.

In sending me those two lamps, remind me of the cost involved as well as the cost for the ribbons. I am writing this as I look over the letter again.

The skiff and the box have come. Everything is all right, but the red vestment is missing. I have withstood all that I could up to now, but really it is badly made ... the maniple is badly made, and even the trimming has no proportion. So, it will be necessary to do as follows: the vestment should be done over with the trimming that was there before; the red, damask one, with the silk lace, should go to Nepi. I am content with the four *scudi*, which you will tell Brandimarte to remit to me in reimbursement. Let me know what my account with Nepi is, including everything. However, do not compute those two bills. I will take care of them. You make a note, as usual, under reminders, after you have entered this on the sheet indicating the outgo from the 40 *scudi*. I hope that I have made myself clear. Now, if Mrs. Nicola does not do better cuttings and do better work on the vestments, we will have to have recourse to a standardmaker. I hope that once she is informed, she will attend to this.

As for the black one, if the trimming does not fit right, let me know. A hundred measurements, a bit of cutting. A beautiful ringlet and some adjustment is needed in the damask vestment which I am returning.

You will also be receiving the old bedsheet that was sent along with another. Try to conveniently make one from them. If there is some material left over, have some handtowels made. There is a sufficient supply of coverlets. When you write to Brandimarte, tell him that if his folks come, the ten *scudi* will be given to them; but, that we do not know where they might

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<sup>27</sup> Father Camillo Rossi.

be.

Up to now, I have sent two boxes, and I hope that you have received both of them.

As soon as Spalladoro has finished the Saverio, nothing more needs to be done. You will give him the completion.

Also, see that you have made a note about what you withdrew for the tailor, for upon my return, I will have to look into that, since I have given them from my own pocket, and I will have to handle it with instalments. Meanwhile, you have managed yourself well.

I will be writing to Zagarolo in regard to the sister of the Brother. Give my thanks to Canon Giuliani.

I shall be awaiting, as usual, the notification of expenses that you incur in covering those things already sent to me as well as those you will be sending.

It is very good that you have received the money from Ancona. Little by little, everything already is coming to light.

With regard to what I have written about that red vestment, there is no urgency involved. You have plenty of time to get all that done before my return. Rather, speed up the Brandimarte matter which is more urgent than this matter with the damask.

It might be a good idea for Mrs. Nicola to have one of my vestments, for example the one with many colors that I use. I am not speaking of the one from Majorano, so that you do not mistake my reference. She should observe the trimming and with what spacing it is set. However, see that she does not ruin my vestment as you give it to her as a pattern.

[there is no signature]

I do not have time to read this letter again. If you have any problems, send me your questions. Please seal the enclosed. With regard to those old bedsheets, do as I have mentioned in the letter.

2860

Middle of February, 1835

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece<sup>28</sup>

1. Send me a cincture (in addition to the one that came with the package and the iron for making hosts) for a Brother. Also, two pairs of black stockings for winter, fairly large, for a Brother. In general, the larger size.

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<sup>28</sup> This letter does not have a date. Comparing it with the one written to the same person on February 13, 1835 (for example, what is said with regard to Brandimarte) it should be placed some time after February 13th. Furthermore, by comparing what is said here with respect to the money from Ancona and what is mentioned in the previous letter to this person as well as in the letter (n. 2861) to Fr. Giuseppe Ottaviani on February 20, 1835, this letter is to be placed between the 13th and 20th of February 1835. Consequently, we have dated this letter: the middle of February 1835.

2. Have Giovanni<sup>29</sup> buy three forms for making shoes; one could be similar to my measurement, another Bartolomeo's<sup>30</sup> size, and two more of another measurement; but these are not to be larger than Bartolomeo's nor smaller than mine. I urge that this be done with exactitude, as I have no doubt that it will be. The toe part should be round as for religious. I am taking on this expense because I have a Brother who is a shoemaker. Of those forms, one perhaps should be for any measurement indicated and not a double form. Perhaps, one. Let us understand each other. Write the cost to me as usual; enter it under the House in Albano.

3. I shall not have any large gourds or pumpkins to bring, upon my return; they are finished and are spoiled.

4. Write to Brandimarte that you do not have even a half*bajoccho* of his. Nevertheless, provide him with what he wrote to you, taking the money from those 40 *scudi* already referred to before and add the note: "more withdrawn ... for Brandimarte". I hope that I have made myself clear. Then, you send me the account of that expense for Brandimarte and I will see to sending him some Masses to balance it out.

5. From that deposit of 40 *scudi*, there should be at least 15 *scudi* left. So, you are to send those 15 *scudi* to Filippo Borgognone in behalf of Fr. Michele Gentili for a reliquary which the aforementioned Filippo knows about. Send me a reply about this, since Filippo then can drop a line or so to Father Michele. Make a note of the source of those 15 *scudi*: "Given ... to Borgognoni". Actually, how many *scudi* are left from those 40?

6. Have Minu, at his convenience, get two copies of the "*Avvertimenti Grammaticali*" by Pallavicino. Let me know the cost and enter this under the House in Albano; likewise, two small offices of most holy Mary, adapted for priests, since these will be used in our House of Studies. For everything, once again the cost. Enter this also under the House in Albano, taking the money from your cashbox.

7. Two white handkerchiefs are needed for one of our boarding students. Send them to me. Tell me the price and take the money from the 40 *scudi*, if there is anything left there, while making a note of it as usual.

8. Send me three pairs of stockingsoles, if they are already made; otherwise, they will not be needed. I am speaking of stockingsoles for the Institute and in this case you can send pairs in the smaller size.

9. At your convenience, obtain a thickset comb for one of our boarding students so that he can comb his hair. Make it a good one, but economical. Let me know the cost which you will cover from those 40 *scudi* if there is anything left.

10. If there should be one or two colored handkerchiefs available, even though old, for our Brothers, you can send them. It will not be necessary to buy them.

11. Everything, little by little. As for the packages, it would be good to put everything

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<sup>29</sup> Giovanni Minicucci.

<sup>30</sup> Bartolomeo Panzini.

into one.

12. Seal whatever I have not sealed and read the directions in the letter or on the sheets carefully, even though I will be able to put out only a few this morning.

Finally, using Giovanni's help, keep on looking for the brother of Nicodemo, so that the commode can be sent. Gather together 12. I say twelve, red housechairs which you are to send to me here in Albano along with the commode. For the House, you will get 12 more red ones and enter this expense under Albano. Have the new ones made similar to the other ones that we have, and send them on their way. I, then, once I have learned the cost of the new ones, intend to work it out here the variation in expense for the ones that will be coming here. The older ones are to be placed in the kitchen. As you already know how it is to be done, it is desired that the 12 that are coming here should have a certain fine appearance even though they are used ones, and they should be durable. Let us be in agreement.

Everything else, through the mails. I am

*V. Aff. Z*

Let me know whether you have collected the money from Ancona. That note from Cotino, if you have it, you should send on to me.

Inform me as to how much you have in your cashbox.

Put the aspergill and the straw box which I am sending to you in the large cupboard.

I would like to know whether you recall the cost of the good *Velumerale* which we have in the large cupboard. Make a listing of reminders, and, burn this letter.

Needed is a little booklet containing the Novena to Jesus the Nazarene. Let me know the cost and enter it under Albano. In fact, get two copies. That Novena will be needed immediately. Also, send me that picture that is still extant of Jesus the Nazarene, making the choice that you have between the one belonging to Gonnelli and our own. I am hoping to put it on view in a chapel. If you send the one belonging to us, it will be necessary to dust the frame and clean the glass. You could send it with Belardino, preparing it as you see best, but always using a safe and sound way of delivery.

At one time, Gentili sent a small sample of a *Cartagloria* to have one made similar to it. It will be necessary to get that done.

On the shelf of the large writingdesk there is a book of the Carmine, bound in red; write down for me the frontispiece.

Also, send a Missionary's cincture to me, enclosed in that package.

Keep your eyes open to see whether booklets of the Bambino are available. If so, get one, and let me know the cost which you will cover from those 40 scudi, and then send it to me at your convenience.

Needed is a Chaplet of linked coconut, to be used by Gentili. Let me know the cost, and, if there is anything left, take this money from those celebrated 40 *scudi*.

February 20, 1835  
Fr. Giuseppe Ottaviani  
Ancona

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

I have received the money from the post office. A thousand thanks.

I have reminded Monsignor Santelli about the rules which he assured me he had sent to you. However, I told him what you were pleased to mention about this matter, and he has promised to provide new copies. Now, please let me know: how am I to send them to you if he should give me that responsibility?

I have already received the cloth as I told you in another of my letters; again I thank you.

With regret did I learn of the death of the mother of our very dear Father Anacleto.<sup>31</sup> Without my burdening him with postal costs, tell him that I shall not fail to pray for the deceased lady and also pray that the Lord will grant comfort to the survivors. This is man's great concern!

Is it not possible for the Oratory there to be revived? In your zeal, see if you cannot do something effective.

Here, now, are a couple of ways by which you can strengthen more the devotion to the Divine Blood. First, for Fridays, select seven devout persons who will divide seven hours prayer, one hour each, adoring and offering the Divine Blood, the price of our salvation. Second, to select from the communities, or wherever possible, for example, 12 persons who will each take one month to practice the devotion; this can also be arranged with 12 different churches as has been done for some time now in Rome. As for the churches, one could, for the sake of economy, recite, for example, the Chaplet during one of the Masses; or whatever you find to be most feasible.

I recommend to your charity the organization of St. Xavier. Let us fervently begin the Novena from Ash Wednesday to the 12th of March. Pray to God for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, February 20, 1835

2862

February 20, 1835  
Fr. Stefano Pigliucci  
Nettuno

Hail to the Divine Blood

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<sup>31</sup> Fr. Anacleto Giliucci.

Most esteemed Canon

I hope that you have had the Missions and that they will have revived the doing of good work.

If you wish to write to Cardillo, write to him in Rimini and you yourself should write concerning the Masses. I shall write nothing! Silvestri, from Macerata Feltria, is spending Lent in Rimini. During the feastsdays, he will have to be giving visitation sermons in a parish near Campagna. The President of the House in Macerata Feltria, where Silvestri has been up to the present time, is Father Gennaro Gamboa.

I have no doubt at all about your judgment in regard to your conduct, but I also remind you of the saying *non omnia quae licent expediunt*.<sup>32</sup>

You will be doing a great good if, with prudence and charity and excusing all as best you can, you can revive the pious organizations in Porto d'Anzo. With regard to encouraging them, I would say: "The spirit of the Lord urges us to work. *Dum tempus habemus operemur bonum ... fratres magis satagite ut per bona opera certam vestram vocationem et electionem faciatis*<sup>33</sup>... St. Xavier is, my brethren, your example ... We are living in times when prayer is exceedingly urgent. The soul is like a vine, etc., etc.."

Greetings to Canon Gorla. I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

February 20, 1835

2863

February 21, 1835

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Everything in the next maildelivery.<sup>34</sup> Seal and secure the enclosed for being sent abroad.

There is something for Lawyer Lionardi in regard to the matter in Pievetorina. Giovanni<sup>35</sup> will get it to you. He resides near the Chiesa Nuova on the Strada papale, in the apartment that he has opposite an image of most holy Mary. A bit further on is the Palazzo Stampa. He lives where Cardinal Spagnolo used to live, on the uppermost floor.

I have written to Zagarolo what Giuliani said; with a line or so, you can send him thanks.

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<sup>32</sup> Not everything that is lawful is expedient.

<sup>33</sup> While we have the time, let us do good. ... Brothers, busy yourselves the more that through your good works you may make your vocation and election certain.

<sup>34</sup> From the postal markings, it is evident that the letter left from Albano and arrived in Rome on February 21, 1835.

<sup>35</sup> Giovanni Minicucci.

2864

February 21, 1835  
Luigia del Bufalo  
Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest niece

Hold on to Borgognoni's reliquary until my return, since I will have to send it to Frosinone.

At your convenience, you are to send the Faculty to Pontoni. Prepare it with an outer cover. I believe that it will not involve further expense.

The painting in S. Marco will involve 12 *scudi*. If that is so, then what God wills, will be done. I would like the gilder to go to S. Marco and look over the design and then determine what is involved. In many places, it can be marbled and thus save a bit. The painting which I have indicated will be all right. Then I will come to a decision. I do not believe that there is any obligation to adhere to Bocchietti's idea. It will be sufficient to keep it proportionate to the others. If the new painting of St. Xavier would fit all right into the plinth frame that I have in my room, and Bocchietti would be pleased with it, then I myself will take care of my own for my own use. Otherwise, we can bring all of this to a conclusion in Rome.

As for that key that Father Biagio<sup>36</sup> sent you, when you have the chance, send it on to Father Merlini in Frosinone, telling him that it is not the key to my cashbox and that he should check to see where it belongs. In short, make this clear to him, so that he can have it made anew after his investigation, as I see that it will have to be done.

Send word to Brandimarte about the ten *scudi* that have been paid out, and also about the four *scudi* for the red vestment which is being repaired for him as best as possible; he is to remit to me that amount in accordance with another letter of mine. For my own records, I would be pleased to know the variety of those four *scudi* for the vestment.

I wrote everything to Zagarolo; I do not know whether, with so many prescriptions, he will be able to come. I am hopeful that he will find a remedy.

Those colored handkerchiefs are not needed. Ask Father Filippo whether he is mindful of the *Velumemale*. You might check the notes recorded in 1833 or 1834 that are found in the drawer. I am referring to your notes; otherwise, it is not of great import. The comode arrived along with the chairs, and also the key in one of your packages. Everything is fine.

It would be a good idea for you to check the duplicated lives of the Saints, always reserving one of each Saint for me. It is understood that it should have very good binding. Another printed copy was sent to me here in Albano. I repeat, they are to be there for me and

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<sup>36</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

they are to be wellprinted. The Lives that are in Italian and Latin are both to remain there. Those Lives, however, which I am calling for here in Albano are to be the Lives of Holy Missionaries and not of any other type. For example, B. Liguori, B. Di Girolamo. I exclude the copies of S. Francesco Saverio. You are to hold on to all of them. I think that I have made myself clear.

Nicodemo's brother will be paid here.

Father Antonio Sebastianelli wrote to me from Nepi that he is in need of a biretta. Since he is very concerned about this, he will very happily pay the expenses if it comes by coach. So, let him know the total cost; and, make a note of this as usual.

Enter under the sheet of Albano's expenses, the cost of the ribbons for the lamps.

Those booklets for Gesu Bambino are no longer needed.

I understand about the Sardegna. I will offer Cencio's<sup>37</sup> two Masses. The offerings are for the painting in S. Marco when things can be worked out. Check with Cencio to see whether he wishes to have a receipt. I received the cheese. Note down the expense for Albano, and indicate that to me.

Let me know what the cost is for the *glorie di Maria* which you will be sending to Sonnino. Also, let me know whether the Archbishop of Camerino has arrived. I remind you about the package for Sabina. Provide a copy of Baldeschi for Sonnino, addressing it to Verili. Give me a statement of price. Tell Verili to place it in the library, identifying it, as usual. When you send it to him, write and tell me.

You have probably reminded Monsignor Santelli about the rules for Ancona, just as I wrote to you.

I received the stationery, the lamps etc. Since Bartolomeo<sup>38</sup> has gotten a new bedsheet, you can very well include it with the old one.

I would not want the nun in Piperno to spend anything for the silklace. Send it to her directly and *gratis*; let me know the cost to be entered under Sonnino's accounts.

Include for me immediately an aggregator's certification.

I am required to send 4,50 *scudi* to Father Antonio Sebastianelli in Nepi. So, deduct the cost for the biretta and the coach expense; the remainder you are to send to him, letting him know the status of the account. In this regard, that is, for these accounts of Sebastianelli, take the 40 *bajocchi* from the offerings for Cencio's Masses.

Has Brandimarte gotten the money that was collected? I am referring to the money that was sent to S. Elpidio. He goes into a long rigmarole about wastage etc. Remind me of this. If you have the note concerning the 70 *bajocchi* from Frosinone, mailed by Chiodi for Brandimarte, send it to Merlini; and let's be rid of this concern.

The aforementioned Brandimarte wrote to me and said that another 5 *scudi* should be given to his brother when he arrives. Five *scudi*. Give them to him; and, make a notification of it.

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<sup>37</sup> Vincenzo Severini.

<sup>38</sup> Bartolomeo Panzini.

This is it, since the mail is just about to leave etc.

Your affectionate uncle

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Albano, February 21, 1835

2865

February 26, 1835

Fr. Giacomo Casalbani

Cesena

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>39</sup>

Venerable Father Giacomo

I send you my very sincere thanks for what you were kind enough to express in your most esteemed letter of the 18th of this month. In God's eyes, there could be no more consoling thing than a plan for a new foundation of ours in S. Marino, where, I have learned, in a particular way from what has been told to me, that there is great need for those souls. Prayers, for a successful result. Tell the priest, who mentioned my name, that he should feel free to open up a correspondence by letter with me on this topic. The address he is to use is always "Rome".

Pray a lot for me; also, have the nuns, whom you attend to in your holy ministry, recommend me to God. I kiss your hands and, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

House in Albano, February 26, 1835

2866

February 27, 1835

Fr. Raffaele Ruffoli

Palestrina

Hail to the Divine Blood

House in Albano, February 19, 1835<sup>40</sup>

Most esteemed Canon

At the first opportunity, I shall be sending the certifications along with other devotions, but not before the beginning of Lent, at which time I shall be in Rome.

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<sup>39</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

<sup>40</sup> St. Gaspar uses two dates and with different days. As we usually do, we selected the date which appears immediately before his signature.

The doors of the cathedral are not for our poor Institute. I was speaking of the ancient dresses of women, being made into vestments, etc. Let that be for the record.

As for you, you should fervently make the Novena in honor of St. Francis Xavier which begins on the 4th of March and ends on the 12th, the day of the canonization of our Saint. And, through the merits of this great apostle, I hope that the Lord will grant you some special illumination.

Pray particularly for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Albano, February 27, 1835

2867

End of February, 1835

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece<sup>41</sup>

Here I am sending a reply to your letter, urging you to mail the enclosed letters immediately, since they are very urgent, after checking the addresses.

1. I understand about the expense in Pennabilli. What has occurred with respect to the rescript for Forlimpopoli?

2. I received the books and everything else.

3. I have celebrated Cencio's<sup>42</sup> Masses. Check to see whether he wishes to have verification of this. The two *paoli* are for house usage.

4. With regard to the Masses which you gave, I have understood that they are for deceased persons.

5. Have Galli try to locate some *Via Crucis* booklets, at least three copies. Write this to him.

6. The work that I told you to look for in that short letter is going to go to Firenze. Tell the one who will be coming that he should bring the letter that I will be sending on Ash Wednesday, a halfhour before noon, and not before.

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<sup>41</sup> This letter does not have a date. It appears that it should be placed at the end of February of 1835. (Cfr. the letters (n. 2864 and 2868) to this same person of February 21st and March 1st, referring to the "Cencio Masses", also mentioned here; likewise, in the March 1st letter, there is a reference to the one day delay of the Retreat, cited in this letter). St. Gaspar preached the Retreat in S. Croce in Gerusalemme again in 1836 and 1837, but this letter cannot be assigned to those years because in it there is reference to Canon Father Pasquale Aloysi who died on March 28, 1835. So, the letter definitely belongs to 1835.

<sup>42</sup> Vincenzo Severini.

7. I understand about Canon Aloysi for whom I shall enclose a letter of mine to you in tomorrow's maildelivery. You have done quite correctly in not sending anyone to Albano.

8. Have they gotten the letter for Fiano?

9. I understand about the De Marchis Masses. It is a good idea that no one should know anything. So, there will be no further responsibility than to celebrate the Masses as usual. I have already begun distributing them. Let us give thanks to God.

10. Pay close attention to the addresses on the letters in order to distinguish which are going by mail and which are not.

11. I shall not be able to be in Rome on Monday evening since I have not as yet finished my assignment with the nuns. However, in Monday's maildelivery, you will know everything better, while I figure out etc.

In the meantime, I am interested in having Giovanni<sup>43</sup> go slowly, very slowly, after dinner someday, to Father Benigni in S. Croce and bring to him the enclosed, and then wait for an answer. By way of precaution, I am changing, by one day, the Retreat for S. Croce, in order to have time to hear also the confession of De Marchis etc. I am in a hurry because I am swamped with many things to do, etc.

Your affectionate uncle

You should send, by hand, the letter for the virgins.

2868

March 1, 1835  
Luigia del Bufalo  
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece

Here I am sending a reply to your recent letter.

1. I received the bedsheet, etc., etc., etc..

2. Let me know: do you have available any pairs of stockings for the Brothers? I imagine that you do not.

3. Did you receive the cloth from Fabriano? Possenti wrote and said that he had sent it.

4. I understand everything else that you mentioned.

5. I have celebrated Cencio's<sup>44</sup> two Masses.

6. Everything is all right with regard to Pallotta's books.

7. With regret did I learn about our uncle, the monk. I have already written to him by mail and I also had to write to Father Benigni in order to begin the Retreat next Friday after the noon meal instead of Thursday. In coming to Rome, my being able to stop off at Santa Croce will

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<sup>43</sup> Giovanni Minicucci.

<sup>44</sup> Vincenzo Severini.

depend on the time. I will have to be coming to Rome along with a Missionary and a Brother, for whom I am waiting in order to save expenses. He will be going to Nepi as a help for the ministry. The Missionary will sleep in the library and the Brother in the room where the statue is. I will have to wait here for almost the entire day of Ash Wednesday. On Thursday morning, I should be in Rome in time for the noon meal so govern yourself accordingly in making preparations for the four of us. I repeat, I will be arriving next Thursday morning in time for the noon meal. In addition to waiting for the Missionary on Ash Wednesday, I also have some confessions to hear. On Thursday, March 5th, I will be in Rome. As a propriety, it would be good for Giovanni <sup>45</sup> to inform Fioravanti so that he does not come on Ash Wednesday. Since I do not want him to come on Thursday, have him make an appointment for next Friday, a halfhour before noon. I hope that I have made myself clear.

Send me Tuesday's mail so that I can have it for Ash Wednesday.

I regret hearing of the death of Capizucchi.

What you are to be sending to me, if it does not get here between Tuesday and Wednesday, then nothing more is to be done. Hold on to it. For example, seven hymnals, with the cruder binding, are needed; also, 20 copies of the Chaplet of the Divine Blood, likewise with the rougher binding, that is to say, not those with the more refined binding. If you can, send me this package.

It seems that I have nothing more to say. Fioravanti lives just past the Palazzo Poli in that neighboring apartment, as you move down that street on the way toward S. Andrea delle Fratte. In that area is the del Bufalo drain. Opposite, is an image of most holy Mary. The apartment is quite large. I think he lives on the third floor.

Now I advise that if anyone should want to speak to me, he should come next Thursday night around the *Ave Maria* hour. Pray for me. I remain

Your affectionate uncle

*G. C. d. B.*

M. Ap.

Albano, March 1, 1835

Forward the enclosed.

2869

March 3, 1835

Fr. Mattia Cardillo

Rimini

Hail to the most Precious Blood

Dear Father Mattia

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<sup>45</sup> Giovanni Minicucci.

Here are my observations in regard to NN.

1. In reference to the morning schedule, he is to get up at the sounding of the bell. Once arisen, he should offer those prayers that he used when in the Boarding School. However, if he is to celebrate holy Mass, he should immediately arouse aspirations for the Eucharistic table, repeating such verses as the following: "*Dominus regit me et nihil mihi deerit ... Sitivit anima mea ad te ... Quemadmodum desiderat cervus etc.*"<sup>46</sup> All of this, however, without taking on bonds or ties, but with the freedom of the spirit.

2. Tell NN., with regard to his private meditations ... *plurimum circa*<sup>47</sup> the 23rd hour. For the time being, he should use the *Practica di amar Gesu Cristo* written by Liguori and also *Passione di Gesu Cristo*, likewise the work of Liguori.

3. Right now, nothing else seems to be needed for precise attention. The morning examination of conscience should be on humility, using the saying that falls on that day. With regard to the monthly day of recollection, he is to turn to the thoughts that are expressed in the *Monita salutaria*.

Concerning temptations, let him accept them, according as they are before the Lord, with humility and simplicity in Sacramental Confession. Let NN employ those rules about which we have already spoken. Concerning his neighbor let him elevate his mind and consider him with regard to his soul ... the image of God: "we were bought at a great price"; as to the body we are nothing except dust and ashes; as regards the exercise of the ministry let the love of God direct us, prudence rule us and patience complete the work. Enough. Above all let him act with confidence.<sup>48</sup>

You probably have received the Masses balanced out with the 4,50 *scudi*. The celebration of them should be computed from the day on which you received them in Pievetorina, when the task was given to you. Let us see whether a Congregation for the peasants can be promoted there. Speak about this in congressus. The place would be the choir area.

4. You must have been very delighted with your visit to the Santa Casa. A thousand thanks to you for the *scudo* that you contributed so charitably to the assistance of our Institute.

5. With regard to the bishop there, you mention details concerning a situation which, considered *per se* appears very strange (safeguarding the intention of the aforementioned prelate). You will have to go there with Father de Victoriis and tell him, in my name, what

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<sup>46</sup> The Lord directs me and nothing will be lacking to me. My soul thirsts for you. As the deer longs for, etc.

<sup>47</sup> Very close.

<sup>48</sup> *Circa tentationes eas reprehesentet prout sunt coram Domino cum humilitate et simplicitate in Sacramentali Confessione. Utatur NN. illis regulis de quibus jam verba fecimus. Circa proximum elevet animum et consideret quoad animam ... imaginem Dei: "Empti sumus praetio magno"; quoad corpus non sumus nisi pulvis et cinis; quoad exercitium ministerii amor Dei nos dirigat, prudentia nos regat, patientia perficiat opus. Satis. Super omnia fiducialiter agat NN*

follows: 1. When Monsignor Gentilini was in Rome, he told me that a letter would be sent to me in reference to Missions, as had been laid out in the plan. 2. That plan never came. 3. It is not up to me to ask questions or to write, since people frequently change their minds. 4. *Quid in Romagna ne verbum quidem*.<sup>49</sup> 5. Before leaving Rimini, after hearing the rumors spread about and with the bishop being absent, I wrote him a note, in general, saying to him that at any word from him, he would be served. What more can I do? 6. You would always be doing right in sending me questions, wherever or whenever necessary, since matters full of involuntary mistakes are easily repeated, much to the detriment of the glory of the Lord. 7. Does he wish to have my plan? Then let him authorize me and he will be served. I conclude by saying that all of this is for the record and that, ultimately, in everything, it is the will of God that is to be done and we must await from God his opportune enlightenment. Let it be Cephas or Apollo who promotes the divine glory, as long as it is the Lord who is glorified. *Hoc fit nobis ad solatium. Satis de hoc*.<sup>50</sup> I add: Did I ever learn about the places where the Monsignor wished to have a Mission? The gift of prophecy would be required.

6. I am holding on to the list of preachable topics which we like so much. To send these pages to you will have to wait for the opportune occasion, as well as a bit of time for making a copy of them.

7. In reference to Father Calino, up to now, I have not succeeded in locating him.

8. After I have discharged this letter, the rest is up to NN.

9. I inform you that, with Father Gennaro Gamboa sending to get you as an assistant in the ministry in the Macerata Feltria region, or in Macerata Feltria itself, you would be doing a big favor if you would make an offer of your services. Have no doubt; everything will be proportionately shared, *et non ultra vires*.<sup>51</sup> So, I leave it to the free judgment of Father Gennaro whether carriages are to be sent from Macerata or that he should write to Father de Victoriis on the matter, etc. You can remain assured that you will not be moved during Lent; there are two Lenten preachers there. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble, devoted servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. A.

Rome, (for your reply), March 3, 1835

2870

March 3, 1835  
Camillo Possenti  
Fabriano

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<sup>49</sup> Why is there not even a word in Romagna?

<sup>50</sup> This is happening to us as a consolation. Enough of this.

<sup>51</sup> And not beyond one's strength.

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

In regard to the two poor, young persons, a petition will be needed along with the regular documentation. If you can entrust one to me, and the other sent by a different means, this would be the best way to achieve the greater success. Otherwise send both of them. Above all, let us pray.

Your correspondence should be sent to Rome. I am awaiting our accounts. Pray for me. Full of esteem and most obliged to you, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Albano, March 3, 1835

P. S. If a package comes to you from Baffi, send it etc. You are always the boss. I am writing in a hurry.

2871

March 10, 1835

Fr. Luigi Conti

Ceprano

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>52</sup>

Most esteemed Father Luigi

Charged by the most worthy reverend bishop of Veroli to arrange a Retreat for Ceprano, I am now turning to you to find out just what time you would like to have it. Also, whether one or two Missionaries will be needed, in addition to the Brother.

Please be kind enough to send a line or so in response. In the meantime, I renew my sentiments of esteem and respect for you.

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 10, 1835

2872

March 19, 1835

Most esteemed Camillo

Fabriano

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

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<sup>52</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

I am unable to make out the name of the postulant. I do not know whether it is Teresa or Gertrude.

I have picked up the cloth at the customs office. It was my oversight in not sending you a word in response.

I know about the Mission. Let us pray for a successful outcome. Please send me, at your choice, seven reams of paper: four of the usual kind which is at one *scudo* the ream, one of uncut paper, the unrefined type, and two more of that letterstationery which is of a higher quality. Please excuse these repeated inconveniences. Pray for me. With esteem and gratitude, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, March 19, 1835

P. S. Please send me the bill.

2873

March 21, 1835

Luigi Fuschi

Norma

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Luigi

You will be receiving a package with almost all the documents pertaining to the Masses that you requested. I would like to have agreements. Please let me know what number the Masses come to, and what agreement there will be with the other notification which I will be awaiting. We should conclude this computation for everything with 160, if I am not mistaken.

If the familyname of the deceased is Taralli and not Tarulli, please make that adjustment. For the time being, hold on to the offerings and, in time, I will let you know to whom they are to be consigned. Let us be in agreement. With reference to the recent alms that you sent, the amount for the Masses celebrated, it seems to me, was more. These do not enter into our computation, but Purgatory reaps the benefit. Remind me of that in detail and we will settle everything. Any difference will be my responsibility. Pray for me. With esteem, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 21, 1835

2874

March 28, 1835

Giuseppe Tagnani

Frosinone

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>53</sup>

Most esteemed Giuseppe

I give you sincerest thanks for your recent very kind letter. I confirm my given word with regard to the Three Hours devotion. Pray for me and have others do so too. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 28, 1835

2875

Msgr. Giuseppe Costantini

Vicar General of Albano

Albano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

I have delayed in sending a reply; but I have not delayed speaking in your behalf to his Eminence Franson. Actually, the position will not be vacant. However, he will keep you in mind, should opportunities arise. Pray for me. In a hurry, but still with the fullness of esteem and affection, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 28, 1835

2876

March 31, 1835

Student Fr. Francesco Verili

Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco

I am sending a reply to your letter.

1. Please keep me informed with respect to whatever you may need, and, in the meantime, for urgent things keep in contact with Father Biagio.<sup>54</sup>

2. After the Sunday *in Albis*, your stay there in the Boarding School will be reduced. Meanwhile, everything as usual. The increase in the number of young men is requiring this

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<sup>53</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

<sup>54</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

move.

3. I received six *scudi* from your folks and since I anticipated getting nine *scudi*, if I am not mistaken, let me know whether I should hold on to them, while making adjustments in the upcoming month for the other three *scudi*.

4. I am hoping to send one or the other chair that I have, which you can place in a proper way wherever it may be needed.

5. Please make a prospectus of the needs of both the church and the house, specifying the need by indicating which is the number one urgency, the next as urgency number two, etc. I hope that I have made myself clear. This also applies in regard to the books, etc. Little by little, God will provide us with a good systematic setup. Tell Father Biagio that he should be insistent about the subsidy from the commune, an extraordinary one, if possible. Let me know whether there is some regulation in the Boarding School which, if necessary, you will have Gentili look into.

6. Being sent there from Albano is a mediumsized confessional which they can no longer use. It might be used there for the confessions of children.

7. Hold on to the box for the cope, just as you wrote to me. I will mark yours. Using the credence table that is located on the platform, you can place there, it seems to me, the two surplices etc.

8. I sent the black stockings to Fioravanti. Quickly return to Buffoni those that were borrowed. I will be sending also the flannel waistcoats.

9. Do not send the bigger things to the nuns; I am referring to the church. Let us be content with the corporals, etc. We should try to give the least trouble, if possible; and, always reimburse them for the cost of the starch, etc. Fancy things are scarcely needed by us.

10. I sent the painting of the Sorrowful Mother along with the plinth. Did you receive it? Where have you placed it? It will be necessary to have it blessed. Have Father Biagio seek authorization for this. I would like to have it placed in the chapel, since the painting of the Immaculate Conception, I feel, is not in good proportion. I do not know. Keep me informed.

11. You take care of the Masses requested by the nuns.

12. With regard to spiritual matters as well as those of economy, when we meet in person. For the timebeing, in reference to spiritual matters, "*servari solitum*";<sup>55</sup> as for other things, use lettercorrespondence.

13. By mail, I have sent 15 *scudi* to be used for economical matters. Collect the allowance from the Commune, the Lenten contributions and Carboni's room and board.

14. I do not like having our affairs made know to outsiders, such as, for example, the monastery in Piperno. Let this be between us.

15. Let me know whether de Carolis, who should have arrived by now, has everything he needs in his room.

16. After the Sunday *in Albis*, the Boarding School will be put in good order in every

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<sup>55</sup> The usual procedure to be kept.

regard, including the organization of S. Luigi which you, in the meantime, should cultivate. I will send you the regulations. Also, I will see about getting a painting, the office and a biography. For the timebeing, officesservice should be continued in the large parlor next to the church, but closing off entrance into the area. See that everything is closed securely. With respect to the iron for making hosts, if there is no one there who can use it, send it. For the timebeing, obtain the hosts wherever you can.

17. As for that wax drippings, do whatever you feel is best. I expect to be sending some yellow candles, along with the Easter candle.

18. Everything is fine in regard to the platform. Payment is made from the collections. Later, except for daily expenses, we shall come to an agreement.

19. NN. should be more courageous: he should despise everything and have trust in God. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, March 31<sup>56</sup>

Pray for Canon Aloysi<sup>57</sup> who is ill.

2877

March 31, 1835

Fr. Francesco Paradisi

Montalto

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

I do not know what more I can say to you.

1. You are acquainted with our Institute: it is up to you to adapt yourself to it.
2. No one moves our men again after they have reached a certain age.
3. No one will assign you to a foreign ministry.
4. No one is dispensed from observing our internal regulations, except in the case of physical inability.
5. You select the House you wish to go to.
6. You will have to make the trip directly, while taking a rest wherever you judge best.
7. It is necessary for you to adapt yourself to our method of life. It would be difficult, for example, to expect the preparation of food that matches what you have in your house. However, what is of necessity, will not be lacking.

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<sup>56</sup> Because of the year of the reopening of the House in Sonnino (cfr. the letter of January 1, 1835 written to De Castris) this letter belongs to 1835.

<sup>57</sup> Father Pasquale Aloysi died in Sermoneta on March 28, 1835.

8. In my opinion, I would say you should pick S. Felice in Giano. From Fuligno, on to Montefalco, and then, there before you, is S. Felice. If you wish to go to Rimini, you are the boss. But there you will face harder work. In Giano, the work is a bit more discreet.

9. See that you are freed of any bonds or connections, if you come. What more can I say to you? If you come to a decision, write to me so that I can include you in a letter, or, to put it better, so that I can advise the people to prepare a room for you. If you check over my letters to you, you will see that I have always followed these line of procedure.

10. Community life demands a certain degree of virtue and mutual compassion. It seems that I can add nothing more. Asking you for your prayers, I remain, with esteem

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, March 31, 1835

2878

April 7, 1835

Msgr. Nicola Mattei

Bishop of Camerino

Camerino

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>58</sup>

Venerable Monsignor

The presentation or the information to the Council covers a number of things: the history of the Congregation of Moral Cases, the benefits at the time of indemnification, and the rescripts obtained in the course of events. I would have liked to have it made known that the Missionaries made their request in good faith and the agents in our Mission House have always acted accordingly. Since your most reverend excellency has been granted a very broad faculty, it would appear that you might have put it to use decisively in favor of our Institute, so very needful of help, pointing out that we are laboring for the divine glory, etc., etc., etc.. But, it appears that you may be sending an *ultimatum* to the Council. As for me (I always submit myself to the wise judgment of your most reverend excellency) it seems that the conclusion should be: let the Mission House be granted the benefits it has requested, free of any demand; the Congregation of Cases will have the *Luoghi de' Monti*, bearing only all the responsibilities of Masses and anything else that may be needed, making amends for the past and specifying for the *Luoghi de' Monti* the listing of responsibilities, including the Masses. The reason for this fair decision is clear ... The benefits assigned to the Mission House, *detractis detrahendis*,<sup>59</sup> provide it with a slight income. If that small income is then accompanied with other burdens, its administration

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<sup>58</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

<sup>59</sup> Having removed what needs to be removed.

would be reduced to a very difficult situation, and the purpose for which the petition was made originally would not at all be verified.

Furthermore, pastors do not get their livelihood with the Congregation of Cases. Still, they receive help from our Institute in the moral training provided for their area of jurisdiction. Likewise, without the benefits of the Congregation they would still have to offer their services to the Moral Cases in accordance with the Roman Council. Finally, having passive burdens with regard to the *Luoghi de' Monti*, that would be taken into consideration and there will be a just distribution for its pious projects. The pastors would be able to cooperate by applying the Masses and by setting up their own meetings, agreeing on whatever method they would find best. The demand of the *Luoghi de' Monti* is not difficult. Here is what should be presented to the Council: the Ordinary should have the faculty of specifying the responsibilities, referred to above, thus bringing this whole matter to a conclusion. I write in this fashion because you have given me your permission.

In the meantime, the Masses have been suspended, and this is a point which should arouse the spirit of piety in your most reverend excellency to seek diligently the solution to this matter, with the Sacred Congregation sanating everything until it issues a new decree. More than this, I would not know what else to add.

I am returning the bundles of letters which, once the matter is settled, you will be able to hold on to.

I am including a few pages from Father Tomasso,<sup>60</sup> written confidentially to Father Giovanni Merlini. After you have read them with your usual reserve, I will pick them up when I come to see you, or, they can be burned. There is also a page written by Father Merlini in regard to the bridge.

Excuse my delay. I kiss your hands. I ask you to remember me in your prayers and, with esteem, respect and a very special affection, I renew myself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House, April 7, 1835

2879

April 8, 1835

Fr. Mattia Cardillo

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Mattia

Thank you for the notification of the 30 Masses. Now I am sending you 20 more: all to be

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<sup>60</sup> Father Tomasso Meloni.

said by the 20th of the upcoming May; send me than the usual notification.

With regard to private meditation, NN. should not bind himself since there is already the meditation made in common. He should do it only when he can; so, let us be in agreement on that. He should note that on certain days there are duties in the ministry and that penitents are to be taken care of.

Your ideas about the Canticle, in reference to the Marian month, seem to me to be a bit complicated. Perhaps it would be better to have a commentary on the Litany. As for the month of the Divine Blood, I shall try, as soon as I can, to give you some outlines. But first, take care of the Marian month.

With regard to explaining my reflections to the bishop, I leave everything to your own wise decision. Let it flow out. The Congregation for the peasants is now activated and after the time of the Easter duty, I myself will write.

With reference to being a confessor, here is our method: 1. Always take care of the men during free hours; 2. For the women, there is Friday or Sunday, all the feastsdays, your daily turn. You pick one out and that will be it. St. Vincent de Paul did not want public churches; ours are public, but the last duty is the confession of women. The church is similar to a garden; *non omnia omnibus*.<sup>61</sup> However, you should speak clearly with our companions. Without naming you, I, *ut ex me*,<sup>62</sup> will be able to write of this after the Easter Precept, namely, what I keep on saying in all of our Houses. So, I repeat, you should say to the President: "I regret that our rule is not being observed". That is why time for study is not found, and why there is anguish engendered. "*Omnis honeste, et secundum ordinem fiant*".<sup>63</sup> Let us be in agreement on that. I trust in your zeal and charity.

NN. should not weigh himself down with the spiritual direction of women. Just confession and that is enough. Preach observance, *verbo et exemplo*;<sup>64</sup> also, only sound the signals and move forward. As for penitents, whomever God wishes to send. The spiritual direction of women is for those whom God, in a special way, calls and for those who are stable. Our work is an extraordinary ministry and we, extraordinary ministers. Each plant will bring forth its own fruit. You should distinguish yourself in hearing especially the confessions of men.

In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

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<sup>61</sup> Not all things for everyone.

<sup>62</sup> As from myself.

<sup>63</sup> Let everything be done honorably and in order.

<sup>64</sup> By word and by example.

Rome, April 8<sup>65</sup>

2880

April 11, 1835  
Camillo Possenti  
Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

I received the stationery and I have sent on to you a package coming from Boffi. I would be pleased to have word that you received it.

I mailed the five *scudi* and some *bajocchi* to balance out our accounts. If there is any mistake, let me know, since I like to know that we are all even.

Actually, Sillani<sup>66</sup> is the bishop in Terracina. I hope that he will do good work.

I have sent the memoranda with regard to the two dowries that you are concerned about. Let us pray for a happy outcome, although I will have no way of finding that out.

Let me know whether the money sent runs into any exceptions and, with regard to the past, let me know whether there is any remission.

With immense obligations to you, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, April 11, 1835

2881

April 14, 1835  
Luigi Baldi  
Meldola

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Luigi

I owe you a reply. I have simply lacked the time but not the will. With pleasure did I learn about the Retreat. *Laus Deo*.<sup>67</sup> For the upcoming year, may it please God, remind me of this good work to be done, after you have previously contacted the Curia.

In regard to your problem, it seems to me that I have already mentioned to you something that is easily done, namely, that you send your petition to the most reverend Treasurer, addressing

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<sup>65</sup> The year is 1835 (cfr. the letter (n. 2869) to this same person, dated March 3, 1835).

<sup>66</sup> Msgr. Guglielmo Aretini Sillani, bishop of Terracina from April 6, 1835.

<sup>67</sup> Praise God.

it to "the most illustrious and reverend Monsignor Angelo Vannini, Commissioner of the *Reverenda Camera Apostolica*". I have spoken many, many times to Monsignor Vannini about you, but I do not have a personal acquaintance with the Treasurer. Let us do good work and let us become saints. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, April 14, 1835

## 2882

April 15, 1835

Fr. Giuseppe Maria Silvastrì

Sora

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

From Frosinone, where I am conducting the Three Hours agony, I send you this reply to your very kind letter. I advise that your future correspondence to me should always be sent to Rome.

I willingly accept the invitation to conduct the Retreat for the Confraternity of the Sacconi and at the time suggested. You can remain tranquil about that and you can also reassure your excellent nephew.

My desire to see you again causes me to hope that I can come there in person; but if I am overly occupied, perhaps I will be forced to drop that thought. Let us offer prayers so that we will recognize the will of God. Indeed, one of our members will never fail to be there.

Give my greetings to Ms. Francesca Carrara and to anyone else who remembers me. Take care of yourself; pray for me and have others do so too. With particular esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Frosinone, April 15, 1835

P. S. We will come to an agreement about the carriage after the middle of May.

## 2883

April 21, 1835

Luigi Fuschi

Norma

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Luigi

Read and note well. If you need further clarification, please write to me.

I shall be in Rome for the 29th or 30th of April. Right now, I am about to make a trip to Porto d'Anso<sup>68</sup> to conduct a Retreat for some young people etc.

The money that is supposed to come to me you can send to Sermoneta to Missionary Father Camillo Rossi. I will send word to him about this.

Always obliged to you and asking you for your prayers, I am and will constantly be, with total affection, esteem and respect

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Albano, April 21, 1835

2884

April 22, 1835

Card. Francesco Falzacappa

Bishop of Albano

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>69</sup>

Your Eminence

The ministry in the Seminary during these past days of Holy Week was carried out fruitfully.

Presently we are occupied in helping the prisoners in Porto d'Anzo and, with the grace of God, I have noted great compunction. The people had their public Retreat given by the Lenten preacher.

The extraordinary visit for the nuns, which you seem to prefer to have after the feast of S. Pancrazio,<sup>70</sup> is all right with me, unless you decide otherwise.

Pray for me a lot and, while kissing the sacred purple, most reverend Eminence, I renew my feelings of esteem and respect for you, and I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Porto d'Anzo, April 22, 1835

2885

April 26, 1835

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

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<sup>68</sup> This is how it appears in the original letter. However, it should read Anzio.

<sup>69</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

<sup>70</sup> The feast of St. Pancrazio is on May 12.

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece

I shall be in Rome on the morning of April 30th in time for the noon meal. Tell Father Filippo Gonnelli that he should come to see me before noon. In the afternoon, we will begin the Marian month. In a hurry, I remain

Your affectionate uncle

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Porto d'Anzo, April 26, 1835

The mail in Rome<sup>71</sup>

2886

May 1, 1835

Fr. Tommaso Antognetti

S. Girolamo della Carita

Rome

Esteemed Father Tommaso

The Father Rector of the Jesuits will send a Novice of the Company of Jesus in my place, so, there will be two sermons in the morning and two in the afternoon. In the morning, Meditation and Conference; the same in the afternoon. This takes care of the four sermons that you requested. So, the good work is well underway. I hope that I have fulfilled your wishes better in this manner. In another year, God willing, perhaps I may be able to do what I was unable to work out methodically this year.

I am enclosing the Chaplet which is to be publicly recited. On all feast days of the year, therefore, during the celebration of Mass, it would be a beautiful remembrance to recite this Chaplet at that time, just as the Dominican Fathers have the practice of reciting the rosary.

Give it more thought.

Pray for me; and consider me, with esteem, as

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

P. S. It will be necessary to procure a number of confessors, etc.; also, you take care of the carriages, etc.

House (Rome), May 1, 1835

2887

May 5, 1835

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<sup>71</sup> This postscript is on page four, near the address.

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia  
Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

The various occupations of the ministry have delayed, for a bit, my correspondence with you.

As soon as you asked to be exempt from conducting the Marian month, I appointed Silvestri who, I am counting on this, is already there. In this matter, nothing more need be said.

What is the bishop of Cesena upset about? Lent; even he, when he was a religious, used to preach the Lenten series, leaving the explanation of the Scriptures to others. I have no doubt that you have given him an appropriate response. If you still have doubts, for the sake of communication, let me know what they are. I would be glad to have greater detail on this matter, but reservedly.

At the time that I was there in Frosinone, conducting the Three Hours of Agony service, I, myself gave your father the 6,50 *scudi*.

The other faculties for enrolling people, which you wish to have, keep in mind for the new year; one is issued each year, that is, not all of them at one time. That is how it is being done.

Continue doing good work zealously for the welfare of that House, while I confirm you, in separate statements, as the prefect of the church and the economist. If you have doubts, ask me your questions; insist on the observance of our rules.

I will take care of Luigetto; but, first, I must send a cook. Would the one from Sezze be all right? I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, May 5, 1835

2888

May 7, 1835

Fr. Giovanni Merlini

Albano

Dear Father Giovanni

I am leaving it up to you to decide whether there should be a position for the General Archives. With regard to what the deceased has placed at my disposal, I have stated: "In the matter of the inheritance, it should be handled with equal shares".<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>72</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Aloysi, Fr. Pasquale

2889

May 10, 1835  
 Ignazio Lesinelli  
 Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteeme Ignazio

Not having been able to obtain anything from the new members of S. Maria in Vincis, I have occupied myself in seeing that the 365 Masses would be fulfilled, balancing out by the 31st of January, of the upcoming year, 1836, including the five Masses, already documented by me in another letter addressed to you last year.

The money anticipated for the bells, to the sum of 20 *scudi* to be satisfied with the 4,75 *scudi* that you were pleased to add, had been budgeted from January 31st of 1834. It is up to me to check its maturation as of January 31st, 1835, and continuing to do so, as long as you think best and at your own convenience. One might also include the biennium<sup>73</sup> on the 31st of January, 1836, the upcoming year. Thus, a settlement has also been made for a certain affair pertaining to the glory of God and honor to most holy Mary. We shall continue offering the Masses that still remain.

Full of obligations to you, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.  
 May 10, 1835

2890

May 11, 1835  
 Fr. Francesco Paradisi  
 Montalto

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

I repeat, let me know when you will be going to Giano, so that I can inform them to get a room ready for you. I think that we have come to an agreement: 1. You are to do whatever you are capable of doing. 2. Arrange there your possessions so as to feel at ease. 3. You will be free to go whenever you wish. All that I need now is a word from you so that I can send the information to them. 4. Bring along with you your certification, recently issued, for hearing confessions.

It seems to me that I have nothing further to say.

With esteem, I remain

Your humble servant

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<sup>73</sup> Leap year.

*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 M. Ap.  
 Rome, May 11, 1835

2891

May 15, 1835  
 Fr. Rocco Sebastianelli  
 Convittore<sup>74</sup>

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Rocco

As for the room and board, all will be settled as soon as you become a priest. In the meantime, I would like to know the cost of the books that you donated to the Society. Write this to me for the records.

Send a letter of gratitude to the Bishop when you present your document of Ordination for registration.

I am in Jesus Christ, and hurriedly

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

May 15<sup>75</sup>

2892

May 1835  
 Fr. Pietro Spina  
 Nepi

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Pietro

I am sending a concise reply to the matters that are pending and this letter of mine also holds for Fr. Rafaele. You can also communicate it to Bartolomeo.

1) It is definitely decided that you will remain as President with all agreements and letterexchange to be made with me.

2) Fr. Verusio, the Director of Retreats. Br. Franchi, the cook; Br. Pietro, the other things.

3) Bartolomeo is to try to get Vincenzo off to Pievetorina for the time being, supplied with traveling permit. There, he will meet our men who are on the Mission: he will get further

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<sup>74</sup> This letter seems to have been sent to Sermoneta (cf. note on Lett. n. 2827, January 13, 1835).

<sup>75</sup> This letter must belong to 1835: from the context it appears in fact that Sebastianelli was not yet a priest [he was ordained on Holy Saturday of 1836, cfr. Lett. n. 3099 (March 12, 1836) and Lett. n. 3113 (April 16, 1836)], but he was already ordained perhaps a Subdeacon or Deacon. The letter must have been sent from Rome, as the others of that May in 1835.

information there. In my name give him a letter to Fr. Giovanni Chiodi and put in it *a cautela*:<sup>76</sup> in case of his absence, this is for Liparelli, Director of the Missions in Pievetorina.

4) Fr. Raffaele is to give you all the reports and information.

5) Since he does not like Pennabilli, tell him that he should gather together all the papers of the Archives as well as the accounts, and with all his baggage, together with Bartolomeo and traveling permit, they should come to Rome: not, however, to return to Nepi; but to the Province.

6) Finally, necessary provisions are to be kept on hand, and with prudence the remainder is to be sold. Subsistence for the Community is to be provided and consideration to be given to what Fr. Raffaele advanced on his own. The remainder will be obtained as soon as it is available, etc. On this matter I submit myself to you and Bartolomeo.

7) I shall station Brandimarte in the Province.

8) Things are to be conducted quietly and with good order, as I have no doubt they will be.

9) You are to stand behind the decision that God no longer wishes to have Fr. Raffaele in Nepi.

10) I am convinced that everything will go along well. Otherwise, I would be compelled to make a decision about something that I would not even want to imagine. Docility is a basic virtue in man.

11) Stand up for your rights and mine as well as those of Bartolomeo who was sent purposely by me. Certain things have to be handled by someone who knows how to go about it. Proprieties are to be observed.

12) Fr. Verusio is to preach the Marian month following our practice: you see to it.

Greet Bartolomeo for me. Write to me with haste; and I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, around the middle of May, 1835<sup>77</sup>

P. S. Encourage Fr. Raffaele to be obedient, and at the same time, to be assured of my equal affection for him. Do not encourage some of his ideas, etc. and let him learn to bear patiently etc. what is right. If he would like to go home at his own expense, I am not opposed to that; but I do not see any reason for it. If he would like to take up residence in Giano or Pievetorina, let him do so, and give him a letter to take along in my name. Have him write to me, etc. I have opened my heart to him: it is no crime to have differences of opinion, etc. Let each

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<sup>76</sup> As a precaution.

<sup>77</sup> This date is obtained from the report of the entire administration of the House in Nepi drawn up by Fr. Raffaele Brandimarte for Fr. Pietro Spina during the second half of May, 1835. Meanwhile Fr. Giuseppe Verusio, who was transferred to Nepi, was preaching the Marian month. In Pievetorina, where Vincenzo had been sent, the Mission was underway that lasted from the 15th to the 28th of May, 1835. During that month of May the Saint was situated in Rome, and was preaching the month of Mary in the Chiesa del Nome di Maria.

one enjoy the peace that God offers him. If there is any need for it, send someone to Rome. Let charity exist among all; eliminate all gossip by informing anyone that you think needs it, that these things are not to be spread around to others, or even to our own, etc. Just tell them: "after a period of three years, there was to be a change of administration, etc."<sup>78</sup>

## 2893

May 19, 1835  
Vincenzo Adriani  
Perugia

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Vincenzo

Here I am sending a reply to your very kind letter. I praise highly your zeal in promoting the month dedicated to the mysteries of the Divine Blood.

As soon as you send me word, if the month is observed, I will be able to contribute three *scudi*. More than this I cannot do. It would be a good idea to locate someone who could deliver an appropriate sermon. I am hopeful that the Lord will provide the means for you. Contact the bishop who is likewise a strong devotee. Asking you for your prayers, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Rome, May 19, 1835

## 2894

May 19, 1835  
Mother Teresa Cherubina  
Monastros di Maria SS. del Buon Consiglio  
Cori

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Reverend Mother Abbess

Father Pietro de Victoriis will be going to Rimini to preach the Lenten series; he will stay on there for other works of the ministry. I know nothing about what you asked me; that is all new to me. I, myself, intend to send your letter to Father Pietro so that he might give you an answer.

In the meantime, in your community, have a seven-day prayer to the Divine Blood for the return of the nun. These are trials willed by God. Have courage, and trust in the merits of the Divine Blood. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

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<sup>78</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Brandimarte, Fr. Raffaele

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Rome, May 19, 1835

P.S. I do not know whether it would be helpful to have her consult someone, provided that the nun is in the State.

2895

May 20, 1835

Doctor Petrilli

Rome

Canon del Bufalo, Apostolic Missionary, sends his gratitude to the most worthy Doctor Petrilli for the charity shown to Father Eugenio<sup>79</sup> by visiting him in S. Croce. May he be pleased to accept the devotional booklets that are enclosed. Once again, he states that he is your most humble, most devoted and most obliged servant.

House, May 20, 1835

2896

May 21, 1835

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

Monsignor Cadolini, though a holy and good person, was surely disturbed by the enemy of every good work when he said such an insipid and indigestible thing. I excuse his intention. You and Father Luca<sup>80</sup> would be remiss if you did not give a reply on the matter. Just what is he lamenting? He wished to have our Mission House, but has not given me a single *bajocco* for its initial establishment. He wished to have a Boarding School, and it is I who have taken care of the payment of room and board. Because we are Missionaries, our men have been mutually helpful and he has had good workers available. ... Merlini cannot leave the position as Secretary General, nor can Fr. Biagio<sup>81</sup> leave his position. These two men are very close to me in the government of our Institute. Every regular order and every directive must thus be carefully established. Other matters can be balanced out accordingly.

If you need to give further explanation to Father Luca, do so. Monsignor Cadolini could

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<sup>79</sup> Father Eugenio Pecchi, St. Gaspar's uncle.

<sup>80</sup> Father Luca Masi.

<sup>81</sup> Father Biagio Valentini

have been good enough to write to me or to speak to me in person last year. But then! *Nihi*<sup>82</sup> ... everything was going along well. I admit that Father Gennaro,<sup>83</sup> as economist, took on expenses with a good purpose in mind, but that they could have been managed better. That, however, is not a crime and for all things there is a remedy. You are acting correctly in informing me of everything and in detail. Be prudent with respect to the others; but, in writing to me, do so with complete freedom so that I can regulate myself accordingly. *Satis*.<sup>84</sup> I learned from Paoletti that in other places, including Pennabilli he has run into quite a bit; likewise in Cesena. ... I am not at all surprised about that. But the Mission in Cervia ... may God be blessed.

After Pievetorina, Liparelli will be returning to Romagna; tell him that I would be pleased if he would write prudently to the bishop of Cervia etc.

Let me know how the rooms have been assigned. I urge you to take care of the economy and the church; see, also, that you submit to me a report and keep me informed as to the status of things.

I will send someone for the Retreat to those who are to be ordained.

In regard to your Masses, according to the plan agreed upon, remember the grosses as well as the 15 *bajocchi* that you said you wanted, in your kindness, to hand over to the Institute. That money, when you have it available and can do so, is not to go to Pennabilli but to me who will use it in every place where we have a Boarding School.

I point out that what I had reserved to myself with regard to helping the economy there, during my last visit, I now condone, and also that that foundation is costing me. May it all be given to the glory of God. I wish that I had more so I could do more.

I remind you that what Ambrosini gave for room and board is to come to me for Albano.

In dubious matters of economy, let us exchange our ideas with each other.

I noticed that the locale there was in need, here and there, of being whitewashed. I urge simplicity, cleanliness and observance of the rule ... withdrawal ... silence ... prayer ... study, humility. Discuss your sermon material with whomever you think best, as well as the method. In whatever way that I can be of help, I am at your service.

Liparelli will write concerning the Mission in Bascio; and if it is to be had, Silvestri will go there along with Galli. Everything will be done as Liparelli will write. The Brother will be Marcello. Luigi<sup>85</sup> from Sezze will supply in the kitchen there. Tell me something about that Mission in Bascio. Pray for me. Let us see each other in the Divine Heart where I am and will constantly be

Your humble servant

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<sup>82</sup> Nothing.

<sup>83</sup> Father Gennaro Gamboa.

<sup>84</sup> Enough.

<sup>85</sup> Luigi Di Rosa.

*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 M. Ap.  
 Rome, May 21, 1835

2897

May 2, 1835  
 Student Fr. Francesco Verili  
 Sonnino

### Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco

I already told you to send the linen for the cinctures to the nun.

With regard to the credence table for the platform as well as the tables that have been purchased, you shall wait for my visit which I will be making there.

I am not interested in buying used ciboriums. When one is called upon to do something, it is best to do it right. That means that when, and if it is possible, one will give a bit of help, etc.

When the carriage returns, I shall send a bit of wax for the month of June.

The small, wooden vases should be in the cellar with the candle holders.

Tell NN. that soon we will discuss everything in person, at length and in an orderly fashion. In the meantime, he should dissipate the clouds, and, until that meeting can be arranged, he should navigate in the best way possible.

See to the repair of the bed linens.

In regard to the bedding and the mattresses, you can await my visit or you can discuss it with the companions.

Provide pillows. At shearing time, get some wool to fill them.

The inventories are to be readied for the time of visitation.

There is the Brother from Rome who, in his free time, can repair those small tables. Discuss this with the companions.

See that the oil lamp that is broken is repaired.

I wrote to Father Biagio <sup>86</sup> that, in the meantime, the boarding students should initiate things, tantum<sup>87</sup> in spirit. All the more for the first Sunday of July.

Make new inquiries about the sword for the Sorrowful Mother.

I understand about the return of the book of Masses.

With reference to the accounts or the numeric report to de Carolis up to the time of the opening of the Boarding School, I do not object when done in free time, but observance of the rule is not to be disregarded. As for Fioravanti's board and lodging, I have spoken to his father.

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<sup>86</sup> Father Biagio Valentini

<sup>87</sup> Only.

Work it out with him.

*Corpus Domini* is solemnized by us in the month of the Divine Blood. Ordinarily, it falls during that month. *In die*,<sup>88</sup> one is not to draw the people away from the grand function that is held in the cathedrals. So, *inspectis, adunque, inspiciendis et praevia oratione et consilio in casu "servari solitum: et nihil addatur"*.<sup>89</sup>

The corduroy trousers are expressly for Andrea. In sewing them, they are to be fitted for him; those that are too large for Andrea should be given to Brother Gallina. That much for now, until the time of visitation. See that no changes are made without first checking with me; one must not have to write of this later. Let whoever may have acted otherwise read these lines. I sent a waistcoat which [...].<sup>90</sup>

Let me know whether the three *scudi* that I have retained should be regarded as your money. Remind me of this.

On *Coena Domini*,<sup>91</sup> I will see to getting copias of the *Bolla*.

I shall be awaiting the notification of the Masses, missing from the Mass books.

I shall send to Colonel Fioravanti the notification of the expenses which, it seems to me, come to 3,82 *scudi*. Later, his son will send them to his father.

Let me know whether there is any duplicate in the books that were sent, excluding those duplicates used for the Boarding School.

The ciborium has been made. I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, May 23, 1835

I shall send the account for de Carolis.

Have I forgotten anything?

Tell Father Biagio that I shall write to him in the next ordinary maildelivery etc.

2898

May 26, 1835

Fr. Tomasso Meloni

Cammerino per Pievetorina

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<sup>88</sup> On the day.

<sup>89</sup> When what needs to be examined has been examined thoroughly and with previous prayer and counsel in the case, let the usual procedure be observed and nothing added.

<sup>90</sup> The page is torn at the margin.

<sup>91</sup> Supper of the Lord (Holy Thursday).

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Fr. Tomasso

We have never let up on the case of the bridge. The autumn recess and the change of the Delegates prevented the case from making progress. However, it is sufficient that the Society had filed its protest with the proper tribunal: something that should be called to the new Delegate's attention. Therefore, even before he begins the Precious Blood Month to which he has been assigned, Fr. Santarelli should go to Camerino and inform him. Furthermore, be advised that now his Eminence Gamberini already has the whole dossier regarding the pending suit, and has reserved the case to himself. His Grace the archbishop is very well aware of this. Therefore, do not accept any money, and proceed on the information I have just given.

You understand me. I am writing to you because you are acquainted with this whole situation. If he has not already departed, give this answer to Fr. Chiodi who has also given me a report of that letter, etc. Let us be firm in our principles of action. I shall not send Chiodi an answer about this question so as not to multiply letters. We are in agreement.

I have understood everything else that you mentioned to me, and I am looking into these things. With many prayers, humility, charity and kindness, let us support the good work and the objective of the glory of the Lord.

When you receive new letters that have reference to the bridge, answer them as follows: "They are to be forwarded to the Director General in Rome, where the Most Rev. Archbishop is located: and that will be sufficient"; or this: "The Case is in the hands of the Secretariat of State". Instruct Santarelli concerning the damages done by the floods, etc., and anything else that needs to be settled, etc. When you are in Congressus, discuss anything that is urgent about any topic at all; and, when necessary, write to me.

If I am forgetting anything, remind me. I am sending you ten Masses to be said immediately, with the usual listing, etc.

In Jesus Christ Crucified, I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, May 26 (1835)<sup>92</sup>

(On the fourth facing, on both sides of the address, we read:)

Tell Liparelli that I have received his letter written to me recently. He is to adhere to the decisions expressed in my last letter to him; and he will find the most recent instructions in Rimini.

Tell Santarelli that at his convenience he is definitely to make the Visitation there that is called for by the rule, so as to become informed of all our problems there. This will not stand in

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<sup>92</sup> The year's date is derived from a comparison of this letter with the Congressus held in the House in Pievetorina on May 29, 1835 as well as the Congressus of Visitation which was held that year by Fr. Nicola Santarelli. Furthermore, the context is in line with the other letters of that same period.

the way of my visit there which I hope will follow soon.

Tell Liparelli that he should hurry in order to arrive in time to preach the month of the Divine Blood in Cesena. It will begin on June 5th and end on the first Sunday of July. He should make arrangements accordingly. So, send my letters to him, not to Rimini, but to Cesena. Take care of this carefully, etc.

2899

May 26, 1835  
Fr. Orazio Bracaglia  
Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

As I have written to Silvestri, Father Gennaro<sup>93</sup> will be coming there. The month of the Divine Blood is to be preached in our church. This covers the urgent matter of your recent letter.

I urge that special attention be given to the training of the men, as I have no doubt you will do.

If the Mission is to be had in Bascio, write and let me know and I will make the arrangements. Silvestri is occupied in Macerata so that he can arrange for a good work to be done in Pennabilli etc. I am etc.

*G. C. d. B.*

M. Ap.  
Rome, May 26<sup>94</sup>

Father Gennaro will be there on the 2nd.

2900

May 28, 1835  
Fr. Raffaele Ruffoli  
Palestrina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

Please excuse my delay.

I will take the deepred vestment, while you try to get the best possible and reasonable cost. Let me know to whom I am to give the eight *scudi* or less, if possible; if to the nuns Cialdea without postal expenses. As for the other, the deepgreen one, let us hold off for now; let the womanowner sell it to whomever she wishes. If it were to be arranged in such a way that Masses

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<sup>93</sup> Father Gennaro Gamboa.

<sup>94</sup> The year is 1835 as is evident from the reference to the Mission in Bascio, also mentioned in the letter (n. 2896) to this same person, dated May 21, 1835.

could be offered for the deceased or something along that line, in that case, the matter could be negotiable. In money, right now, *solo primo*.<sup>95</sup>

Remind the Canoncurate Cialdea about the notification of the Masses.

On June 5th, the month of the Divine Blood will begin and will terminate on the first Sunday in July. I urge you to observe this.

Pray a lot for me. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, May 28, 1835

P. S. If the Chapter should ever entrust the Three Hours devotion to the Institute, I would like to know about that in plenty of time. I already told you that Father Sebastiano<sup>96</sup> has gone on into Paradise. He was the one who handled the Three Hours Devotion there etc.

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<sup>95</sup> The first being the only one.

<sup>96</sup> Father Sebastiano Agostini. He died on July 26, 1834.