

## St. Gaspar's Letters

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2901

May 28, 1835  
 Vincenzo Adriani  
 Perugia

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>1</sup>

Most esteemed Vincenzo

Here I am with a reply to your very kind letter. You will be receiving a small package with the devotional materials and booklets that you were seeking. Along with that you will find enclosed three *scudi*. We are hopeful that in the future God will provide steady means and inspire some person or other to make a pious legacy. Prayers.

The Month will begin on June 5th this year so that the thirty days will be concluded, as always, on the first Sunday in July.

The prayers are freely selected. In some places, there is a reading from the book and the Seven Offerings are said. In other places, the usual Chaplet is recited. In the package, you will find copies of our printed materials. Make whatever changes you feel are feasible and inform both the most reverend bishop and the most reverend Vicar. I will say nothing about the excellent Canon Tori to whom you will extend my special greetings.

You can read the small leaflet in which the concession made by Pope Leo XII is mentioned. Observe whether it applies there according to the time. Otherwise, we can obtain the privilege of having the Solemn Mass for the first Sunday in July, and we will have the time, with the permission of the most reverend bishop, to have the exposition of the holy Wood of the Cross and the most Blessed Sacrament.

With regard to the Gregorian Altar, send the petition to Cardinal Odescalchi, indicating the church and the altar. If there happens to be another privileged altar, it would be good to mention that in the petition. The sister of his most reverend Eminence will be able to handle it as a motive for reminding him of it; also, because of the frequent audiences that he has with the Holy Father, he can easily urge the granting of the favor so that it can be promulgated on the occasion of observing the Month. It would be good to have the final seven days set aside to be observed in the form of a Retreat just as it is done in Rome as a preparation for the general communion. If a Missionary from S. Felice in Giano would be needed, all you have to do is say the word.

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<sup>1</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

Have I forgotten anything? I do not think so. Pray for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, May 28, 1835

2902

June 1, 1835

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Pennabilli

Hail etc.

Dear Father Orazio<sup>2</sup>

A couple of lines. It is firmly set that Father Gennaro<sup>3</sup> will be there in Pennabilli and Silvestri in Macerata Feltria. So, be obedient to the letter, etc.

De Victoriis has been instructed with regard to the Mission in Bascio since Silvestri, because of health difficulties, has been relieved. In writing to the pastor, tell him: "Have no doubts etc." Patience, if there should be a delay of a day. Galli will remain in Macerata for the concluding Mass, since our days are critical and cannot allow for delay. Write to him immediately and if he is there, he is to return to Macerata. Neither is Galli to be concerned about the Mission. Write, along this line, to Macerata to Father Gennaro if things have to be determined with respect to Silvestri etc. Tell Father Gennaro that I shall be writing to him there, etc.

*G. C. d. B.*

I shall not be sending, presently, another letter of mine to Macerata in confirmation of this one. The change is being made only because of the Mission, for which provisions have been made.

2903

June 2, 1835

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

I would be pleased to know whether you received the money and whether our accounts

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<sup>2</sup> The letter is without date; postal markings say June 1. The year is certainly 1835.

<sup>3</sup> Fr. Gennaro Gamboa.

are even. On that occasion, you can give me news concerning yourself which, I hope, is favorable.

Here, now, are some more inconveniences.

Needed are four *libre* of white linen thread for making stockings. But it should be wellwoven.

You could include 24 pairs of stockingsoles, but not the real fine kind and not too small, for use in the Institute.

Finally, four bolts of cloth for making Community bed linens and two for Community shirts. You already understand what.

It will be necessary, also, to include three reams of stationery, the usual kind at one *scudo*, two of the smaller type similar to the one that I am writing on here and one for memoranda or similar writing. Six reams in all.

I say once again, please excuse my repeated inconveniences. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, June 2, 1835

2904

June 3, 1835

Fr. Filippo Giuliani Rome

House, June 3, 1835

Most esteemed Canon

In the recent meeting held for the pious work of S. Galla, you were selected, by full vote, to fill the position of secretary and archivist. I have been asked to address this letter to you. Assured of your charity in assuming a task from which so many projects for the glory of the Lord result, I have the honor and the pleasure, most esteemed Canon, to state once again that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

2905

June 6, 1835

Mother Teresa Cherubina

Monastero di Maria SS. del Buon Consiglio

Cori

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Mother Abbess

In reply to your letter, I point out three things:

1. I would not want my coming there without a title to cause too much of a disturbance.
  2. It is not up to me to ask for the faculty; but, it would be necessary for others to ask for it.
  3. Say a few prayers over it and send me your reply to Albano; but, immediately.
- Though in a hurry, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified  
Your humble, devoted and obliged servant  
*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*  
Mis. Ap.

Rome, June 6, 1835

P. S. When I come, I would bring along with me the one who will be helping me on the trips etc. Also, I will let you know the day.

2906

June 6, 1835

Mother Teresa Cherubina  
Monastero di Maria SS. del Buon Consiglio  
Cori

Hail to the Divine Blood

Mother Abbess

Write to me immediately in Albano with regard to the decision that you make in accordance with what I communicated to you in my other letter. In a hurry, but with esteem, I remain

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

Albano, June 6, 1835

2907

June 9, 1835

Mother Teresa Cherubina  
Monastero di Maria SS. del Buon Consiglio  
Cori

Hail to the Divine Blood

Reverend Mother Abbess

Here for you is my decision. Next Friday morning I shall leave for Sermoneta because of a meeting I shall have with our companions to make various appointments for the ministry. On Saturday, the vigil of the most holy Trinity and on Trinity Sunday, I shall be on hand in Sermoneta. On Monday, quite early in the morning, you are to send two good and safe mounts along with a burro for the baggage. I shall be there in Cori for the noon meal, certain already of the necessary faculties. I must point out, however, that I had promised to conduct the Retreat for

the city of Sora. If I should have the opportunity to do so conveniently, then, I would differ the extraordinary visit to Cori. I would then come at the beginning of July, in view of the fact that the Retreat in Sora could not be differed since the public will be in attendance. With this second plan, both good works will be handled. In any case, in Sermoneta, you will have to make your decision by Saturday and send a letter to me in Sermoneta. In the meanwhile, I pray that the Lord will give you his holy enlightenment for settling things for the greater glory of God. With this understanding, then, I remain, with esteem

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Albano, June 9, 1835

2908

June 10, 1835

Vincenzo Adriani

Perugia

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Vincenzo

I give thanks to God that you have received the small package. It would be a good idea to have the formula for the offering reprinted there in order not to delay its recitation any longer.

With regard to the Masses for the first Sunday in July, write to his Eminence Odescalchi. Right now, I am outside of Rome. In a hurry, but, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Albano, June 10, 1835

2909

June 10, 1835

Fr. Tomasso Meloni

Camerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Fr. Tomasso

With reference to the large credence table, your plan is good and feasible. As a matter of regularity, discuss it in Congressus. With regard to its shape, you should keep two things in mind. First, it should be one of appropriate design. Second, it should be elevated from the floor so that one will be able to sweep underneath it. I hope I make myself clear. *Dominus retribuet pro me!*<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> The Lord will repay on my behalf.

For the sake of accuracy, file a record of it in the Archives; and see that this letter of mine is made available to Santarelli.

Consider me

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

(Albano) June 10, 1835

2910

June 13, 1835

Madre Abbadessa

Monastero di M. SS'a del Buon Consiglio

Cori

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most Reverend Mother Abbess

Having arrived at Sermoneta, I found your most esteemed letter. In reply, I assure you that everything is going very well as you arranged. There is one exception: in order that I might content my Companions, please send someone for me on Tuesday instead of next Monday morning, so that I will be able to arrive there after dinner, at the latest around 23 hours. See to it that they come for me, and send the carriage. I will remain in Cori all day Wednesday and all day Thursday, feast of *Corpus Domini*; on Friday, I shall depart; there will be sufficient time for the purpose.

As for the faculties, I suppose that the Most Reverend Vicar has given them to you in general, not only for the Nuns, but for anyone else who may be in need, with all the reserved sins and, in general, everything that is covered by the Synod; in that way, no mistake will be made. Greet him for me.

Send a couple of lines in reply; asking you for prayers, I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Sermoneta, June 13 (1835)

2911

June 16, 1835

Fr. Luigi Ambrosini

Pennabilli

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

I give you sincerest thanks for the gift sent to our Institute a short while ago. I am sorry

about the inconvenience caused you and your family. *Dominus retribuet pro me.*<sup>5</sup> I add nothing further.

Ubaldo<sup>6</sup> is moving forward very well in his career.

Recommend me to God and, with esteem and my best regards to all of your family, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Sermoneta, June 16, 1835

P. S. When necessary, address your letters to me to: "Rome "

## 2912

June 20, 1835

Fr. Raffaele Ruffoli

Palestrina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

I expressly need the notification for the Masses which, up to now, I have not as yet received from Canon Cialdea. So, please ask him to take care of this and to give me either a quick response or repeat them for me, otherwise, I will lose sight of the men with whom I am to settle this matter.

Address your letters to me to "Rome".

Should you learn that I have not returned to Rome by the first part of July, I have, nevertheless, already left there my instructions concerning the eight *scudi*.

With regard to the Three Hours of Agony devotion, I do not know whether I, personally, will be able to be in Palestrina. Still, I give my thanks to the most reverend Chapter and to you and in this matter I leave the Canons to make a free choice.

Pray for me. With esteem, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Cori, June 20, 1835

P. S. Send the notification of the Masses to my house.

## 2913

June 24, 1835

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<sup>5</sup> The Lord will repay on my behalf.

<sup>6</sup> Fr. Ubaldo Ambrosini.

Cardinal Carlo Odescalchi  
Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>7</sup>

Your Eminence

Upon receiving one of your most appreciated letters relative to the Retreat to be given in the Monastery of the Holy Family in Sezze, I have decided to go there in person. I have already contacted the Superioress; within a short time, with God's grace and the help of your prayers, this good work will be taken care of. The Seminary and the other Monastery of S. Chiara in Sezze have already been handled by one of our companions, Father Camillo Rossi. Father Biagio Valentini is presently in Sora. Recommend me often to the Lord and make a special remembrance of me in the holy Sacrifice of the Mass. I kiss the sacred purple and with all due respect, most reverend Eminence, I renew myself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere Can. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Sonnino, June 24, 1835

2914

June 27, 1835  
Camillo Possenti  
Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

Everything is all right with regard to the thread, in keeping with the sample and, with regard to everything else, what you are doing is very fine. I am relying on the details given in your recent letter.

I am sorry to learn about your ailment and I shall not fail to recommend you to God in a special way.

I saw to the fulfillment of the Mission in Pievetorina and my companions have written that good work was achieved. Let us give thanks to God.

When I get to the Marche, I will come to see you. Prayers. Take good care of yourself; as I await the new report of our accounts, I ask you for your prayers. With esteem, respect and gratitude, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Sonnino, June 27, 1835

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<sup>7</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

Send your letters to "Rome".

2915

June 27, 1835  
Fr. Nicola Crescenzi  
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

While I was hoping to enjoy the holy companionship of the most reverend bishop, as well as yours, God has called me into the Province. I say nothing about the loss that I have experienced of my beloved uncle Father Eugenio<sup>8</sup> whom I had left when he was in better health, though always chronic. May God be blessed in all things. Let us move on now to other matters. For the Retreat in Veroli, I have been assured by my companions that for this ministry one Missionary will be adequate, at least at the beginning. If necessary, more help will be supplied toward the end. Since there are Regulars also available, it seems that one worker will be enough.

With these observations, I shall leave things just so. 1. If the Missionary can be located either in the seminary or in a convent, then you can spare me the sending along of a Brother, thus also cutting down on expenses. If he is to stay in a private house, then, a Brother will be needed, and in that case, two means of transportation will be called for. 2. Towards the end, if the crowd is very large, then another Missionary will be sent. Along this line, I shall write to the superior in Frosinone, trusting that you will be in Veroli at the indicated time. Otherwise, there should be someone there to supply for you. 3. Seeing that the plan described above would take nothing away from the glory of God, we shall leave another worker in Frosinone to cover the feast of the Divine Blood. 4. The member assigned will do a great deal of good work. Prayers. Finally, I recall that while I was making my Retreat in Castel S. Angelo, the priests of Ripi the Celebrini asked me to recommend them to you and to the most reverend bishop, which I am now doing with this most humble letter of mine. Once you have arrived in Veroli, please locate for me the pages dealing with the Marra legacy and send them on to Frosinone where I shall be sometime around the 6th or 7th of July. Thousands and thousands of greetings to the most reverend bishop and the Lord Marquis, his brother. Filled with esteem and respect, I remain and will constantly be, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

House in Sonnino, June 27, 1835

2916

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<sup>8</sup> Father Eugenio Pecchi.

End of June, 1835  
 Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris  
 Piperno

Hail to the Divine Blood

Next Saturday<sup>9</sup> I will be leaving from Frosinone in order to be in Sonnino by evening. We will stop off for a bit of refreshment in Piperno. Would it be possible to stop off at the bishop's house, while Bartolomso takes care of necessary things? It would be for just a short time until the horses are cared for at some inn or other. Tomorrow, someone who will be sent, will stop by to get your response. I am in a hurry.

Your humble servant  
*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 M. Ap.

2917

June 29, 1835  
 Fr. Orazio Bracaglia  
 Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

I have no doubts at all about what you tell me concerning the offerings for the Masses. Nor have I considered noting it in any different way.

It is a very good thing that the locale has gotten a new coating of whitewash. Has the painting of St. Xavier been placed in the entryway?

Do not say anything to Ambrosini with respect to room and board. He has taken care of some months; an account is being kept in Albano.

Liparelli will stay on yet as President there for any trip that has to be made; but this cannot be considered as a stable place of residence. So, I will be appointing from Rome a local Superior, with you remaining as the Prefect in charge of the church, and as Economist. If you can find a couple days to be alone, in order to avoid making useless expenses, you will have time to prepare yourself for the customary catechetical instructions, while using the *Cristiano Istruito*

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<sup>9</sup> This letter does not have a date. In the collection of letters to De Castris, it is placed ahead of the one dated June 29, 1835. St. Gaspar gets to Sonnino on June 24th. A letter of his to Father Bracaglia on June 29, 1835 was sent from Frosinone. In the letter to De Castris of June 29, 1835, he thanks her "for the many attentions". These attentions seem to be a reference to the objectives of this present letter. But, which Saturday is meant here? The 20th or the 27th of June? It seems more probable that it is June 27th. Thus, it appears that the development was as follows: St. Gaspar, from Sonnino where he is located on the 24th of June, must have had to go urgently to Frosinone (from where he wrote to Fr. Bracaglia) and from there on June 27th, a Saturday, at night must have returned to Sonnino, from where he writes again, on June 29th, to De Castris, thanking her for the hospitality shown and to ask her once again about lodging, but this time in the bishop's residence. Therefore, we assign the end of June, 1835, as the date for this letter.

written by Segneri, showing you the easier things. In the meantime, prepare a room for the Superior. Indeed, I would like to know just how the rooms are distributed there! In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Sonnino, June 29<sup>10</sup>

P. S. Send your letters to "Rome".

You will be staying on there for a bit more time. Have no doubts, I am keeping you in mind; however, not everything can be done in a single moment. Meanwhile, let us be of assistance to our Institute, *corde magno etc.*<sup>11</sup>

2918

June 29, 1835

Fr. Mattia Cardillo

Rimini

Hail to the most Precious Blood

Dear Father Mattia

NN. should continue his private meditation on the passion of Jesus Christ. NN. can be certain that there is no reason opposing this. With regard to hearing the confessions of women, he should take his turn. Soon, the visitation will take place and *ex conscientia*,<sup>12</sup> it will be necessary for the visitor to speak of what is needed for the better progress of the Institute. So, continue to promote the observance of our rule with holy liberty of spirit. No one has the authority to change the rules, no matter what position he may hold. Also, maintain your life of withdrawal and be encouraged through your trust in God. I am not forgetful of our general plans. Pray for me and recommend me to God. I reserve anything further for our next gettogether. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

House in Sonnino, June 29, 1835

Send your letters to "Rome".

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<sup>10</sup> The year is 1835 as is evident from the reference to the locale having "gotten a new coat of whitewash" (cfr. the letter (n. 2896) to this same person, dated May 21, 1835). This letter was mailed from Frosinone.

<sup>11</sup> With a big heart, etc.

<sup>12</sup> From the conscience.

2919

June 29, 1835  
 Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris  
 Piperno

Hail to the Divine Blood

I give you my sincerest thanks for your many attentions. Just what must I do to show you, in some way, my gratitude? May the Lord reward you a hundredfold.

I hope you enjoy the book that I am enclosing; perhaps you have another copy of it; but the one that I am sending will not be useless. Before getting back to Rome, I would like to pass through Piperno. For lodging, if it is possible, it would be better to stay at the bishop's residence in order to escape compliments which I do not care to get, nor do I merit them. I shall be the only one along with Bartolomeo. Send me some word or other and then we will again get in contact. Recommend me often to God and especially during the upcoming solemnity. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

June 29<sup>13</sup>

Around the middle of July, I am supposed to conduct the Retreat at the Sacred Family in Sezze. Let us remember this in prayer. Please use a responsible person to deliver the enclosed for Sezze. Give my very best regards to all your Community. The other enclosure is for Father President of the Capuchins there, that is, please send it to him.

2920

July 1, 1835  
 Fr. Carlo Giorgi  
 Genazzano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Carlo

I am sending a response to your most appreciated letter. It is necessary for you to examine the young man whom you are proposing and get to know him. In view of the fact that you are the one proposing him, unless you have some precise reason otherwise, you are to accept him after having spoken with him. As soon as I get to Albano, I will advise him and we will come to an agreement. Presently, I am occupied in the Provinces. So, if anyone should want to write to me, he should address his letters to Rome.

With regard to the pious organizations, it will be necessary that one of our Missionaries, under one title or another, should likewise go to Genazzano to conduct a Triduum. In that way

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<sup>13</sup> The year is 1835 (cfr. the letter (n. 2921) to Mother Tirletti, July 5, 1835).

the good work will be given full vigor. I note that we are to be concerned about this sort of procedure *ut fructus maneat*.<sup>14</sup> In prayer, think this over. How is Father Francesco Manselle? Give him my greetings. Recommend me often to God and to most holy Mary. Do it always; do not forget this; also have others do so. With esteem and respect, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Sonnino, July 1, 1835

2921

July 5, 1835

Mother Dionisia Tirletti

Monastero della S. Famiglia

Sezze

Hail to the Divine Blood

Reverend Mother Superior

Next Wednesday, the 8th of this month of July, we shall begin the holy Retreat after the noon meal. I shall be in Sezze along with Bartolomeo before noon. So, everything is all set. I would say that you should inform his most reverend Eminence that on the 8th we shall begin the Retreat and that we should pray for abundant fruit, as I hope will be so.

If, in this present season, you feel that the preaching should be done in the church, with the church closed, you make that decision. Likewise, prepare a table and a chair for me, as usual, and the heat will not be too insufferable.

Give my best regards to your community. Pray a lot for me and, with esteem and respect, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

House in Sonnino, July 5, 1835

P. S. I asked you to inform his most reverend Eminence in case he might desire to require some particular thing.

2922

July 6, 1835

Fr. Michele Gentili

Sermoneta

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<sup>14</sup> In order that the fruit remain.

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Michele

In the position which you occupy, in particular as the Director of Retreats, when you have doubts, write to me, and until further notice, send them, at the present time, to Sezze.

Two things. First, put in the *Ceremoniale* that the exposition of the most Blessed Sacrament *in die Solemni Preiosissimi Sanguinis* is to be done at the second Mass and the first Mass should be sung in order to quickly stimulate prayer. *Inter Missarum solemnia Communio generalis*, for anyone who is ready; the others, as the morning progresses, in private. Once the Sacrament has been exposed, then the Chaplet should be recited *coram Sanctissimo*.<sup>15</sup> The *Ceremoniale* should be in Latin. Secondly, that those who are to take care of Communion should put on a surplice in the sacristy. They are not to put it on in the choir area or leave the Mass in order to put the surplice on in the sacristy. This is something that is not done.

In the Vespers of the Sunday, the prepared drapery is to be placed in the choir area when the one who is to intone is vested in the cope secus<sup>16</sup> it is not to be there. If needed, check with Albano. If it is necessary to do otherwise, let me know. One more thing. In one or the other synod, it seems to me it is the one in Rimini, I believe that it is forbidden to place the pall over a small container when distributing communion to the people. I do not know; I would say: adhere to the synods. Let me know where I am mistaken. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Sonnino, July 6<sup>17</sup>

2923

July 6, 1835

Fr. Antonio Necci

Acuto

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Father

I have written to Rome to get some certificates. The blessing of the uniforms is used only for those of the most Precious Blood. The blessing for the scapular is to be sought from the General of the Carmelites.

I am writing in a hurry. With esteem, I remain

Your humble servant

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<sup>15</sup> Before the most Blessed Sacrament.

<sup>16</sup> Otherwise.

<sup>17</sup> The year is 1835 as is evident from the approach to Sezze, just as mentioned in a preceding letter.

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Sonnino, July 6, 1835

2924

July 6, 1835

Msgr. Antonio Santelli

Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

God is making use of you for many very interesting projects for his glory; may his adorable name be blessed. In these miserable times of ours, what an urgent need there is for workers! In general, the clergy are in need and from the clergy must come the welfare of the people. With the establishment of our Institute in Rome, what assistance could be given, in time, even to foreign Missions, using the advantages provided for the study of languages! I would likewise consider setting up there a Boarding School for our young men. What an encouragement that would be for the clergy to dedicate themselves to the apostolate! Thus, I would follow through with the rapid course, so to speak, in working out the establishment. But how can that be done if, on the 8th of this month, among other things, I must begin the Retreat in the monastery of the Holy Family in Sezze which is under the guidance of his Eminence Odescalchi who has commissioned me to handle this great work? Along with all this, other things that I have not sought out myself or even foreseen are demanding my personal attention. This is the reason for my quite understandable delay, though I am hurrying as much as possible for me, to arrange my return to Rome.

In the meanwhile, let me know whether I can send a letter to Monsignor Atton, stating to him that within a short time, in general, I shall be in Rome, as well as to thank him for his religious dispositions. Then, I will assume personally the negotiations. Finally, if the coach were to alter its route, in that event, I would send Father Merlini to do the preparatory work at least, reserving to myself the final and set resolution and anything else that may be needed. So, I shall be awaiting further letters from you which you should send to me in Sezze. I also point out that after completing my work in Sezze, I shall have to go on to Frosinone to sign a document pertaining to that House. I shall take care of that as quickly as possible. I recommend to your prudence and efficacy the Hospice for the poor in S. Galla. At least inform yourself about it and then when you discover that this is what the glory of God is calling for, set up a working program. Do not spare any efforts. I kiss your hands and with sentiments of esteem, respect and gratitude, I remain, in the adorable Heart of Jesus Christ

Your devoted. and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

M. A.

Mission and Retreat House in Sonnino, July 6, 1835

P. S. The deceased Giacchesi left a legacy to S. Galla. It would be a good idea to investigate that. Please keep me in your prayers.

I am delighted to learn that the Month of the Divine Blood is being promoted in the church of SS. Vincenzo ed Anastasio in keeping with the regulations. You direct them in this regard.

2925

July 8, 1835

Student Fr. Rocco Sebastianelli  
Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Rocco

You could have informed me about the regulations of the probandate but without using impolite terms in speaking of the Superiors. Be advised.

You will be receiving three *scudi* on loan from Father Beniamino.<sup>18</sup> He has been informed to deliver these three *scudi* to you.

More than this I cannot do. I am unable to describe to you all the many cares that overwhelm me. You probably have already received the small package.

For you to move on to the priesthood, I must have an affidavit *ex conscientia*<sup>19</sup> from Santarelli attesting to your adequate knowledge of the entire Moral course with the exception of that part *circa praxim*<sup>20</sup> which is communicated at its proper time. Read Liguori in his *Selva predicabile*, and note what is to be expected of a priest. You must realize that you entered the Institute at an advanced age and not very wellfounded in the Latin language. Recommend yourself to God for facility in your studies and in this regard, exercise humility, prayer and application. I am hopeful that you can be ordained and that you will successfully pass the exam with flying colors. As far as I am concerned, I would be very happy to have you already a Missionary. But, you know that we are bound by certain obligations. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Sonnino, July 8<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> Fr. Beniamino Romani.

<sup>19</sup> From the conscience.

<sup>20</sup> About practices.

<sup>21</sup> The year is 1835. Cfr. footnote 1 in the letter (n. 2891) to this same person, dated May 15, 1835. Father Nicola Santarelli was the President of the House in Pievetorina. Father Beniamino Romani was the Superior and Economist in S. Felice in Giano where Sebastianelli had left his books.

Send your letters to "Rome".

2926

July 13, 1835  
Fr. Orazio Bracaglia  
Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio<sup>22</sup>

I hope that the new Superior for there will be arriving around the beginning of August. I cannot even tell you on what particular day. After the condonation is made, the expense will fall upon that House's economy and we will work things out at that time. This year, it will be necessary to promote the taking of a collection as an assistance to that House. I repeat, a collection for needed things of every kind, but with the permission first of Rubertini. I have come to this conclusion because of your statements of what is urgently needed and how much.

In the meantime, we will do as follows: Father Mattia Cardillo will come there to make the visitation called for by our rule; I will direct him to remain there until the arrival of the one who will be assigned there. This is all that I can do now. Within eight days, after the reception of this letter of mine, Fr. Mattia should be getting there. But before I write to him and give him the assignment, could you not supply for just a short while? You have time to prepare yourself. Send your answer quickly addressing it to Rome, and I will do what you tell me etc.

*G. C. d. B.*

I am also sending you 20 Masses to be celebrated immediately. I will be awaiting the notification etc.

2927

July 19, 1835  
Ignazio Lesinelli  
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Ignazio

Always fully obliged to you, here is what I feel is necessary to bring to your attention.

If the Cristaldi matters were to depend on my presence in Rome, I would leave the duties that, for just a while longer, God is entrusting to me outside of Rome and I would personally come there to deal with the situation. But, at this time, the total opposition is the concern only of Canon Muccioli<sup>23</sup> and the executors of the will, who are to point out that the deceased Eminence

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<sup>22</sup> This letter does not have a date, but, it is gotten from the postal markings (Piperno, July 13). The year is certainly 1835 (cfr. the letter to this same person, dated August 9, 1835).

<sup>23</sup> Father Antonio Muccioli.

Cristaldi is concerned not only with Sabina but also with our Institute, and *prelativamente*<sup>24</sup> Sabina. So, why should they oust a Society which has been installed by the Holy See, as is evident from the canonical rescripts, and its appointed convents so very, very needful of help?

The Holy Father is the boss and can do whatever he thinks is best; however, if there were someone there to inform him, I am most convinced that what was issued by rescript would be the claim that is to be recalled. Along with other favors, one might also include this one: it consists in: 1. to supply information to the most holy auditor and to learn from him just what the status of things is; 2. to speak, once again, to Lawyer Alberghini; 3. also, with anyone else who might be needed in accordance with whatever you see as necessary. At least we will have the consolation of being sure that we have not omitted any of those means which are available for us to use. The Lord, to whose will we submit ourselves, will bless your words. All of this will be worthwhile if you would please communicate this to Canon Muccioli, to whom I extend my greetings. He will then do whatever is within his capabilities.

Just how the Secretary of State is involved with the derogation of the will, I simply do not know how to explain. As effectively as you can, try to inform him likewise. Once these means have been exhausted, there is nothing more to do than to leave everything in the hands of God. In any event, the rescript should be reviewed by them and checked to see just what the true exposition is, and, whether some sort of involuntary misunderstanding may have arisen. In that case, provisions should be made, if necessary, for a legal protest. You check to see whether it would be feasible to produce it.

I accompany you with my humble prayers. These are the final steps that must be taken. My obligations, I repeat, are endless. Recommend me to God, and with esteem and respect I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Sermoneta, July 19, 1835.

2928

July 22, 1835  
Camillo Possenti  
Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

You will be receiving 34,46 *scudi*. I have written to Rome that they should send you secure money. So, write and let me know.

A thousand thanks for your many, many kindnesses.

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<sup>24</sup> Prelatively.

I am writing while pressed for time. With esteem, I remain  
 Your humble, devoted and obliged servant  
*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 Mis. Ap.

2929

July 24, 1835  
 Fr. Orazio Bracaglia  
 Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

1. The sale of the hay is forbidden; grain is to be planted, leaving the hay for the use of the Community.

2. For the present, continue getting information concerning the husbandmen and anything else, so as not to make a mistake. In the meanwhile, I will try to figure out how to lighten your many cares. Prayers. Not everything that one wishes to accomplish can be achieved.

3. In the meantime, the visitation will be conducted according to our rule. Do not begin anything else without first getting a letter from me with a listing of instructions.

4. Do you want to give your father the offerings for the Masses? Write and let me know. Address your letters to "Rome". I am etc.

*G. C. d. B.*

July 24<sup>25</sup>

2930

July 26, 1835  
 Fr. Carlo Giorgi  
 Genazzano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Carlo

As far as I am concerned, I will be able to admit the young man to the year of probation. You will be hearing from Father Giovanni Merlini as to whatever else will be needed in this regard. I knew nothing about the death of the good Father Francesco Manselle whom I shall not fail to recommend to God. God, who is ever marvelous in his works, called him to himself on March 4th, the day on which our Novena to St. Xavier begins. In the meantime, you are to zealously take care of the pious organizations; and, more and more, diffuse and extend the devotion to the Divine Blood. Do not cease trying to find a way of promoting a shift of Retreats,

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<sup>25</sup> The year is 1835. Cfr. the letters to this same person dated July 13th and August 9th, 1835 where mention is made of the visitation according to the rule, just as in this one.

or a seven-day service, or a triduum, in order to stimulate people in programs conducive to the glory of God. I ask you for your prayers, in particular at the shrine of most holy Mary. Do not forget this. With esteem and respect, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, July 26, 1835<sup>26</sup>

Address your letters to me to "Rome".

2931

End of July, 1835

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece<sup>27</sup>

Now that August is drawing near, you are to send, as usual, the gift of Tori that I spoke about to Bartolomeo.<sup>28</sup> I shall inform the Canon who writes to me, who, however, is quite ill. Let us hope that he will hold on a bit longer. Taking everything together, may the cost of that gift be reduced.

Let us move on now to other matters. Now that the Lord has called back to himself Father Eugenio,<sup>29</sup> it will be necessary to settle the payment of the 50 *scudi*, in addition to mine which I would like, indeed, to withdraw. If Francesco Raseri and his daughter are intent on selling the house, then some adjustment is to be made. Otherwise, upon my return, we shall figure out how to work out something in regard to the four *scudi* paid annually which we are supposed to get; we will discuss this better in person. Let everything be kept silent and with reserve. In the meantime, prepare for me in due form all of Father Eugenio's papers so that I can examine them

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<sup>26</sup> On July 25, 1835, St. Gaspar puts his signature to the Congressus of visitation in Albano.

<sup>27</sup> This letter, as noted from the postal markings, was sent from Albano. But the markings of its arrival are not legible, nor is the year. However, from the reference to the recent death of Father Eugenio Pechi (cfr. also the letter (n. 2915) of June 27, 1835 to Fr. Nicola Crescenzi) it seems doubtless that it belongs to 1835. This date is confirmed from the fact that Fr. Mattia Cardillo in 1835 was in residence in Rimini (cfr. the letters (n. 2847, 2869, 2879, 2918, 2969 and 2978) to this person, dated February 3rd to September 21st, 1835) whereas before February he was in Pievetorina and after September, he will be in Pennabilli. As is mentioned in the text, they are near to the month of August. The letter left from Albano where St. Gaspar was located at the end of the month of July. Cfr. likewise what is mentioned here with respect to Fr. Ottaviani's receipt as well as what will be mentioned again in the letter to this same person, dated August 2, 1835. Hence we assign its date as: the end of July, 1835.

<sup>28</sup> Bartolomeo Panzini.

<sup>29</sup> Father Eugenio Pechi, St. Gaspar's uncle.

and put everything in order. I make mention of this so that you can begin to look after it; later we will come to making decisions. Wanting to sell the house will be up to the decision of Raseri. In no way at all will I be involved in this; it would be possible to try to get a pro gratia in order not to have to spend money for decrees. Likewise, an estimate might be made with respect to the shop and see whether it can be valued as an investment. As far as I am concerned, I would like to see things handled with regularity in both respects. In the meantime, I come to no conclusion. We shall see whether we will be able to save the house. I would be pleased with that. Prayers.

I am in need of my St. Xavier which Spalladoro should have now completed. If it has dried, get it and write and let me know. If it is not ready, tell him to hurry things since I need it. It seems to me that total payment has already been made. You should likewise have included this in the records.

The Navarra work sent from Ancona costs 4,80 *scudi* for the two copies. 2.40 *scudi* are to be charged to my account, and you are to note this on the sheet of reminders. Tell Muznai, or have either Father Filippo<sup>30</sup> or Cencio<sup>31</sup> tell him that the other 2.40 *scudi* are his responsibility covering the expenses incurred for his copy, including the delivery charges. Put down where you set those 2,40 *scudi*.

Since Ottaviani is borrowing another 30 *bajocchi* from me, you will send Giovanni<sup>32</sup> to Agostino Campodonico, a Santaro near S.Andrea della Valle; have him consign a total of 5,10 *scudi* to him and get a receipt from him which you will then forward to me.

Chiodi writes for a listing of books and devotional materials. Let me know, at least, the approximate cost, and that Chiodi is feeling even better than I. As for the selection of the books, those of rougher binding and never those with the finer binding. Write to him, then, and find out to whom they are to be consigned, using Giovanni's help. Let us be in agreement.

A certain Armenian by the name of Fr. Stefano, who resides in S. Andrea delle Fratte, would like to have some devotional material of the Divine Blood. So send him a copy of the Month written by Father Amici, seven chaplets and some other similar printed materials; just a few will do. With regard to setting the faculty for enrolling, inform him that he should contact Monsignor Muccioli.

De Victoriis is aching to get the crucifixes which, as yet, he has not received. In mailing the letter, remind Canon Petruccioli of this and once again thank him for the Life of Vitelli. It seems to me that those crucifixes were to have been addressed to Fuligno.

Send to Father Biagio Valentini in Sonnino [...] <sup>33</sup> in the name of Father Mattia Cardillo,

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<sup>30</sup> Fr. Filippo Gonnelli.

<sup>31</sup> Vincenzo Severini.

<sup>32</sup> Giovanni Minicucci.

<sup>33</sup> The sheet is torn here and a word is not legible.

so that Father Biagio can then deliver this to Canon Lampreda in Sonnino, getting a receipt which will then be enclosed to Rimini for Father Mattia. You find a way for doing this.

For other things, later. I am etc.

Your affectionate uncle

2932

July 28, 1835

Student Fr. Francesco Verili

Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco<sup>34</sup>

I understand the details of the situation. I note that the supply of sugar has been exhausted too rapidly; perhaps I am mistaken.

Maintain everything in accordance with our policies. *Esto vigilans*,<sup>35</sup> working along with Father Biagio to whom I send my greetings as well as to the others etc.

Through the mail service. I shall be writing more, and at ease, about a few other things. I have just arrived and am tired; but I still thirst for the welfare of our Institute etc.

Send Emidio here to Frosinone with a burro for the night of August 5th. On the 6th he will remain here. On the 7th he will return. Send a precise listing of the things needed and two halfbarrels for the oil.

Prepare a place to store it, so that the oil will not be lacking. The Institute needs promptness. See that the halfbarrels are in good shape and well examined. Have the washerwoman contact Father Biagio with regard to the project which he feels is to be proposed.

I intend to write of the other things upon the return of Emidio.

When Verusio comes, see that he draws up the rules, during free time, along with Palombi etc. Inform Father Biagio who understands etc. Separate recreation etc. I am etc.

Your humble servant

*G. C. d. B.*

M. Ap.

I will get your month's allowance for August. I am sending ten *scudi* for the economy; a

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<sup>34</sup> This letter does not have a date. An annotation on the second page says: "Frosinone. August 1835. Vallecorsa". It is partly correct. The text says clearly that the letter was written from Frosinone where St. Gaspar was at the end of July of 1835 and where he signed the congressus of visitation in the month of August 1835. The year is certainly 1835 when the Boarding School in Sonnino was opened. The month is the end of July or the beginning of August as the letter itself makes perfectly clear. In the register of the "Income for the economy of Sonnino from the 29th day of June, 1835", written in the handwriting of Verili, to the 28th day of July, 1835, there is entered: "From Can. Del Bufalo, ten *scudi*", just as is referred to here in this letter. So we assign this same day as the date for this letter.

<sup>35</sup> Be vigilant.

receipt. Be attentive, be vigilant etc.

2933

July 23, 1835  
Fr. Nicola Crescenzi  
Veroli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Canon

Please do me the favor of delivering safely the small packet which I am sending to Mrs. Francesca Carrara.

In reference to the diocesan priests who are in Castel Sant'Angelo, it seems to me that I have already written to you, namely, that they recommended themselves to you, etc.. They were lacking the diocesan calendar. I send my greetings and my thanks to Perciballi. May the pious organizations be our delight; and may you increase, through them, your merits for heaven. Be insistent about the Mission House. I kiss your hands, and, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Frosinone, July 23, 1835

2934

July 30, 1835  
Fr. Luisi Ambrosini  
Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

In reply to your most appreciated letter, I must, in all truth, tell you that I have no way at all of getting a patrimonial title for you, nor would I know what to suggest to you in procuring one. It might be a good idea to formulate one in the family; not being successful in that, one might honestly approach the most reverend bishop for some position, but one free of the requirement of personality or residence; anyone who assumes the career in the Missions must not have bonds. You understand what I mean. Sometimes, leading families have legacies that can be put on one's account; so, you might look into this and see whether there are any of these available in your locality. Along this line, God will give you special illumination.

I understand what you say to me in regard to the room and board and that is all very good. Recommend me to God. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Rome, for forwarding, July 30 1835<sup>36</sup>

2935

July 31, 1835

Student Fr. Francesco Verili  
Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco

I have removed the receipt of 85,64 *scudi*, substituting another of 95,64 *scudi*. Everything is fine with regard to all the receipts up to now.

I urge vigilance etc. since the ship is moving along well and each one is fulfilling his duty. I rely on everyone and indeed on your activities.

Evaluate the four loads of wood from Martini whom you will contact for the price and then send me a receipt. Put that in the register for income and outgo in accordance with our rule and make a note, under Martini's name, of what he has given, considered *pro justitia*,<sup>37</sup> so that in case he were to exempt the Institute for that wood, we would send him our thanks.

It is all right that you paid the *scudo* to the carriage driver for what Merlini sent of the luggage of Palombi and Minotti. That too is to be recorded.

All of the keys, without exception, are to be kept by you. At night and in the period of rest after the noon meal, the President should have only the keys to the outside entrance door and the one for the church. All the others, you. Have you understood? Have you understood?

Remind me of whatever I may have forgotten.

With Father Biagio,<sup>38</sup> work out the following:

1. Until the building process is completed, you should keep together in the Boarding School, quite voluntarily, the Retreatants and the others of the Community. The reason for this is that the Retreatants will be there only *ad tempus*,<sup>39</sup> while our people permanently; this procedure is provisional, I repeat, only until the building process is completed.

2. Because of that deliberation, immediately place a slight pavement for the rooms in the corridor as a warning, wherever needed, having first made your inspection or that of an experienced artisan. That corridor area will be considered the Mission House along with the adjoining rooms near the entrance. These will also be used for the visit of the bishop as well as for real and very special places of hospitality. In that corridor area, assign the Brothers and Verusio.

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<sup>36</sup> The postal markings show it departed from: Frosinone.

<sup>37</sup> For justice.

<sup>38</sup> Fr. Biagio Valentini.

<sup>39</sup> At the time.

3. Only the Boarding Students, the President and Vice President will stay in the Boarding School area, in the broader section, and the rooms that are now occupied by the Brothers will be used for Retreatants. They are to be supplied, little by little, with the customary printed materials and with whatever else is needed. Palombi is to take on, along with his position as VicePresident, (this is something that is not specified in the notification) the office of Director of Retreats.

4. As a result of this, Verusio, who is presently occupying the room for Bartolomeo,<sup>40</sup> should be moved to one of the better rooms in the corridor area and his name should be posted as usual on the door. You select the best room for him. I referred to Bartolomeo's things so that we would not be missing them; keep chairs and tables as well as a bed for Bartolomeo, since they are not to be overlooked in the House. We will think about other things later. In detail, keep me informed about this. I hope that I have made myself clear. Indicate to me how you have distributed the rooms.

5. Inform Palombi that he is to maintain the observance along with Verusio; and, whenever Father Biagio would like to be with Verusio during recreation time, then the VicePresident should stay with the Boarding Students. Read all of this along with Father Biagio.

6. As long as you are in the Boarding School, no one is to go out for a walk without a Missionary.

7. As the proeconomist, I authorize you to go out, whenever necessary to Sonnino, with Emidio, during your free and adapted time, *et de licentia*.<sup>41</sup> When you are unable to go out, for example, there is the Missionary President or VicePresident.

8. I would like to set up a separate library for the Missionaries, removing a shelf from the present library, presuming that the other shelves will be sufficient. The index then will be copied on two pages. Let me know whether the remaining shelves will be adequate. As for the Boarding School, the library will remain as is; for the Missionaries, it will be where I have set up the archives, that is to say, above the entrance. At night, the window is to be securely closed. With Father Biagio getting his books together, it can be divided. Leave whatever is required for the Boarding School, and the rest for the Missionaries' library. I hope that I have made myself clear. Any book that may be needed, you should write to me. I am speaking in behalf of precise observance. As a result of this: separate recreation. For the Missionaries, just beyond where the walkway is, or, in the reception room; for the Boarding Students, in the corridor area of the Boarding School, or the Boarding School's library. Using the walkways, there is a method of keeping people separated and, even with the arrival of Retreatants, separate recreation is manageable.

In the meantime, adhere to the rules, making concessions of things provisionally. My desk should be put in the Missionaries' library together with the chairs. For the timebeing, obtain

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<sup>40</sup> Bartolomeo Panzini.

<sup>41</sup> About license.

those tomes that are needed for the observance and keep them on the desk that I spoke of, until the libraries are put in complete order. Anyone needing another studyroom during free time, should *pro nunc*<sup>42</sup> go to the library. Wherever I have not made myself clear, please ask. When the bishop comes, if necessary, a bed could be set up in the Missionaries' library, especially if it is a matter of a short visit or even a few days. Otherwise, there are other vacant rooms. The dresser that is in my room can be used as the archives of the Boarding School and can be kept in the closet in the church.

This is all that I have to say. I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

July 31, 1835

I do not doubt that you will remind me of things during the visitation. In my room, see that the bed is fixed and also have a crucifix there. That is all, for now.

2936

August 2, 1835

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest Niece

Let me know whether I blessed in Rome the stole that came here to Frosinone.

Unless I am mistaken, Father Filippo<sup>43</sup> had a memorandum for Canon Moretti. I would be pleased to have the results. It dealt with Vallecorsa. Ask him about it.

Are there any Chaplets to be strung?

Enclose, postfree, the receipt to Canon Father Giuseppe Ottaviani, "Ancona"; a halfsheet will be adequate.

I am awaiting the notification concerning the candleholders sent and returned from Sonnino.

Buy two silverplated reliquaries and let me know the cost. See that you send them then to Canon Muti. In one of them. St. Francis Xavier and St. Camillus de Lellis; in the other, St. Xavier and St. Anthony of Padua. Each reliquary should have two sections. Let me know the cost for the reliquaries and, in time, I will let you know where and to whom to send them. It will be necessary to provide some medals, chaplets of cocoa beans and small crucifixes; the total cost for all of these is not to surpass the value of 1,50 scudi; all of this is an order from Father Pietro

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<sup>42</sup> For now.

<sup>43</sup> Father Filippo Gonnelli.

Buffoni. Cencio<sup>44</sup> will take care of having all of this devotional material blessed by the Holy Father. Then, the package is to be addressed to Giovanni Buffoni in "Sant'Agata Feltria". For forwarding, it will be necessary to add: to de Victoriis. Have that package ready to be delivered by one of our Missionaries who, within a short time, will be leaving for Romagna.

Already there, or soon to arrive, is the lunette for the ostensorium from Sermoneta. Tell Fratini that he should do what he can to fix it well, as I hope he will. Otherwise, have a new one made, sending both the old and new one to Sermoneta, in case the old one is not repairable. Check with him. Send the information of the cost both to Gentili and to me. See that the new one is blessed, just as in the consecration of a chalice, and keep me advised of everything. Otherwise, send the old lunette to Gentili in Sermoneta, unless, out of necessity, a new one is to be made; keep Gentili informed of everything.

As for other things, in an upcoming ordinary maildelivery. I am

Your affectionate uncle

Frosinone, August 2, 1835

Bartolomeo<sup>45</sup> says that you are sending Giovanni<sup>46</sup> to the inn in Subiaco, that is, where the people of Subiaco go. You will find a box which you are to preserve in a place where ants do not get to. Perhaps the ants manage to get onto the closet. I do not know. In it, you will find *preciutti* which you are to preserve. If the House should need one in the meantime, take one; but, weigh it and make a note of it. Giovanni is to tell the coachman that he should settle things with Bartolomeo. If he wishes to have money, in getting the bill from the customs office, he should not demand more than 1.50 *scudi* at the most. But, as I say, let him wait for Bartolomeo.

The holywater font from our uncle, the monk, should be kept in the cupboard for the time being, until I check it upon my return.

Pray for me; I am etc.

2937

August 2, 1835

Cardinal Carlo Odescalchi

Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>47</sup>

Your Eminence

Since a few days ago, the Retreat in the Monastery of the Holy Family has been

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<sup>44</sup> Vincenzo Severini

<sup>45</sup> Bartolomeo Panzini.

<sup>46</sup> Giovanni Minicucci.

<sup>47</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

completed and with true satisfaction to my spirit. After fulfilling other tasks of the ministry, upon my return to Rome, I shall try to arrange, with the goodness of your Eminence, a brief audience with you in respect to the Monastery and any other program that relates to the glory of God. Meanwhile, in general, I can say to you that I noticed a particular fervor in those religious. Please recommend me to God. With the fullness of esteem, respect and veneration, while kissing the sacred purple, I remain always

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Frosinone, August 2, 1835

2938

August 2, 1835

Carlo Capo

Vallecorsa

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Carlo

I have not failed to send your memorandum to Rome; however, I have received the response that the settlement of the testament is the duty of the diocesan bishop, in view of the fact that the testament may not be altogether clear. This is all that I have to tell you on the matter. Fully obliged to you, with esteem and gratitude, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 2, 1835

2939

August 4, 1835

Msgr. Antonio Begni

Bishop of Montefeltro

Pennabilli

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>48</sup>

Venerable Monsignor

Here I am sending a response to your most appreciated letter. With respect to the Retreat and Extraordinary Visit in S. Marino, I have already advised Father Pietro do Victoriis, one of our Missionaries, to take care of that good work. He will be writing to you directly as well as to the Mother Abbess with regard to the exact day after the feast of the Assumption.

Monte Cerignone has been assigned to Liparelli. Right now, as I have written to him, he

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<sup>48</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

is unable to work out with your most illustrious and reverend lordship another time, which I believe will not be changed. As far as I can recall, Liparelli has never been to Monte Cerignone before. Father Gennaro Gamboa, to whom I have written, will be going to S. Agata Feltria at the beginning of September; and this will have a connection with the ministry to the nuns.

Concerning Advent in the Cathedral there, willingly will send Father Gennaro Gamboa, just as you wish; but, in regard to Liparelli, I find that I am stymied by previous appointments. I shall see what I can work out. In respect to Macerata, I do not have on hand here the copy of the document covering the Advent appointment. Nevertheless, I shall adhere blindly to whatever you direct. Concerning the appointments for Advent, following the practice of other communes, three individuals are proposed and the commune makes its selection. I am speaking only about Advent. Otherwise, confusions might well follow. In the wisdom of your thoughts, you are aware of this. Let the commune first investigate who is free and then make the appointment. Later it can see to rectifying any move thereafter. If I can manage to do so, I shall try to keep Liparelli free; in any case, the people of the commune will have no difficulty in making a choice of another of our Missionaries. I repeat, *pro hac vice*.<sup>49</sup> As far as I will be able, I shall try to send Liparelli. I shall take care of the favor that you desire concerning the office and Mass of the Divine Blood. Send to "Rome" your letters for me. In regard to the annuity of Fabriano, I believe that our Institute is obliged to do nothing else. Pray a lot for me, and with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Frosinone, August 4, 1835  
August 5, 1835

2940

August 5, 1835  
Fr. Giuseppe Verusio  
Sermoneta

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Giuseppe

Here is your letter which reached me just as soon as you left. From it, one notices your mistaken ideas. What is of importance is that in our Institute we never raise our hands against anyone. How could you strike the sacristan? Has this been your training? Rightly were you admonished and I was regretful that I was not informed. Is this your way of respecting the motto of our Institute? Examine yourself, humble yourself, correct yourself. Realize that it is from you and not from me or the Institute that such inconsistencies arise. I shall forget everything. Begin now conducting yourself as I hope you will do. I repeat, we will speak no further about this.

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<sup>49</sup> For this office.

Do not allow yourself to be overcome by a temptation to leave us, as you experienced in Sonnino, for all of us are little burros in service to the Institute and none of us is in control of it. However, if, ultimately, our Institute does not provide you, in a prudent way, with a proper ecclesiastical training, then you might leave. Again, I repeat, raise your hand toward no one ... Recommend yourself to God. Out of a sense of duty, I felt that I had to write to you in this manner. I am not tearing down the suggestions that you made in your letter, which I am sending back to you, for in person I pointed out enough to you. Send me the notification concerning the Masses as soon as you have completed saying them. Wishing you every good thing, I am, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House In Frosinone. August 5, 1836

P. S. Do not give in to melancholy.

2941

August 5, 1835

Ponziano Morichetti

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Ponziano

Late, but always in plenty of time, I give you my thanks for the many kindnesses that you have shown and which you continually show, despite the fact that I do not merit them. May the Lord grant you ample reward. In saying this, I am saying all that can be said.

I hope that you are maintaining yourself in good health. Remember to pray for me and consider me to be available to you for any need that may arise. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in Frosinone, August 5, 1835

2942

August 6, 1835

Fr. Nicola Crescenzi

Veroli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Canon

The affair of the Chapter in Frosinone is quite an interesting story. At the time when Merlini was here to preach the Lenten series, there was a desire expressed by one or the other

Capitular for an exchange. With the termination of Lent, the aforementioned Merlini sent me the petition and things were put underway in behalf of that request, while presuming the full contentment of those Canons. Now, the results are for exclusion. So do not give any further thought to it under any circumstance. Ultimately, for the Institute, it is all quite the same. In my opinion, there is no need to give any response to the Council.

Thank the most reverend bishop for his interest, a new reason for us to be grateful. What I need is to have the papers dealing with the Marra legacy which, as Father Biagio assures me, were sent to you. They are probably in the Chancery, either with the Vicar General or in the bishop's files. In case they happen to be misplaced, please let that be known in order that, in some way, we can supply. With complete obligation to you, asking you for your prayers and recommending to your particular zeal both the pious organizations as well as the matter of a foundation there, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Frosinone, August 6, 1835

P. S. I would appreciate a line or so indicating that you have received this letter.

2943

August 7, 1835

Fr. Vitale Corbucci

Fossombrone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Father Vitale

The remembrance of you is indelibly fixed in my soul, always assured of your continuous prayer for me which is something that I absolutely desire. I am inconveniencing you with this letter of mine to find out just what it would cost for only six coverlets, the usual kind of three *teli*, I would say, since, if possible, I would like to make this purchase for our Institute. After I get your most appreciated response, I shall make the decision.

Give my very best regards to the most reverend bishop.<sup>50</sup>

I kiss your hands, and with total esteem and respect, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Rome (for forwarding), August 7, 1835

2944

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<sup>50</sup> Msgr. Luigi Ugolini.

August 8, 1835  
Fr. Francesco Paradisi  
Montalto

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

I have regularly sent answers to your letters. Right now, I add that you are acting correctly in depending on Father Giovannelli. The only thing that remains is for you to let me know when you wish to come, indicating the date of your arrival, so that preparations can be made in Giano. As for external ministry, you need have no worry; nor about a change of Houses. It will be required only that you adjust yourself to our internal regulations from which, except for physical impossibility, no dispensation is given. You can see the reasonableness of this. So, the final decision is up to you. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 8, 1835

P. S. For you to have a manservant who will sleep near you is not something within our usage, except in times of grave sickness. However, there are always companions nearby.

2945

August 8, 1835  
Fr. Orazio Bracaglia  
Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

Either Father de Victoriis or Father Mattia Cardillo has arrived there already for the visitation which is to begin at the time that I shall indicate as soon as I learn that he has gotten there. But, there is still time for an alternative since I have allowed de Victoriis to make the determination. Now, as things move on, the most reverend bishop has written that after the Assumption, one of our Missionaries is to go to the nuns in S. Marino. If de Victoriis has arrived, tell him that he is to go there just as I wrote to him in Rimini in one of my letters. While he is in S. Marino, we shall continue to make arrangements for Pennabilli. You stay on there as an apostle. I mentioned to de Victoriis that he might take Coppola along as his Brother. So, if de Victoriis is in Pennabilli, he should take care of the appointment of Coppola, or, he can select one of the two Brothers there, explaining the procedures to them, and leaving Coppola to remain in Rimini.

De Victoriis is to write to the nuns in reference to the coach transportation as well as for faculties from the most reverend bishop. However, if de Victoriis is not there but in Rimini, things will still go along well since I have also sent a letter of mine there, and nothing more is needed than to inform him. In this second assumption, there is only one thing that I would ask of

you, as a favor, and it is (please tell de Victoriis) that whatever the nuns in S. Marino offer should go directly to Rimini's account. You possibly could supply there as the economist and the prefect of the church during the absence of de Victoriis. Also, tell de Victoriis that he should make Silvestri, who is in Rimini, the Vicesuperior.

Father Mattia is to remain in Pennabilli and should, for a few days, handle the different tasks in some small church which does not offer as much work as the church there. As soon as de Victoriis gets back to Rimini, you will return to Pennabilli. I would say that you could manage this with the same mounts that return to S. Marino from Pennabilli. At that time, the visitation can begin. This will not alter the systematization of our efforts, now that the heatwave is over. In the meantime, Father Mattia can continue to give catechetical instructions where you have left and if he is unable to take care of the visiting sermon, he should have a procession with the crucifix and that will be enough. There is question here of two Sundays that occur during the 15 days of de Victoriis' stay in S. Marino. I am deeply grateful to you for your charity in assisting me in the government of our Society as well as your encouragement to all to do good works etc. I am and will constantly be,

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. A.

House in Frosinone, August 9, 1835

Your father is in good health; he, along with all of the family, send you greetings. They would be delighted to have a letter or so from you. They inform me that you now have another newborn nephew.

2946

August 9 1835

Fr. Tomasso Meloni

Camerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Tomasso

I have sent your most esteemed letter dealing with the affair of the bridge to the Most Rev. Archbishop. I praise them for their conduct, which they must maintain without fail.

I have written to the Archbishop that he should remove the retreatant, and I have respectfully informed him of all that was necessary to tell him of the case. I hope that he will agree in principle.

I am awaiting your fulfillment of the Masses: then, we shall settle our accounts. With esteem and respect, I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Frosinone, August 9, 1835

2947

August 11, 1835  
Fr. Raffaele Rosati  
Lenola

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Raffaele

I have already written to Rome for the aggregator's certifications for the priest that you named in your most esteemed letter. Continue to propagate this most interesting devotion, the mystical font of every blessing. As soon as I have the aforementioned document, you will have it immediately. Recommend me to God. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 11, 1835

2948

August 12, 1835  
Fr. Tomasso Meloni  
Cammerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Fr. Tomasso

Enclosed is a summary of the accounts concerning the Masses, safeguarding any mistake.

For ten Masses already said by you, you are to have 50 *baj.*, already having on account one *Sc.* for the Masses sent to S. Lorenzo, safeguarding error. For the 20 Masses, recently celebrated, you are to get three *Sc.* The postal expenses have been subtracted, and you shall receive the remainder by mail. Be advised of this.

Thanks, a thousand thanks for your kindness in making the trip to Cammerino. May God bless you. I hope that this matter will ultimately end up to the advantage of the Church.

You shall learn from the Archbishop how very true it is that the Secretary of State has called this whole matter before himself, and has requested a copy of all the moves made by me: this, the fruit of your zeal.

I shall never accept NN. concerning whom you forewarn me, and I shall adhere to your advice.

I am sending you ten Masses to be celebrated immediately, and return the listing to me. I am sending the offerings anticipatedly, which I am joining to the 3.50 *Sc.*; thus, the sumtotal of the offerings comes to five *Sc.* Let me know if this is all right.

Recommend me to God, and with esteem, consider me as

Your humble servant  
*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 Mis. Ap.  
 House at Frosinone, August 12, 1835

2949

August 12, 1835  
 Fr. Nicola Crescenzi  
 Veroli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Canon

Father Giovanni Merlini would like to know whether the sister of our student Gargari<sup>51</sup> who is 22 years old (I am speaking here of the sister) would be fit to become a *Maestra Pia*. Perhaps, he might have a way for placing her. You could do a favor by writing to Father Giovanni in S. Paolo in Albano. On that occasion you could include the dimissorial for the ordination to the priesthood of the aforementioned Gargari, concerning whom I have already spoken in Rome to our most reverend bishop. Thus, in time he can take the exams and everything can be arranged methodically. See that the dimissorial says that should the bishop of Albano be impeded, then *ad quemcumque etc.*<sup>52</sup>

If you have lost all hope of finding the Marra papers, please let me know so that I can try to figure out how to supply. If the legacy is registered in the Chancery, all we would need is a copy of it for our archives. Please pardon the repeated inconveniences that I keep giving you. While asking you for your prayers, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your most humble, devoted

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 12<sup>53</sup>

Give my greetings to Father Bucciarelli who, I hope, is continuing the *Congregazione dei Chierici*. In reference to the cases which were supposed to be resolved, only with respect to gathering here in this Mission House, the clergy came one or the other time and then no more. When the occasion offers itself, I shall give a bit of encouragement to the execution of the decrees. Our Mission House is ready to do good work and, as long of the health of our men holds up, each will take his turn for the Missions, alternating with each other. So, our workers will not be lacking.

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<sup>51</sup> Francesco Gargari.

<sup>52</sup> To anyone, etc..

<sup>53</sup> The year is 1835 (cfr. the letter to this same person, dated August 6, 1835).

Furthermore, it must be pointed out that should it please them not to have the moral cases handled by us, something that I feel would not be so, then let them hold them elsewhere and perhaps someone else can handle them. Generally speaking, nowadays, there is a most urgent necessity for training among the clergy. Let this be *in communicacione Spiritus*.<sup>54</sup> We will not fail to have our own usual conferences. For Canon Gulielmi I have sent the petition to Rome where the project will be worked out in greater detail. I shall be awaiting the results. Difficulties will arise, so etc.

2950

August 13, 1835  
 Msgr. Antonio Santelli  
 Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>55</sup>

Venerable Monsignor

I am going about clearing up matters, at least the more urgent ones, so that I can be in Rome around the Nativity of most holy Mary. In the meantime, I am praying and having others pray that the Lord will accompany you in your efforts with a most abundant supply of divine blessings: "*Repleat in bonis desiderium tuum*".<sup>56</sup> You will see to establishing the bases well and you will be able, if you so wish, to follow the method which was used with the *Congregazione dei Filippini* in Pennabilli of Monte Feltro, which, by aggregating themselves to our Institute by a rescript, petitioned of and sent out by the present Pope, has wished for the preservation of the privileges and indulgences of this, shall I say, mystical coupling. And, it has obtained it.

I was able to work out this aggregation since our Institute embraces the objectives that the Filippini Fathers have, and so it is only an extending and diffusing of them in the broadest production. It is quite true that the monks have certain prescriptions that make them different, and there are local indulgences, the exemption from every parochial right, as is the case with other foundations, and since we are not a private family but an Institute, along with so many other considerations, all this proves to be helpful for making such a foundation. If God should wish to have us in some other place, he will put obstacles in the way of the present negotiations. We will do everything by doing the will of God.

We are drawing near to great things. Prayers, trust in the merits of the Divine Blood. With regard to a hospice for the poor, I would like to know that you have approved a program and that you are offering a bit of prayer for it. Safeguarding respect for everyone and allowing whoever acts to do so, I would suggest to his Eminence, the most reverend Odescalchi: "Your Eminence,

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<sup>54</sup> In the communication of the spirit.

<sup>55</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

<sup>56</sup> May he fill your desire with good things.

appoint a visitor to whom one can have recourse in doubtful cases, who will have faculties in another direction; have visitation of the church once a year, checking its sacred furnishings, its surroundings, the obligations of Masses, the attention to the more frequent poor in the hospice. Visitation of the funds, the administration, the accounts, affixing those decrees that would formerly be communicated to your most reverend Eminence, and then, if necessary, they would be put into effect. I am told that the care for the infected has been omitted. Perhaps there is a reason for this, but, right now I do not know what it is. A particular affection for this apostolic work, begun by De Rossi, compels me to write in this fashion".

The office of visitor will occupy for a short time whomever God may wish, but, at the same time, he will be bringing about a great work. May this procedure not lessen anyone's trust. However, for certain establishments, this practice is called for; you can understand this. A befitting discussion which might be had with Monk Teo would be totally gainful.

Prove yourself, and, with esteem, respect and gratitude, while asking you for your prayers, most venerable Monsignor I declare once again that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. A.

Frosinone, August 13, 1835

P. S. The monks will be giving a bit of a donation to the church. Let us try to add some means of our own.