

## St. Gaspar's Letters

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2951

August 16, 1835  
 Ignazio Lesinelli  
 Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Ignazio

Always full of obligation to you, I have no doubt that you, with your customary zeal, will continue to be of assistance in the proper handling of the affairs dealing with the Cristaldi inheritance. With the desire to see you again within a short time, I remain with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 16, 1835

2952

August 18, 1835  
 The President of the Association  
 of St. Francis Xavier  
 Vallecorsa

On the 18th day of August 1835. Even though the Institute is unable to assume particular obligations, in keeping with the practice of our other Mission and Retreat Houses, still, because of the special circumstances expressed above,<sup>1</sup> the Economist of the House, who collects the income of offerings, will see to the celebration of the Mass which the members seek to have, surrendering the synodal offering for the Mass to the one who celebrates it. It is wellunderstood that the member who is to make the collection, will be laudably selected, for that is what is expected in this present arrangement, which will be carried out under the conditions explained by the members.

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<sup>1</sup> This is the response of St. Gaspar to the following petition made by the President of the association of St. Francis Xavier in Vallecorsa: "The present President of the association of the Brethren of St. Xavier in Vallecorsa explains that, since they are in the process of taking up a collection of alms for the building of the Mission House, he hereby petitions your most illustrious and reverend sir, to have a Mass applied upon the death of each member, just as has been done up to the present time. That etc."

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*  
 Miss. Ap. and General Director of the Institute  
*Camillo Rossi*  
 Miss. Visitator

2953

August 19, 1835  
 Mother Teresa Cherubina  
 Monastery of Maria SS. del Buon Consiglio  
 Cori

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Mother Abbess

Let us give thanks to God for the holy Mission, and I have already sent a reply to Curate Menari who has written to me with such zeal.

I have heard about the nun, and I extend my sincere sympathy to the entire community and to you. Let us adore the divine dispositions; and, let us pray.

With the coming of the Missions, you are to be concerned about getting, for the one there in the Monastery, every faculty which is needed with respect to your desires as well as for whatever good work you would like to have.

When necessary, send your letters to me, addressing them to "Rome".

With esteem, respect and gratitude, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 19, 1835

2954

August 21, 1835  
 Fr. Tomasso Meloni  
 Camerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Tomasso

I give you my most sincere thanks for the job you did in defending our rights. *Dominus retribuet pro me in benedictionibus dulcedinis.*<sup>2</sup>

Also, you acted correctly in writing to the Most Rev. Archbishop.

I do not understand how you can write this to me: "This House cannot make progress in this way". If you are talking about economical matters, I say that the monthly and Lenten

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<sup>2</sup> The Lord will repay on my behalf in sweet blessings.

collections, etc., the products, the begging tours, the foodstuffs that are to be sold, etc., ought to provide at least an adequate basis. It means that we shall no longer send other Probandi. Three Missionaries and four Brothers cannot be changed. The foodstuffs abound there. Let us put our trust, then, in the providence of God.

Do not cease keeping in touch with the Most Rev. Delegate with letters of clarification concerning that situation, should it be necessary.

As long as the Secretariat of State should order us to get permission from the Archbishop, he will not be able to give it and you should inform him beforehand either by speaking to him, if he has returned, or writing to him.

I have learned about the little clash with Fr. Santarelli. What you said comes to me as something new. But, are you not a Missionary like all the rest? Everything should be handled through the Congressus. You are obliged in conscience, as an individual member, to state your opinion. If this does not work things out, let them await any resolution of it, sending me information *hinc inde*.<sup>3</sup> I hope that I have made myself clear. From this, you can deduce what my opinion is regarding the other matters.

What need can there be for having the horse come in by way of the main entrance? Furthermore, can they not dump all the things that you mentioned in detail to me elsewhere, both for the cleanliness of the place as well as for its better maintenance?

So, hold a Congressus and inform the President.

In doing what you must do, should you encounter sufferings, say: "*Patior sed non confundor*".<sup>4</sup> Let your behavior always be in keeping with De Sales, for that is something that will not prevent one from standing up for what is right. "*Omnia vestra in charitate fiant*."<sup>5</sup>

Pray for me who am with esteem

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Frosinone, August 21, 1835

P. S. Letters to: "*Rome*".

2955

August 21, 1835

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

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<sup>3</sup> From here and there.

<sup>4</sup> I am suffering but I am not overcome.

<sup>5</sup> Let everything you do be done in love.

Dear Father Orazio

Your offering to the sum of 5,25 *scudi* has been sent on to your father who sends you his greetings. Let me know whether this account is correct.

Everything is all set for the Mission in Bascio, and after that, Balza. De Victoriis has been instructed. With regard to the faculties of the Penitentiary, it will be necessary to allow a bit more time to elapse; for the time being, get them from the bishop, at least *ad annum*,<sup>6</sup> and get a copy of them. I repeat, for the time being, let it be so. It is too early to ask for them.

I am sending you 20 Masses which are to be offered as soon as possible. I shall be awaiting your notification. It is necessary that the pious legacies of that church and House be exactly carried out, inviting if necessary another ecclesiastic, and, not having the offering on hand, which might be expected, perhaps the bishop might have the faculty of celebrating them himself in his own chapel as a benefit to our Institute. Or, you might speak to him or have Liparelli write to him about it. You handle this. As a precaution, with reference to the Missions mentioned before, send the enclosed to De Victoriis.

I think of you constantly. *Adhuc autem modicum*.<sup>7</sup> It is necessary to do things gradually.

In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 21<sup>8</sup>

Send your letters to "Rome". With a couple of lines, tell De Victoriis that if he does not have available a helper for the Mission in Bascio, he should get one *in loco*.<sup>9</sup> Write this to him *ad cautelam*.<sup>10</sup> However, I am hopeful that he will be able to get him in Rimini.<sup>11</sup>

2956

August 21, 1835

Student Fr. Francesco Verili  
Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

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<sup>6</sup> Within a year.

<sup>7</sup> However, for now a little bit.

<sup>8</sup> The year is 1835 as is evident from the reference to the Mission in Bascio.

<sup>9</sup> In the place [locally].

<sup>10</sup> As a precaution.

<sup>11</sup> This paragraph is on the fourth page, near the address.

Most esteemed Father Francesco<sup>12</sup>

I have learned about the oil and I am, indeed, in the process of making provisions for Frosinone.

The receipt is in proper order; now, in regard to the ten *scudi* that I sent, when will you send me the receipt? I sent that sum of money not too long ago from Frosinone. I am lacking that receipt. Look into it.

I am giving to Bartolomeo<sup>13</sup> the notification that you desire. In the meanwhile, whatever is possible will be done.

You are doing right having bed linens made with the thread.

With regard to refilling the straw mattresses, which I hope are sufficiently wide and long, I know nothing about the straw. Would it, perhaps, be possible to get *gratis* some corn foliage, or take up a collection, especially for this year? This would be for greater cleanliness and also because we do not have any more mattresses as of now.

I have heard about Verusio's departure, indeed with some surprise, and (keeping this between us), I have seen him here extremely dejected; and (speaking just between us) I am to decide whether he is stable or whether obsessed, and as a consequence, to determine whether his actions were not capable of being considered done seriously. He has declined any and every piece of advice and anything else that I thought might be needed as I examined the situation. So, have Father Biagio<sup>14</sup> write to me concerning this for he is much more mature and experienced in such matters. We will never be without crosses to bear. Here for you are my heartfelt sentiments on the matter. When he got here, I suggested that he go to Benevento, but I got nowhere with that. I sent him to Sermoneta and I do not know whether he ever got there or if he did, whether he will remain there. Prayers.

I am returning one of his packages that, with greater ease, you can find a way of getting to him from Piperno. Try to find out whether he is staying or whether he is leaving, and then write to me of the damages. Write either to Sermoneta or to Benevento, occupying yourself at least with whether he celebrates Mass, if they have some that are to be said *ubique*<sup>15</sup> (which they

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<sup>12</sup> This letter does not have a date. But one is presumed quite easily from many of the items mentioned in the letter itself, such as, for example, the reference to the approaching ordination to the priesthood of Verili, which took place in Veroli in September of 1835. But there are a couple of particular items that allow a more precise determination of the letter's date: the 45 *baiocchi* for the pair of stockings purchased for Brother Giovanni Fontana of Veroli and the 80 *baiocchi* for the vinegar. The very precise Proeconomist Verili, on the 21st of August, 1835, enters under the title of "Outgoing Expenses" of Sonnino, the following words: "a pair of stockings for Brother Fontana, 45 *baiocchi*; a barrel of vinegar, 80 *baiocchi*". Therefore, this letter is assigned to the middle of August and written from Frosinone, as is clear from the text.

<sup>13</sup> Bartolomeo Panzini.

<sup>14</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

<sup>15</sup> Wherever.

will examine), surrendering the offerings etc., or even urging him to make a donation of money. I am expecting him to leave. We will not excuse his conduct, but we do excuse his intentions, in keeping with our practice. What I am enjoining on you for Father Biagio is that if you discover that he is departing for Benevento, then Father Betti is to be informed, in defense of truth. I shall continue being of help to Verusio, as must be done etc., should he remain.

I give thanks to God for the collection. In reference to devotional material, here too discretion is called for in dispensing it, etc.. I am sending you some; with regard to the uniform, when the helper gives it, he is to say that on one feastday the individual is to perform the devotion, and that in order to gain the indulgence of the Immaculata, it is to be blessed. I think that Father Biagio has the faculties to do that. I am also sending him some devotional material that he requested.

*Ex se*,<sup>16</sup> Cotino has wanted to go to Benevento. I am very grieved about that since he could have undergone a cure in the Mission House. The Institute was ready to go along with that. Patience.

Write to me immediately whether Giovanni<sup>17</sup> from Veroli has returned, as I think he has. I sent him a pair of stockings for summerwear, since he needed them. Sign down 45 *bajocchi* and include that in the first receipt. Please be attentive to that and do not fail to send me the listing of reminders.

Brother Luigi Carocci of Sonnino has been assigned by me to be of service in the House in Vallecorsa. You will direct him to Pedini as soon as you can and as soon as you have the freedom to send him there. Generally speaking, try to hurry it; but, without harm to the House there. Entrust the tasks that he has in Sonnino, and you and Father Biagio can counsel him, or even leave the commission to the Vicar Forane. We have enough troubles of our own. Tell him that I am not opposed to his returning from time to time whenever he may have a precise need for it, for a brief period of time, until everything is settled. In this way we can also relieve, a bit, the economic concerns of that House.

So, at the earliest possibility Giuseppe Viola's summer cassock can be taken care of. In a single day, see that it is repaired by the tailor; for this year, I cannot manage to have one made. Summer is almost over. Realize that Antonio also wanted one; I persuaded him otherwise. With regard to clothing, no consideration until wintertime. Viola is aware of these feelings of mine. Last spring, when he received from the Institute a new winter apparel, I said to him: "But we are now drawing close to summertime", and he had me write that it was not needed for the summer. *Satis ergo provisum*.<sup>18</sup> With reference to those ten *scudi*, I mentioned before, Emidio consigned them to you on another trip.

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<sup>16</sup> Of itself.

<sup>17</sup> Giovanni Fontana.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore what is provided is enough.

In regard to the prescription, it appears that one could also make a bit of a saving. In sending three *scudi*, I am enclosing for Fioravanti the same prescription for a reimbursement. If some saving can be arranged, write to me so that I can work things out etc.

If I have overlooked anything, let me know.

What is of interest is that the container be sent to Rome, etc., etc. as well as the candle holders that have not as yet been sent. In detail, let me know how many candle holders you have sent and how many you have received. I repeat, in detail. Notice whether there are any bags to be sent back.

Get Bartolomeo's room refurnished for him.

For purposes of hospitality, the area above the entrance way, as was said.

For the moment, my clothing, desk, etc., etc. should remain in my room, as the work on the Missionaries' library can be suspended without interfering with our decisions. Little by little things can be done, keeping in mind a separation in accordance with the plan expressed in my letter; this seems to be the better procedure. Send me your response. In the meantime, set up a bookshelf, and keep duplicate copies apart, making a notification of it in the indexes.

With reference to the building process, more in due time.

1. I have decided that no part of the wall in the Chapel of the Assumption is to be torn down, but it is to be fortified.

2. The choir area that we had planned is no longer to be made, basing this on the principle of completing and perfecting the building as it is with decency and economy.

3. The altar of the Assumption, in time, will become the permanent altar of the most Blessed Sacrament, and around it a beautiful choir area and it will be considered the main altar. Patience, if it does not correspond to the main entrance. Those small accidental changes are seen in other buildings too.

The two confessionals which were supposed to be located in the Assumption area, will now be placed laterally to the door of the church along side the pillars. I hope that I have explained myself well. You will add this as an appendix to what was established during the previous visitation. Facing the door ... the altar of the *Madonna delle Canne*. All the rest will be done just as has been decided etc. Only the painting of St. Benedict is to be placed near the altar to the right of the Assumption and, on the left, that of St. Bernard; alongside to the right, the Crucifix and to the left, the Maggi, with the broken underframes.

When the time comes for the ordination of Verili, the required papers will be handled by Father Biagio ...

As for your allowance, *semel pro semper*,<sup>19</sup> after subtracting whatever is necessary for you, including the upcoming ordination, all the rest will be handled by that House's economy. In consideration, the matter of room and board for students. It has been established that a separate register is to be had for the directing of the Society without embarrassment to the Economists.

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<sup>19</sup> Once for always.

*Ratio est*,<sup>20</sup> first, because either no payment is had, or very little payment is had, and it would be an increased labor and embarrassment to have further writing. In the Province, there is to be set up a registry apart and entered under general administration. I hope that I have explained myself clearly. Say a prayer for the good Allemari who is ill. I have suggested to him to make a vow of entering our Institute.

[there is no signature]

P. S. In the corridor area one better room or so should be for the Missionaries whom God will send.

P. S. For the vinegar, 80 *bajocchi*.

P. S. Emidio will not be able to bring everything. I will take care of it. Again, Cotino should be at the door. However, when he travels for his own convenience, you are not to provide him with a packanimal or a helper. He himself is to take care of providing the coach and the footman. In that way, they learn.

2957

August 23, 1835

Fr. Rocco Sebastianelli

Convittore<sup>21</sup>

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Rocco

As soon as your brothers send the three *Scudi*, you will be immediately informed. Otherwise, as soon as you are a priest, little by little the matter will be taken care of. You are not quite ready yet for ordination. Study, please. A little time, more or less, is not that significant, as long as we become fit ministers of the Sanctuary.

Liguori's work must be in the library, where you can go to study. Look into it well. Otherwise, you can get one for yourself after ordination.

All is overcome with patience. Prayers and humility. I do not presently have the time to occupy myself with the question of computing the age. Work it out with Santarelli. Let me know when the time falls due for your ordination.

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

When you need to send letters: Rome

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<sup>20</sup> The reason is.

<sup>21</sup> The place of destination for this letter seems to be Sermoneta (cfr. note on Lett. n. 2827, January 13, 1835).

House at Frosinone, August 23<sup>22</sup>

2958

August 23, 1835  
Fr. Vitale Corbucci  
Fossombrone

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father Vitale

I would say that you would be doing me a favor in sending me the six coverlets just as you mentioned in detail in your most esteemed letter; I am reliant on you for everything. Please include the transportation expenses as you let me know what I owe you totally; by mail I will immediately send the money addressed to you. I need to have the total amount indicated. For purposes of forwarding, send your letters to "Rome".

Recommend me often to God and never forget me at the holy altar, so that I will be able to prepare myself well for the eternal years. I cannot repeat often enough the esteem and the affection I hold for you. Kissing your hands, I am and will constantly be, along with feelings of gratitude,

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 23, 1835

2959

August 23, 1835  
Mother Dionisia Tirletti  
Monastery of the Holy Family  
Sezze

Hail to the Divine Blood

Mother Superior

I have not as yet been able to get back to Rome, but I hope to do so within a short while. However, I have written a couple of lines to the Cardinal<sup>23</sup> telling him that the holy Retreat has been completed. I gave him a justifiable word of praise for your Community. He has not, however, sent a response and perhaps he knew that I was traveling about. Do not be at all surprised if he should not write to you. That is due to the many jobs he has; but, if he does write, then, in urgent matters, send him, in a spirit of holy indifference, a reply to his letters; and let us

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<sup>22</sup> This letter belongs, in all likelihood, to 1835, when Sebastianelli was still a Boarding Student, but not too far from ordination to the priesthood. He was probably already a Deacon (cfr. Lett. n. 2891, May 15, 1835).

<sup>23</sup> Cardinal Carlo Odescalchi (cfr. letter of August 2, 1835).

pray. It is not difficult for me to have to go to Cori for a Mission. Offer some prayers so that in all things the divine will be done. I am, indeed, most obliged to you for the many attentions showed to me during my stay in Sezze. Do not cease praying for me, and I, in my wretchedness, will not cease praying for you.

With reference to your obligations, "desire nothing, expect nothing, refuse nothing". That is how things are to be with you. Only say: "*Fiat voluntas tua*".<sup>24</sup> May doing the will of God be the balance for all our acts. Have nothing else in mind. Whatever may come up, just say: "*Fiat voluntas tua*". Especially in certain cases, we do everything if we pray, if we suffer and if we remain silent. So, any thought that might be productive of anguish is dissipated. God is a God of peace; yes, in bitter things, even the extremely bitter things: "*Ecce in pace amaritudo mea amarissima*".<sup>25</sup> So, put aside any feelings of depression; let us joyfully carry the Cross, let us live by the Cross, let us die with the Cross. While wishing you tranquility etc., I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Frosinone, August 23, 1835

2960

August 25, 1835

Giovanni Battista Flori

Guarcino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Giovanni Battista

Before leaving Frosinone, I am sending you a couple of lines of greeting and urge you, in your zeal, to look after the Oratory and the pious organizations.

Recommend me to God. I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Buffalo*

M. Ap.

Frosinone, August 25, 1835

2961

August 28, 1835

Ignazio Lesinelli

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<sup>24</sup> May your will be done.

<sup>25</sup> Behold in peace my most biting bitterness.

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Ignazio

I read your most appreciated letter and, after having pondered over it, in my way of thinking, I find the petition to the Holy Father superfluous. He must already be aware of and in fact does know about the situation, and is considering establishing what you have detailed for me. So, let us leave everything in the hands of God and, in this regard, we will be doing everything to fulfill the divine will.

Whatever was dependent upon our own activity has been adequately done.

The suggestion of Lawyer Alberghini with regard to the execution of the will should be acceptable to the one who selected the testator for carrying out the last wishes. That is the only thing which you, by writing a couple of lines in my name to the lawyer, can do as a favor to me, bringing this to his attention. But, I do not wish to have this letter reach him, since I wrote to him, not too long ago, but without the knowledge of what you were kind enough to write to me. I limited myself in making a sort of general recommendation. From these initial efforts, in my opinion, the *advertatur*<sup>26</sup> should be considered as an overlooked and unknown matter; not, indeed, as an affair of very clear knowledge. I, however, am highly respectful of the most worthy Monsignor Vannini. It is of little moment as long as they do not alienate me from the basic principles expressed. I am involved presently in sending workers into the diocese of Velletri, to a few places, because of the Jubilee. As soon as I can manage it, I shall be back in Rome where I shall see you in person, if only to confirm my sentiments of esteem, respect and gratitude. In the adorable Heart of Jesus Christ, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, August 28, 1835

2962

August 28, 1835

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

With regard to the Brother for the Mission in Bascio, it will be Coppola. I have written to Father de Victoriis, instructing him in detail, and anticipating whatever might come up etc. I consigned 5,25 *scudi* to your father. However, if the first notification might have been for 20 Masses, not 15, in that case, then the reminder of six *scudi* should be given to your father. I

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<sup>26</sup> It is noted.

believe that is what should be done. By mail, you remind me and I will immediately give the remainder. Recommend me to God. I know that some books are supposed to be returned to the library there. So, insist on getting them back. Recommending to you the pious legacies, consider me to be, in Jesus Christ crucified,

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Albano, August 28, 1835

2963

August 30, 1835  
Camillo Possenti  
Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

Very punctually was the package of thread received as well as the other; everything is in order. My obligations to you are always increasing.

Here, now, are a few additional inconveniences. A bit more of the usual material is needed, or the cloth which they call *panno* there. The quantity should be, more or less, as we usually order. Likewise needed are a few more reams of stationery. Here is a listing in detail:

4 reams of the type that I am using right here.

1 ream of the larger type for memoranda and for making important copies

2 reams of the quite ordinary type, but not absorbent

1 ream of the larger sheet for wrapping packages

4 reams, or even five, of the finer kind for letters, which on other occasions you were kind enough to supply. I shall be awaiting the new account. Asking you for your prayers and assuring you that I am ready to be of service to you at any request from you, I am and will constantly be, in Jesus Christ crucified, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Rome (for forwarding), August 30, 1835

2964

September 2, 1835  
Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli  
Bishop of Agatopoli  
Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>27</sup>

Venerable Monsignor and most beloved brother

Father Fiiippo Gonnelli has sent me the enclosed about which I know very little in detail. What I do know is that the aggregation was sent; they have paid the 6 *scudi*. So, it would be a confused situation to call for a reexamination of the matter. Surely, you are not at all to blame for this situation. At any rate, a meeting by you with his Eminence Castracane, as I am aware of his character, could be useful in clearing up whatever has to be done.

In the piling up of things for the Jubilee, which has not as yet ended, I do not dwell for much longer.

I kiss your hands, and, with esteem, respect and very special affection, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble servant and affectionate brother

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Albano, September 2, 1835

2965

September 3, 1835

Rector of the Seminary of Velletri

Velletri

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>28</sup>

Venerable Rector

Without having the good fortune of knowing your name, I, on this occasion, use the term relative to your office.

The most reverend Vicar wrote to me concerning the upcoming Retreat in November. It seems to me that, according to his letter, the respective clergy are suppose to attend likewise, along with the seminarians, if I am not mistaking his expressions or my knowledge of this. So, I am addressing myself to your most worthy person to please let me know exactly what the situation will be; likewise, the precise date which is set for the introduction, and also for how many days the Retreat is to continue. The usual practice is for eight days, but I will stand by whatever you will tell me. It would also be useful for me to know whether you follow the method of having two sessions of meditations and renewals. I will be totally obliged to you for the information that you give me in a letter, addressed to me here in Albano, so that everything can be properly arranged. Starting from now, I implore you to keep me and this intention in your prayers as well as in those of others to whom you can recommend it.

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<sup>27</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

<sup>28</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

I might point out, in passing, that if the clergy are to attend the Retreat, it is customary, with reference to the Regulars, as you direct me, to indicate to them that, if they so wish, they too can attend; otherwise, they might stay away, as I have noticed in practice, because of a fear that they might not be admitted. In reference to the meetings, they will make a choice of the places as well as the daily schedule which they will be able to establish.

I shall bring along with me the man who has, for many years on our trips in the ministry, been accustomed to be of assistance to me in whatever might be needed.

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

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere Can. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in S. Paolo of Albano, September 3, 1835

2966

September 4, 1835

Fr. Tomasso Meloni

Cammerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Blood of J.C.

Esteemed Fr. Tomasso

I have read with calmness the decision of the council and we hope that God will bless your care and solicitude for the good you have obtained for that House. Lucciardi, the former Delegate, thought it would appear that he could rid himself of the situation by suggesting the purchase of the property, and with its liquidation, force us to buy something else.

I would like to know whether you have received the money.

Ask the Rev. Curate Bellabarba whether he wants only the plain altar cards or those with frames. Please send me a quick reply.

In addition to our dossier in the Secretariate of State, the petition of our Missionaries is still pending. Ever more and more, cultivate the friendship of the present Delegate, *pro veritate rei*,<sup>29</sup> informing him well about the defense of Church property. Above all, prayers.

I must confess that I simply do not succeed in understanding the sense of some of your statements. In general, let me say: "You are to help out there in bringing about the good, *pro viribus*."<sup>30</sup>

Br. Tabella already knows the schedule and when he is not otherwise occupied he should be in the garden. Not everyone, however, has the same gifts. Rodriquez would say: "Let us praise

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<sup>29</sup> For the truth of the affair.

<sup>30</sup> In accord with one's strength.

simplicity".

I will check with Frioli about the *baj.* mentioned in your letter.

Am I forgetting anything? Prayers; with esteem and respect, consider me as

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

( Rome ) September 4, 1835

2967

September 5, 1835

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

My dearest Father Orazio *quem diligo in charitate non ficta in visceribus Jesu Christi*<sup>31</sup>

Your father will be getting your message.

I shall speak to you of spiritual matters in another ordinary maildelivery.

We are presently engaged everywhere and in everyway in the ministry, as well as with visitation. *Adhuc modicum*,<sup>32</sup> and everything will be worked out. Send the enclosed immediately, even with express service.

One thing: Perhaps, you might be coming, eventually, for residence in Nepi. We will be nearby; more, as time progresses. Send me your response right away; and, absolute silence. This is something reserved for you. Spina is the President. I admire his prudence greatly etc. However, may I learn to humbly respond to the situations that arise, and may I be the defender of our Society. Everything, little by little. More, *Deo dante*,<sup>33</sup> when we meet again in time and in person.

Our Giovanni Balducci will be coming there, whereas Carlino <sup>34</sup> will be in service elsewhere, etc. in time. In the meanwhile, be informed of this. Send me immediately your response with regard to Nepi.

Liparelli will likewise be arriving to take care of the visitation, but not right now. With reference to any urgent matters, write etc., as I continue trusting in your charity, zeal etc. My gratitude to you will be eternal, etc.

Some of our men will be going to the Mission of S. Agata, and that is what the enclosed

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<sup>31</sup> Whom I love with unfeigned affection in the heart of Jesus Christ.

<sup>32</sup> For now a little bit.

<sup>33</sup> God being the giver.

<sup>34</sup> Carlo Migani.

refers to. Father Gennaro<sup>35</sup> with Father Mosconi along with Silvestri and a Brother, either Carlino or Luigi. The division of the ministerial work is in the enclosed material.

Pedini is the President in Vallecorsa and he is getting along well, very well; he does not suffer from dejection.

*Pro hac vice*,<sup>36</sup> in addition to using our method, our rubrical procedures, make use of the books for the Retreatants, reading from the Missal etc. I am

Yours in J. C.

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

September 5, 1835

Have I forgotten anything?

Nepi is a possibility or S. Felice in Giano to help out with the boarding school, *ad tempus*,<sup>37</sup> however. Keep all of this to yourself.<sup>38</sup>

2968

September 6, 1835

Student Fr. Francesco Verili

Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco<sup>39</sup>

I am looking over three of your very dear letters and am now sending a reply, keeping in line with the dates and the paragraphs.

1. I give you my thanks for the comfort you showed toward me on the occasion of the cross which is wellknown to you. Pray to God that I will draw benefit from this experience for my soul which I must prepare well for the eternal years.

2. In regard to the foundation in Terracina, we are to do nothing more than to pray. You will be able to communicate your reflections profitably to Father Biagio;<sup>40</sup> let us leave these

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<sup>35</sup> Don Gennaro Gamboa.

<sup>36</sup> For this office.

<sup>37</sup> At the time.

<sup>38</sup> This paragraph is found on the fourth siding, near the address.

<sup>39</sup> This letter does not have a date, but one is deduced from the postal markings (Albano, September 6). The year is 1835, derived from the fact of the priesthood ordination of Verili.

<sup>40</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

things in the hand of providence and with Albertini who will pray in heaven etc.

3. Thank you for the notification concernng the receipts.

4. Terracina is another diocese and even though a collection might be made there, and since Father Biagio is aware of the bishos's mind, I would prefer that the Brothers would not make the rounds too often. Sufficient are the collections of basic items in the diocese of Piperno. Check with Father Biagio and write to me soon about it if there would happen to be a change of attitude. I do not know whether our men in Sermoneta have such collections. This is news to me. Perhaps there is some involuntary mistake.

5. I repeat, Carocci is supposed to go to Vallecorsa. Let me know immediately if I can make use of Leoni who, after another indication from me, will have to be going to Sermoneta. From there, I will see that Buonafede will be coming to your area.

6. Emidio will not be moved from Sonnino. Have no doubts.

7. Your last receipt was in good order. Now, the only one missing is the one for the bread and sugar which I ordered sent from Frosinone.

8. In Rome, I will see to the provision of the sieves.

9. You are probably talking about making a separation of the places by thatching and not by covering with cloth, as you wrote. Please explain further. This should be handled so that there will be sufficient individual stability and freedom of movement. I do not know whether I have made myself clear. We will write more about this at a later time.

10. With regard to the linen, I would submit that issue to the congressus at which you will likewise be present as the one commissioned *ex speciali mandato*, etc.,<sup>41</sup> but with a consultive vote *tantum*.<sup>42</sup>

11. With regard to [...],<sup>43</sup> I will be sending a letter dealing with spirituality. He is not being granted what he was asking for. Instead of that, the economy ... the archives ... the church ... the boardings school, where he will continue to carry out whatever I will direct, etc..

12. I shall have a meeting with Merlini concerning the arches that you wrote about. Then, the means will have to be prepared. We will deal with this in another of my letters.

13. Just when and whether Merlini will be able to come, I do not know right now.

14. Do not speak of a settlement for we might lose the privileges of the property. We will write both about the workers and the training. In the meantime, our people will do whatever they can and even more, if I may express myself thus.

15. I can do nothing about the plants ... for altering the rules that have been rigidly set, as

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<sup>41</sup> From a special mandate.

<sup>42</sup> Only.

<sup>43</sup> The sheet is defective here. However, quite certainly, he must have written: With regard to NN., that is, Verili himself. Often, in the original letters written to Verili, the indication "NN" was surely deleted by Verili himself. Likewise, one or the other name, out of delicate concern, has been canceled, but, fortunately with faded ink.

you realize; I do not care to have arguments, and the truth must be sought at every encounter. You understand me. ... If it must be done, I think, they may be removed. You will know what to do.

16. With regard to the *callinaro*, would it not be possible to use some thatchwork for the time being, so that they do not reach the corridor, as well as for freedom of passage. We will discuss these ideas more, then come to a decision.

17. Candles made with wood are not needed, and, later they turn black. Candles made of real wax are better. However, for the church in the countryside, I would not object to using candles made of wood; those of one *libra* would be sufficient. But, perhaps it would be better to be thrifty about this. Let know what you think.

18. Brother Fontana would be good for taking up the collection, as long as he does not submit to the temptation of laziness. Have Father Biagio look into this. Everything will be worked out. Otherwise, we will assign Emidio concerning whom you wrote, if you think he would be fit. Later, we will decide the rest.

19. With regard to the boarding students, you keep the President and Vicepresident informed. Generally speaking, solitude has always formed men maturely for the ministry. If they do not love it as young men, how can it be brought about that the Missionary is a Carthusian at home and an apostle out in the field? In solitude, the spirit is cultivated; in solitude, knowledge etc. But you are to conduct yourself as the one who sets the line and moves forward. I would have you be like the one who does miniature painting, keeping in touch with me about things which I must examine etc. In the meantime, confer on these point with Father Biagio etc. Whatever you know about Giano, you should communicate to me reservedly and in detail, and, if possible, with identifications.

20. With respect to the Retreat, you have probably begun it already or will do so soon. It would be better to have it in Sonnino with the adaptable method there and with the greatest retirement and fervor possible. However, be aware that you will be traveling to conduct a Retreat. You will have to arrive in Frosinone in such way as to be able to go one day beforehand to Veroli, where in passing through you will work everything out with the bishop etc. I would suggest that you take up lodging with the Franciscans and, as a matter of thrift, you could take along our houses's small burro. I, however, submit to have you do what you judge best. Decide your moves well. Study the rubrics etc. Be courageous and let us become saints. Pray for me as much as you can. Leave Palombi there to supply for you in every way and with the solid direction of Father Biagio. Write to Palombi on a separate sheet. Leave a gratuity with the Franciscans.

21. So, there are 500 tiles in all. How much do they cost? Write to me immediately.

22. As for the boarding school, further explanations will be made, as I said before.

23. Even though I may have written that you will say the Mass on the feast of the Mercede in Sonnino, still, I will pray over that. From Frosinone, you will be getting my decision.

24. As for *arcone* sufficient to hold three or threeandahalf *rubbia* of flour, in accordance

with your request, get it in Veroli; and there you can please contact Demetrio Perciballi. As I said before, you should leave a gratuity for the Franciscans. I have had the opportunity to inform the bishop of Veroli; Father Biagio will handle the rest.

Perhaps your first Mass will be *ut dixi*.<sup>44</sup> No invitation is given. Follow the usage of the Institute in charge. But, I repeat, I will offer a bit more prayer over this, and then I will write.

As for other matters, gradually. From Frosinone you will be getting your six *scudi* for September and send me, each time, your receipt. I shall be addressing ten *scudi* for Father Biagio.

Send me a receipt for this when you have time after your return. I shall not write to him now but only from Frosinone. I am etc.

*G. C. d. B.*

Because of your ordination, I also anticipate your allowance for October; so, in Frosinone, you will be getting 12 *scudi*.

2969

September 7, 1835

Fr. Mattia Cardillo

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Mattia

I repeat that it will not be necessary at all to indicate to Father Gennaro<sup>45</sup> the desires of Monsignor Gentilini. They do not fit into our methods and I have already said that I would not have ordered him, if it were not for the sake of the ministry, to come to Rimini. This is something that I do not see will happen, at least not at the present time, and if it should happen, then it will be like the others. However, I have not written anything to Father Gennaro.

In the meantime, I give you my thanks for the exactness and the good order that you have maintained there. Now I must ask you (after first recommending myself to God and after having consulted with those with whom I should) to accept the position of Superior and Economist in Pennabilli. For another year, the Presidency will remain with Father Liparelli, only for the sake of relationships with Penna, and also because he is so experienced in our affairs in that foundation. Within a short while, Liparelli will be going to Penna to make the visitation called for by our rule and Father Orazio,<sup>46</sup> whom God is calling to other duties, will give you an account of everything. Meanwhile, I am writing so that a room can be prepared for you. Even though the spirit of obedience calls for simplicity, still I would like you to keep in mind the

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<sup>44</sup> As I said.

<sup>45</sup> Father Gennaro Gamboa.

<sup>46</sup> Father Orazio Bracaglia.

reasons which I am listing here:

1. In our dealings, I point out that we have a certain practice and, as a consequence, there is a sharing of offices.

2. The church in Penna is rather small and hence one's health will not suffer greatly.

3. Those to be ordained will be coming to us and this will be a wonderful endeavor for that foundation. So, here, opened for you, is an opportunity for giving conferences and also there will be more time for you to give to study. The library there is quite adequate.

4. You should know that Penna is very deeply affectionate toward our Institute. It is also the episcopal see etc. There is a certain endowment; so, all of this is what urges me and calls me to give it my attention, as well as to seek your charity and zeal.

5. Finally, it will be for your greater merit: "Go with the merit of obedience and trust in God". *Quoad temporalia*,<sup>47</sup> consult with Father Orazio, if necessary, for he is the one to contact: The bishop, to whom you will extend my greetings, is very affectionate and will be helpful when the need arises. In all of this, let us be in full agreement and you will be the recipient of many merits in the eyes of the Lord.

6. With regard to going to Penna, I will have to write, out of necessity, to Father De Victoriis so that he can make the arrangements for that traveling. So, from him you will learn the day for it, since that will be dependent on the appointments in the ministry that have been entrusted to him. For the record, I point out that Father Gennaro will be doing the preaching for Advent in Penna and will also conduct the Retreat called for by our rule. Up to now, because of the other visitations, everything has been provisional in Romagna. It is understood that, when the need of the ministry calls for it, the Houses in Romagna cooperate with each other in supplying help. So, as long as God provides us with the strength, let us offer ourselves for the real welfare of God's Work. Virtue and doing the will of God, never our human will. Let no suffering that may arise retard our steps in doing the greater good to which the most high Jesus is calling us: "*Signa apostolatus in multa patientia*".<sup>48</sup>

7. You, in my name, will please write or tell Father Domenico Silvestri that he has been selected as your companion in Penna and that he will have the position of Director of the Missions and Prefect of the church and sacristy. Since the Presidency with permanent residence will be vacant, even though a room should be set aside for that, you will supply for his duties in keeping with our rule. Both of you will do great work. There is an organ there, and with Father Silvestri there, the services will be conducted in a better way. You ask him, in my name. I sent word to Father De Victoriis of this arrangement, for when this matter of Penna is settled, then I will think about taking care of Rimini etc. Please be kind enough to send me a reply immediately, both for you and Father Silvestri, just like the saints would do; and, I have no

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<sup>47</sup> As to temporalities.

<sup>48</sup> Signs of the apostolate in much patience.

doubts about that. Surely, I will be most obliged to both of you. If Silvestri has his things in Rimini, you take care of having them transported and I will give instructions to De Victoriis. So, let us cooperate with each other.

8. I would like both you and Father Silvestri, to whom I send my greetings, to always have the faculties of Rimini and Macerata Feltria since these are neighboring Houses of ours, and for the needs that might come up there. We are agreed on this.

9. On the occasion of the Retreat called for by our rule, we will take care of that *quoad spiritum*.<sup>49</sup> Meanwhile, prayers. I kiss your hands, and, with esteem and affection, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

(Vigil of the Blessed Virgin Mary), September 7, 1835

P. S. Perhaps, Father Luca Masi, a Filippino Father who has been aggregated, will take up residence in Penna. If so, he is to provide *de proprio*,<sup>50</sup> and, *ratione aetatis*,<sup>51</sup> you will assign him as the Vice Superior. (To keep his duties light, you will take care of the archives).

The Brothers will be Luigi from Sezze,<sup>52</sup> in addition to the cook,<sup>53</sup> both of them old timers and good workers, safeguarding respect for etc. etc.

Tell Brother Balducci to return to S. Felice in Giano at his own expense, for Father Silvestri writes to me that he has left his things there. Provide him with a letter to Father Beniamino.<sup>54</sup> At first, I had written both to Father Beniamino and to Balducci to leave him in Romagna. Now, however, I have decided *ut supra*.<sup>55</sup>

2970

September 9, 1835

Fr. Vincenzo Giovanelli

Ascoli Piceno

Hail to the Divine Blood

Father Giovanelli

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<sup>49</sup> As to the spirit.

<sup>50</sup> About one's own.

<sup>51</sup> By reason of age.

<sup>52</sup> St. Gaspar had written the name "Balducci", but then canceled it. Luigi from Sezze was Luigi di Rosa.

<sup>53</sup> St. Gaspar had written "whom I will assign there", but then canceled that.

<sup>54</sup> Father Beniamino Romani.

<sup>55</sup> [As above.] This last paragraph is found on the fourth siding, near the address.

Have no doubt that as soon as the Mass has been celebrated, it will be my duty to inform you. I thank you, in the meantime, for the inconvenience that you have undergone in the commission of the letters of our Xavier. I am aware of the needs in that city. It seems to me that the petition of the pastors, or at least of some of them, made to the bishop, would be helpful, and, for example, arouse those in Offida to take up a Mission. In that circumstance, it would be easy to spread news about it. You who are *in faciem loci*<sup>56</sup> would be able to indicate to me what you feel is the better and more opportune thing to do. In the beginning, it would be enough to insist on a Retreat for the clergy alone and after that, one could consider other things. These are resources that are effective in achieving the good of all. God will give you his enlightenment through your prayer.

In regard to Canon Paradisi, I assure you that I have regularly answered his letters. So I repeat here: 1. that he should settle his affairs in such a way that he will have no troubles even with respect to residence; 2. that he will be happy in taking up residence in one of our Houses; 3. that he will be exempted from making the trips or assignments, as with our other members, and that *pro viribus*<sup>57</sup> he go along with the observance of our internal regulations; 4. that, being advanced in age, in coming to our Mission House, he be of help, *pro viribus*, to the community with the offerings for Masses, at his choice. You can see the reasonableness of this; 5. that he let me know where he would like to go. If he prefers a changing climate, there is S. Felice in Giano; if he prefers seair, in that case there is Rimini or Cesena (a city where the butcher's meat is better); likewise, for a changing climate in Romagna, there is Macerata Feltria (and it is a climate that is not overly rigorous); or, Pennabilli, but that area is too mountainous. On the road to Rome, there is Nepi with a gentle climate and is level terrain. In Pievetorina, since I have another member of advanced age there and I have the duty of assigning places to our men, there is no room for him; also, because we have young men there who are being prepared for the ministry. Let me know his conclusion and immediately I shall send a letter to the superior of the House that he selects. Indeed, I will be very happy to have him come, particularly before this season advances further.

I kiss your hands; pray for me; with esteem and respect, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

September 9, 1835

P. S. Please drop me a line or so indicating what Canon Paradisi has decided. I, too, believe that it is quite some time since a holy Mission has been had in Montalto. But, I do not know precisely.

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<sup>56</sup> After the fashion of the place.

<sup>57</sup> In accord with one's strength.

2971

September 10, 1835  
 Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris  
 Piperno

## Hail to the Divine Blood

It is quite true that the occupations are not coming in torrents but in floods; that is how God, *Qui facit mirabilia magna solus*,<sup>58</sup> is disposing things. Still, I never forget you in my poor prayers, certain that you likewise are showing the same charity toward me. Presently, you have in that vicinity Father Biagio<sup>59</sup> whom, I would say, you should select regularly as your director because of the abundance of gifts which come from God. We must have no other intention in mind than the greater glory of the Lord.

In the meantime, I confirm the regulation given to you concerning Holy Communion. Through this, the wiles of the devil are overcome.

The love for suffering, however, is a very special operation of divine grace. That is indeed a special witnessing of your love for Jesus. God is working in your soul; continue to go forward using the ladder of the holy Cross which leads to Paradise; and oh! the great reward that has been prepared for a most blessed eternity!

Have no doubt about it, we are living in times during which we must raise our hands upward to heaven in prayer. Let us entrust ourselves to the powerful means we have in the devotion to the Divine Blood. Let us have recourse to most holy Mary and to St. Francis Xavier.

Finally, during my recent trip, it was not possible for me to stop off in Piperno. But, I am most obligated to you for the many attentions shown to me. Meanwhile, in Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Albano, September 10, 1835

2972

September 11, 1835  
 Fr. Pietro Spina  
 Nepi<sup>60</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> Who alone performs great marvels.

<sup>59</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

<sup>60</sup> At first, the Saint had written "*Roma per Nepi*"; but then he crossed out the words "*Roma per*". This is an indication that the letter was not sent out from Albano, where the Saint had written it (see the date), but from Rome.

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Pietro

Here I am sending a reply to your letter dealing with what is necessary. I am not at all doubtful of your total dedication to the good management of our affairs there.

Insist on the payments and, when necessary, have the Bishop intervene with his effective influence, if he is in charge of the payments. I do not know.

It can be nothing but useful for you to continue instructing the people of Nepi concerning temporalities, having them realize, through your respectful reminders in the sermons, that if they want progress to be made, it is required that they give their assistance.

The gratuities to the Brothers are *ad libitum*<sup>61</sup> for the Congressus of the respective Houses. If the Congressus feels that a somewhat greater consideration be shown to Sante, they must do so prudently in order to avoid giving rise to rivalries; and, in order to maintain impartiality, I would say that in this matter of gifts, they should be treated on an equal basis. However, if any Missionary provides something out of his own possessions, let him give this offering of money privately, because of Sante's povertystricken mother, and only for that reason.<sup>62</sup>

You shall have the prescription and whatever else is needed. In view of the fact that this falls under the responsibilities of the Society, you can include it under official expenses, especially since I know that you, in your charity, are doing as much as you can for the Institute. I am most obliged to you. Actually, I supposed that you were relieved of your discomforts. So, every time that you find it necessary to consult any doctor, even in Rome, let me know. It now occurs to my mind that if you were to make a novena, together with a discreet vow to St. Xavier worked out in agreement with your Spiritual Director, and if you were to pray with faith, I would expect to see you cured, since our Saint is the Doctor *par excellence* for Missionaries. So, bless yourself with the relic of St. Xavier.

In J.C. Crucified, consider me as

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Albano, September 11 (1835)<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> At their wish.

<sup>62</sup> Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Brothers, Gratuities to the.

<sup>63</sup> This letter can be assigned only to the year 1835, since only in that year, during the month of September, was the Saint located in the House in Albano and, at the same time, Fr. Pietro Spina as Economist in the one in Nepi. Furthermore, what was said in the preceding footnote about the gratuities to Sante Angelini confirms the fact that this letter is to be dated in 1835.

2973

September 11, 1835  
Fr. Tomasso Meloni  
Cammerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Tomasso

See to it that you keep on insisting, through Scamacci, to come to an agreement about the beam; and keep after Sig. Castellani.

Instead of having a key made for the little choir room, which occasionally might be useful at certain times, and in keeping with the rules of prudence, simply say to the resident student: "We have a rule that no resident student should be in here: and that should suffice". Remove the chairs: thereby one provides a general solution to avoid a particular offense.

I do not know why the organist from Caldarola is being invited. You can do without that. If the rules for Probation are properly drawn up, there will be rules to cover the situation. The Probandi are never to go to the main entrance without the President, since we are dealing with young people here. The case would be different if Fr. Tomasso were a *probandus*. These cautions are valid also for the Brothers, especially those who are *probandi*. From this, you can come to a decision about the other matters.

Santarelli has made a good point in reference to the rule. The interpretation of some points, safeguarding the substantial things, can be taken *cum grano salis*,<sup>64</sup> since we cannot abstract from certain general regulations that are implicitly understood or presupposed as a rule. At any rate, perhaps not long from now they will come to the same conclusions. I am in J.C. Crucified

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

(Albano) September 11, 1835<sup>65</sup>

2974

September 16, 1835  
Fr. Pasquale Virgilj  
Frosinone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Pasquale

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<sup>64</sup> With a grain of salt.

<sup>65</sup> At the beginning of September of 1835 the Saint went to Albano for a revision of the rules and regulations of the Institute, and while there he wrote to Sister Nazarena from Piperno, on the 10th of that same month.

I have learned about your trip and of your happy arrival in the Province. I have already written to Alderisio with reference to the 20 ducats, and have come to an agreement with him to see that you get them.

I am sending you 50 Masses, but all of them at a privileged altar. Celebrate them when you can and then send me the notification. I would be happy to know what line of preaching you observe. With the freedom of spirit, please send me a reply.

Recommend me to God; With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

September 16, 1835

2975

September 20, 1835

Fr. Vitale Corbucci

Fossombrone

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Vitale

In the mail you will be receiving the reimbursement for the coverlets for which I am most obliged to you.

The transportation will be paid for in Rome.

With pleasure did I receive your news, and I thank you for the charity with which you do not forget me in your prayers and in the holy Mass. I assure you that, in my wretchedness, I am never forgetful of you, always having the desire that you will come back to us, after finding someone else to replace you there. It is quite true that all of this is reducible to a desire of mine, which, even though it may not have any effect, it nevertheless demonstrates what will always be my esteem and very particular affection for you. While kissing your hands, I have the pleasure of renewing myself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, September 20, 1835

P. S. Once you have received the money, I would be happy to have word from you.

2976

September 20, 1835

Student Fr. Francesco Verili

Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco<sup>66</sup>

In regard to the piece of *canevaccio* left there by Fioravanti, I would say that you should send him a *papetto* in order not to have to think about that further. Explain the whole thing to him so that it can all be brought to a conclusion. This will be entered under house economy.

I learned about Carocci who has gone to Vallecorsa, and that is good.

Let me know whether you have transported from Frosinone the clothing of Emidio and also what is still needed for him and what he himself has already given. Presently, we are drawing to the closeoff point for expenses, as is seen from the account that I will be sending you, after I have received the bill from the tailor. What I mean to say is that this is entirely up to us.

Immediately send Giuseppe Leoni to Sermoneta, along with the little burro; with that Leoni will go and Bonafede will come. The companionship of another helper will not be necessary. The little burro will be the best.

Train Brother Fontana well. He is to remain in Sonnino. Bartolomeo<sup>67</sup> will not always be in Albano; indeed, in Adam's sons, there is in no one with a lack of defects. You surely must understand what I have just said. Have Brother Viola stirred up a bit by Father Biagio,<sup>68</sup> and then we shall see.

See that the *canes* are provided for the separation of the places; but the separation is to be between the floor and the ceiling.

Likewise provide 400 tiles, under the house's economy, which should be sufficient for the urgent needs. I sent ten *scudi* for the house's economy. Check with Father Biagio. I should be getting a receipt from you.

With reference to the chaplaincy requested by de Castris, you look into that for I am counting on four or five of our men whom I have contacted. They are: Father Gennaro<sup>69</sup> Gentili Palombi and Alderisio. I also include you. I do not have the courage to do more nor can I take it on myself. It could fit in with your schedule, but not in mine. As for anything else, I shall write to Father Biagio with regard to de Castris.

As for NN. , *ad alias*.<sup>70</sup> Now, just a few reminders about your duties.

1. First, the best thing is to be in heaven.
2. At times, the best might be contrary to the good.
3. We are living among human beings, not angels.

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<sup>66</sup> The date is derived from the postal markings (Albano, September 20) as well as from a note by Verili himself (1835).

<sup>67</sup> Bartolomeo Panzini.

<sup>68</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

<sup>69</sup> Father Gennaro Gamboa.

<sup>70</sup> For another time.

4. It simply is not within our present condition to be hopeful without that very little word *et*.<sup>71</sup> One has desires, one makes an effort, and one achieves whatever he can.

5. Not everyone has the same gifts.

6. Speaking of those who are already here, it is a foolish fancy to have a plan for closing off our Brothers in a novitiate, even though thought has been given about the new ones. Otherwise, who would do the cooking, who the hoeing in the garden?

7. Do not be preoccupied with what pertains to others; this reminder is applicable to them. Some letters that have come from Sonnino have caused only confusion to arise, whereas they thought that they would be productive of the greatest good.

Discuss these seven items with Father Biagio.

From a distance, I kiss your hands, *et in spiritu*,<sup>72</sup> I remain

*G. C. d. B.*

M. Ap.

P. S. Send a receipt to your father for the 12 *scudi* gotten in Frosinone and explain to him that six *scudi* are for September and the other six I must have them for October. You have understood. as for other things, *ad alias. Memento mei semper*.<sup>73</sup> If you do not have Masses to be applied *post*,<sup>74</sup> etc., write to me etc.

2977

September 21, 1835

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

In the mail you will find the money, in easy exchange money. Send me word that you have received it. I am writing in a hurry. In my poor prayers, I always have you in mind. I likewise pray for any needs that you may have. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House in Albano, September 21, 1835

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<sup>71</sup> And.

<sup>72</sup> And in the spirit.

<sup>73</sup> For another time. Remember me always.

<sup>74</sup> After.

2978

September 21, 1835  
Fr. Mattia Cardillo  
Rimini

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Mattia

I praise your virtuous sentiments and I shall not disregard your reflections. In order to handle things *meliori modo*,<sup>75</sup> here is my conclusion:

1. I have written to Silvestri that he is to be the President, after having reflected that Liparelli can be interrogated.

2. I appoint you the Superior in Pennabilli and Director of Retreats that come up etc. You take care of your duties. The President, the rest. In my opinion, everything will be balanced out well in this way. So that you will become more experienced in everything, I assign you as visitor of the House in Pennabilli for this year's visitation. As soon as you have gotten there, write to me and, after my response, you will initiate the visitation, keeping in mind all of the points which, by my commission, Liparelli will send you. In order that I will not have to increase postal costs, tell de Victoriis that in going to Penna he should write, in my name, a couple of lines to the most reverend bishop; I repeat, in my name.

3. Trust in God and you will do great work and will enjoy great peace.

4. I shall write to de Victoriis that he should make arrangements for your trip and no further word from me will be needed. Bring along with you your belongings as well as those of Silvestri. The means of transportation that you use in going will be used by Father Orazio,<sup>76</sup> for going now to Rimini.

5. I must be informed about the execution of this. Give my greetings to the bishop of Penna and to the Vicar etc.

6. Tell de Victoriis that the Brothers there (I am referring to Rimini) are Coppola, Fabrini, the one from Montebello, the one from Giano and Carlino. I am writing this because if Carlino should be located in Penna, he should go to Rimini along with Father Orazio. I have already mentioned that I would like both you and Father Silvestri to retain faculties also for Rimini in order to be helpful when one or the other occasion arises etc. I have written to de Victoriis.

With the arrival in Penna of the Filippino Father,<sup>77</sup> now one of our Missionaries, he will

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<sup>75</sup> In a better way.

<sup>76</sup> Father Orazio Bracaglia.

<sup>77</sup> Father Luca Masi.

be ViceSuperior *quoad nomen*,<sup>78</sup> and *ratione aetatis*,<sup>79</sup> he will not be able to look after the archives whose care I will entrust to you during the visitation etc. However, he will help out *de proprio*.<sup>80</sup>

Recommend me to God. Let us keep moving forward along the way of the Lord "*corde magno*".<sup>81</sup>

With regard to the woman, prudently and charitably advise de Victoriis. Admission indeed to the church; but only the church. No command is to be given where he is or to accommodate, etc.

Have I forgotten anything? Have a good trip and a happy stay.

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

On the day of September 21, 1835

The Brothers for Penna are Luigi from Sezze<sup>82</sup> to take care of the garden and the church, Melchiorre,<sup>83</sup> the kitchen and the house. Or, something along that line; they can be of help to each other. Inform Father Domenico<sup>84</sup> of this. Luigi from Sezze is to do the shopping in Penna since he is more experienced and older and Melchiorre could serve Masses, for example. Melchiorre also has ability for kitchen duty. I repeat, work all this out with Father Silvestri to whom I send my greetings etc.

2979

Father Pasquale Virgilj  
Vallecorsa

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Pasquale

In addition to the Masses sent to you recently, I am now adding 30 more, without a

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<sup>78</sup> As the name.

<sup>79</sup> By reason of aage.

<sup>80</sup> About one's own.

<sup>81</sup> In big heart.

<sup>82</sup> Luigi de Rosa.

<sup>83</sup> Melchiorre Peschillo.

<sup>84</sup> Father Domenico Silvestri.

privileged altar, for what I am still obliged to you. Say these 30 first and then the others.

Pray for me. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, September 23, 1835

2980

September 24, 1835

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Pennabilli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio<sup>85</sup>

Father Domenico Silvestri will be arriving or has probably already arrived. He has been assigned as the President of that House and will be able to get information from Liparelli for whatever is necessary etc. Father Mattia Cardillo will be coming as the Superior and the Director of Retreats. Father Mattia will cover your duties; the President, the rest. You encourage them.

You will be going to Rimini, temporarily, and you will use the means of transportation with which Father Mattis is coming from Rimini. Let us be understood. From Rimini, you will write to me.

In making your response, let me know whether you encounter any difficulties, following the form used in making visiting preaching in Lent, in preparing sermons for certain parish feast days out in the country. Send me your reply.

There was a difference of five Masses, not satisfied yet, to the benefit of your father. We counted 15 on the sheet and there should have been 20. Remind me of this and let me know what I should do. However, he has gotten the money that you wrote about.

In writing, you will give all possible reminders to our men; I trust your exactness. This, in the meantime, is a step toward what is desired, etc.. After the Houses are set up in good order, more about spiritual matters etc. I repeat, encourage our men.

In my name, write to Fr. Luca Masi, and, since he is experienced in these things and is also spending *de proprio*,<sup>86</sup> invite him to take up residence again in Penna. He will be the ViceSuperior. So, here is the setup for the place:

1. Ground floor, the kitchen. Let it be near where the refectory is, *pro nunc, donec etc.*<sup>87</sup>
2. The rooms that were inhabited by Father Luca are to be retained for him. They are the

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<sup>85</sup> This letter does not have a date, but one is derived from the postal markings (September 24, 1835).

<sup>86</sup> About one's own.

<sup>87</sup> For now. Until, etc.

ones on the first floor. If he does not come, they are to be used for purposes of hospitality. Opposite, there is the walkway, the recreation area for the Missionaries, that is to say, the recreation room. The room next to the clothescloset etc.

The room located at the head of the stairway, going upstairs, is for Brother Luigi from Sezze.<sup>88</sup> Where the overhead arch is and where I had a room as well as the one opposite for Bartolomeo,<sup>89</sup> where Bartolomeo stayed, there is another which also has an entrance beyond, that is to be the one for Melchiorre.<sup>90</sup> In cases of necessity, the room where I stayed and the one set aside for Bartolomeo, can be used for Retreatants. The cook is to stay where I said he should be; *item*,<sup>91</sup> the gardener, and the practice of selling grass is to be stopped.

Where the big reception room is which leads to the Chapel, there is a room looking out on the piazza. In that room the Superior and Director of Retreats is to reside. If you are occupying it now, then, temporarily assign him to a place that you judge fitting.

Then, too, there is a room which is quite near the little interior stairway that leads to the sacristy. There, I would say, the President should reside. This is approximately what should be done. In working this out, see that our method is kept intact as well as the freedom of our men; and, write to me.

In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain  
Your humble servant  
*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

P. S. Melchiorre will be coming as cook and will be in care of the House. Luigi, the gardener and in care of the church. Luigi is likewise to do the shopping since he is more adapted to this.

I urge cleanliness, observance of the rule, the renewal of the straw in the mattresses etc. If necessary, whiten the beds etc.

Carlino<sup>92</sup> is assigned to Rimini.

2981

September 25, 1835  
Fr. Tomasso Meloni

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<sup>88</sup> Luigi Di Rosa.

<sup>89</sup> Bartolomeo Panzini.

<sup>90</sup> Melchiorre Peschillo.

<sup>91</sup> Likewise.

<sup>92</sup> Carlo Migani.

Cammerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Tomasso

Here I am sending a reply to your most esteemed letter.

1) The exchange in altar cards has already been ordered, and at the first opportunity, you will be getting them.

2) I am sending you 28 *Masses*. As soon as possible, see that I get the notification.

3) What you tell me of Sig. Castellani is very good. I thank you for your concern.

4) I am writing to Fr. Santarelli about the river embankment.

5) With reference to the other things, here are some reminders that we can place before ourselves:

I) Everything is brought to maturity through prayer.

II) In doubtful matters, for the time being, one is to investigate what is the most benign approach.

III) Virtues are perfected through trials.

IV) Gentleness in one's conduct captures souls.

V) One is not to make decisions when upset.

As regards the Prefecture in the church, here is what I think: either decide that setting aside this responsibility will contribute to your greater tranquility and hence drop it, dedicating yourself to the common activities of the rule, to observance, preaching especially by your example, applying yourself to study, to prayer, to the ministry; or, believe that you can continue in it: and then, really go forward; but, make every effort to be compassionate toward your neighbor and uphold charity, in addition to using that prudence which is proper to your age and state of maturity.

Pray for me who, with esteem, am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House at Albano, September 25, 1835

2982

September 1835

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece<sup>93</sup>

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<sup>93</sup> This letter, without a date, is placed in September 1835 (cfr. the prescription for Spina in the letter (n. 2972) to him of September 11; the collection for the Verili lady in the letter (n. 2984) to Fr. Verili of October 3; the humeral veil for Vallecorsa in the letter (n.2990) to his niece Luigia of October 14, 1835 etc.)

You should get an aggregator's certification for a certain monk by the name of Baldini, a Cistercian. See that it has been duly signed. If you note that it is in order, take it and, along with a discreet supply of various, lessexpensive devotional materials and a few Chaplets of the Divine Blood, prepare a small package for the aforementioned Father Prior Baldini, a Cistercian in Sanseverino. Send that small package to the inn called Mondezzaro behind Piazza Navona and have it delivered to the coachman for Sanseverino whose name is Rigante. If there should be some expense involved, work it out with the monk. You might also include one or the other image and write a short note saying: "Canon del Bufalo is sending this package".

The account that you gave in your recent letter was very exact.

When you send the small package here to Albano, see that you include four red ribbons adapted for the lamps, the ones made by Fratini which are rather ornate, and please use the greatest possible thrift.

I learned about the cemetery. Also, in this regard, may the will of God be done: sufficient for us is the salvation of our souls which is our most basic concern.

Sebastianelli has expedited things in the Province and will be returning. However (keep this to yourself) I shall be having him move secretly from Nepi. In regard to the images of the Apostles that are still lacking, I am limiting myself to around one *scudo*. If something else is needed, do nothing at all. Keep me advised.

See that the enclosed prescription is filled and send it to Nepi to Father Pietro Spina who needs it. Note that provision is to be made at the two butchershops, at the grocery or at the Gramieri pharmacy, as the doctor in Nepi has directed and has indicated where one is to go. Spina will be eagerly waiting for this. It is for a certain cure which he would like to take care of, even though he is still up and about and does not have a fever. If a small package is needed, try to find a way of getting this to him. Put the expense in the accountbook, for I will have to make an accounting of this, as I mentioned in another of my letters

Furthermore, Spina wishes to have five libre of sugar which you can get from Poggioli, and write that down in the accounts; also, ten *libre* of rice. Put this all into the accountbook and prepare a small package, putting the prescription materials in a small box, and send a line or so to Spina. Include the expense for the coach in that account, or for the coachman. Better, perhaps, for the coach. He likewise wishes to have three *libre* of wax, the twoounce type of candle and send these along, wrapping them carefully so that they do not break. The wax can be gotten from Poggioli.

The ten *scudi*, sent to you in June, were the ones which I had given to Merlini to provide for several things and then were taken back because of the necessities of the House. As a precaution, however, write to him that if he remembers something else that I may have forgotten, he should include it, sending me the receipt for the complete exaction from the trimestral payment of the *Luoghi del Monte*.

Since the Verili lady has gotten the collection from her son, no longer needed are the ones that were given to you, collected by Bartolomeo, so cancel that. I repeat, they are not needed.

The Bonarelli woman would have liked to have a discussion; but, prudently I extricated myself and I give thanks to God. The two reliquaries donated by Muti are to be put into a small package for Giovanni Buffoni for that is where they are to go. Tell me the cost for the two reliquaries. Have another one purchased and give it to Muti to have him see to getting a relic of St. Philomena for which they have written to me. If he does take care of this, tell him that in the reliquary he should have them put a relic of St. Xavier and you will send that along with the others. The reliquary should be silverplated. Give me a reply. In this regard, tell Father Filippo,<sup>94</sup> to whom I must write, to get my relics and to finish it. If the reliquaries which were returned to me were not accompanied with the postal papers, I would have considered some other method. But with those papers, the relics now are required.

I give thanks to God that the painting of St. Xavier has turned out well. Let me know what the frame of the usual type, gilded with good gold, will cost, always seeking the customary thrift.

How long will the most holy Madonna be exposed in St. Peter's of the Vatican? Certainly, there is need for prayer.

See that two copies of Soresi's grammar of the Italian language is obtained either from Minu, if he has one in his store, or have him locate them. Also, a copy of Thomas a Kempis and another copy of Father Scupoli's "*Combatimento spirituale*". This order for books is for Father Biagio.<sup>95</sup> In a small package, you will send them to him. Indicate to me the cost and you will make a note as follows: "For expenses for Sonnino so much..."; but, for me, you are to indicate the price for each one and clearly so, since there is a diversity of authors; for example, Kempis ... such and such a price ...; and the same for the rest. Little by little, everything is taken care of. I repeat, the name of the grammar is; "Soresi" as I mentioned above.

Now, let us take up your question. 1. I do not doubt that you adhere to my same basic principles and of that I am completely persuaded. God does not distribute the same holy thing to everyone. 2. Your director should not have even been worried about you. 3. My negative reply had already been etched in your mind, and, indeed I did propose to myself not even to give a response. 4. My system differs from the system that others consider adopting. 5. The same is true if the request came from nuns. God does not wish such a thing from you. Here, quite openly, are my sentiments. 6. Just what that sort of accompaniment consists in, I do not know, since the practices in monasteries are different. In speaking of a laysister, I believe that would refer to the entranceway to the church. As far as I am concerned, I conclude as follows: I pretend not to know anything and I leave you at liberty; do what you think is best, since I am unable to say anything other than this. I cannot spend even a half*bajocco*, and even if I could, I would have a scruple about other things that I must think about. Actually, and as a matter of conscience, I

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<sup>94</sup> Father Filippo Gonnelli.

<sup>95</sup> Father Biagio Valentini

cannot. All I can do is pass on to you the carriage which, I had already considered passing on to you in October, and nothing more. I regret that perhaps you might feel some anguish about this, but I must not burden my conscience with an expense which God does not wish from me. Certain undertakings are not for us. So, if you wish to make a gift to the nun, do it if you so please, but with your own means. They could have asked a person attached to the monastery who might have the means of contenting the nuns. I am writing as one who has no knowledge of such practices, and furthermore it might just be possible that a gift is not needed. I do not know.

Finally, I do not remember whether I wrote to you previously of the Kempis and Scupoli works that I referred to above in connection with Father Biagio, and also of the Soresi, but this now would simply be a repetition of it.

One more thing, in case I have not already written to you about this. A humeral veil is to be gotten for Vallecorsa. In case I did not write about this, I am now giving you this request. It would be good to buy one that is already made; I would say that it should not exceed the sum of five *scudi*, and, if possible, to get a richer looking humeral veil for that same price. If it should cost five *scudi* and a half, well, all right; so five *scudi* is the price, and surely not to exceed six *scudi*; you handle it. Check the material, and see that one of the usual kind is gotten, simple and strong, which might not even come to those five *scudi*. Send me a reply.

[there is no signature]

2983

October 1, 1835

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the Divine Blood

I am writing a couple of lines for two reasons. The first is in regard to your nephew,<sup>96</sup> instructed by Father Biagio.<sup>97</sup> I have not answered him directly since I did not know where he was presently located; however, you yourself will be able to assure him of my Godgiven delight. The second reason is that on all Souls' Day, I shall be in Velletri for a Retreat to that respectable clergy along with those of the seminary. Offer prayers, starting now.

Do not cease praying for me at all times. With trust and alacrity of spirit, continue making progress. Do not dwell on fears which cause one to lose heart when they are excessive. May our fear be filled with trust in the one who shed for us his most precious Blood to the last drop. Be very grateful for the many inconveniences that you always receive from our House in Sonnino which I feel are really too much. I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

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<sup>96</sup> Enrico de Castris.

<sup>97</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

Mis. Ap.  
House in Albano, October 1, 1835

2984

October 3, 1835  
Student Fr. Francesco Verili  
Sonnino

I shall be awaiting the receipt for the 20 *scudi*, after the reception etc. Have I forgotten anything? In Jesus Christ crucified,<sup>98</sup> I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. d. B.*

M. Ap.

October 3, 1835

2985

October 4, 1835  
Camillo Possenti  
Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Camillo

If there has been a change in the *gigliati* money, please let me know immediately with a very kind letter from you. All has arrived in Rome and everything is very fine. After checking over the accounts, all you need do is say: "I must have such and such an amount, including the two *paoli* that you wrote about."

Do not forget to pray for me. With esteem and respect, I am and will constantly be

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome (for forwarding), October 4, 1835

2986

Beginning of October 1835  
Luigia del Bufalo  
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

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<sup>98</sup> This fragment of a letter was found on a fragment of paper.

Dearest niece<sup>99</sup>

I have received the package for Fioravanti, the ribbons and the small packet of letters. I also received the paper and the books. But, with regard to the Council of Trent, check my copy and if the printing is in better shape than the one you sent here, have it appraised by Minu and then [...] <sup>100</sup> I shall retain the one purchased. I will send it to you so that you can look it over and then send back either the one or the other. However, if you send the one that I have, see that the appraisal is included.

Give 30 *bajocchi* to Father Filippo Gonnelli in behalf of Liparelli, and enter it into the books as usual. If Father Filippo brings you a book for Alderisio, have that package ready for Alderisio and send me the cost for it.

It will be necessary for you to send Giovanni<sup>101</sup> to see Verusio to get the news and to check whether anything is needed. Prayers, and let us keep this between us as best as possible, for these are infirmities that are not prejudicial. We must do the will of God. If the relic of St. [...], send it to me here [...] another notification of Masses for De Marchis. I am awaiting the last one, moment to moment.

You will have to send here, that is, for tomorrow noon, ten *libre* of dried cod, but good and meaty. Sign it down for Albano, and indicate to me the cost for the purchase. If you send other packages, see that they do not reek of dried cod. The books that were ordered for Father Biagio<sup>102</sup> are to be sent to him when the opportunity arises.

The one *scudo* for the ribbons is to be charged to Albano.

With regard to Sebastianelli, I was referring to Nepi. With regard to us, nothing is changed. But then he will write to me and perhaps be delayed for a short bit more of time. We shall see.

I am waiting for a response with reference to the coppercasting of the Apostles.

Has the Madonna gotten yet to St. Peter's?

Is the cost for both copies of the Soresi grammar 25 *bajocchi* or is that for each one? Something to be explained.

Take care of the humeral veil as you said, but, the cost is not to exceed six *scudi*. Allow yourself six *scudi* for everything. See that it is blessed and then send it to Pedini in Vallecorsa,

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<sup>99</sup> This letter, undated, must be located in October of 1835, and, precisely at the beginning of October (cfr. the reference to the sickness of Fr. Verusio mentioned also in the letter (n. 2987) of October 6; the Jubilee in the dioceses neighboring Rome the letter (n. 2988) of October 6th to Mgrs. Callenea; the humeral veil in the letter (n. 2990) to Luigia dated October 14, 1835, etc.)

<sup>100</sup> The manuscript of this letter is severely deteriorated. Here and elsewhere there are certain illegible words. This will be indicated by the use of dots within brackets.

<sup>101</sup> Giovanni Minicucci.

<sup>102</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

while also giving me, with precise information, the cost.

You are doing very well in maintaining good thriftiness.

I did not fully comprehend Father Filippo's memorandum. I am sending it to Muccioli with a few observations.

The nun in Piperno is waiting for an account from Canapa, so it seems to me. You understand.

Now we come to the matter of the Paolette and, in all sincerity, I say that if Mamma today would have to accompany nuns, wanting to stand by my advice, as would be proper [...] not all holy things are for everyone. With regard to you, I do not [...], wishing to have my opinion, I should have been asked first. Now the situation has developed further and I realize that confusion would result; but, go ahead. You did not understand what I said about the gift. I said: "With regard to the gifts from our uncle, the monk, as well as my own, you look after them". But you answered just the opposite. You will see the crowd that will gather, and, in particular, at the Paolette. At any rate, I repeat, do what you think is best. Indeed, my method of action is already known; so, I believe that it is the will of God that everyone should adapt themselves to this. I thank God that the matter is limited to the entranceway of the church.

I wrote to you about the carriage. What else is required? This is something in which I do not know how to handle myself. We have our Institute, we have our duties that you are aware of, etc.. I do not wish to prolong the story. The [...] tend [...] the future; what is needed is prayer and astuteness too. We have our celebrations, as what I give you for your devotions; I have the Month of the Divine Blood for the Paolette and that is my responsibility; so, you decide whether I am so hardhearted as you wrote to me. Are we to say that being prudent, that keeping balance in one's conscience, that wanting to do in all things the will of God, is hardheartedness? These, at any rate, are the reasons for which I simply must adhere to basic principles. Nevertheless, as a favor to you, tell me what more is needed for I have no doubt that you will be very discreet.

The Jubilee here has not yet concluded; there are many confessions to be heard. Generally speaking, I shall return to Rome within this month since I will have to assist one of our new studentpriests by the name of Gargari, whom I will have offer a low Mass on the weekday, on the feast of the Mercede. When I do arrive, I will enjoy, harmoniously, the time that I stay there, something that always [...], and I am trusting in your virtue. Pray for me who [in Jesus Christ crucified]<sup>103</sup> remain

[Your affectionate uncle]<sup>104</sup>

I am sending the packet for Sabatini, but Cencio<sup>105</sup> should see that it is taken care of etc.

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<sup>103</sup> When a typewritten copy was made of this letter, one could still read these words; now, after the restoration of the volume of the original writings, a piece of the sheet is missing.

<sup>104</sup> Cfr. Previous footnote.

<sup>105</sup> Vincenzo Severini.

2987

October 6, 1835  
Nicola Verusio  
Benevento

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most illustrious sir

In reply to your letter, I tell you that your son<sup>106</sup> has read your letter with pleasure and is showing improvement. I hope, with the Lord's help, to send him to Benevento before the feast of All Saints. Let us give thanks to God in the meantime and let us continue to pray, for prayer will bring forth the perfect cure. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, October 6, 1835

2988

October 6, 1835  
Msgr. Gennaro Callenea  
Benevento

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>107</sup>

Venerable Monsignor

The Jubilee in the various dioceses neighboring Rome has prevented me from sending a reply to your very kind letter. However, briefly, I can say that Verusio is showing improvement. I would like to hope that, before the feast of All Saints, he would be able to return to his hometown. Prayers. These are the special dispositions of providence which we can only humbly adore. Just what has been and still is the anguish that I have suffered I am unable to describe. In all things, may the will of God be done. With esteem, I remain

Your most humble and obliged

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, October 6, 1835

2989

October 11, 1835

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<sup>106</sup> Father Giuseppe Verusio.

<sup>107</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

Fr. Francesco Palmieri  
Ferentillo

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

With pleasure did I receive your most esteemed letter. If you do not encounter difficulty in renouncing immediately your canonry, then feel free to take a year *ad deliberandum*,<sup>108</sup> which the *auditis* etc.<sup>109</sup> calls for. Furthermore, even though in giving the *auditis*, there should be a contrary vow, that will not stand in the way, since this is a matter of a vocation to a more perfect way of life, that is, one that demands higher degrees of virtue. The Council always favors these vocations and we have examples of this in our Institute. I am supposing, in this case, that you have a free patrimonial title, etc., etc..

So, in confidence, I say to you that something must be decided, for I have been informed about your vocation by a priest who is very close to the Lateran Chapter. Still, that does not alter things. I responded with words that I felt were proper for me. Indeed, I assure you that I have nothing against this, in fact, I am desirous of your maintaining stability in this vocation.

I hope that, with the help of God's grace, you will overcome the difficulties that are particularly encountered in making decisions of this sort. Asking you for your prayers, I am and will constantly be, with esteem and respect,

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome,<sup>110</sup> for forwarding, October 11, 1835

2990

October 14, 1835  
Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece

Father Beniamino<sup>111</sup> has received his money. You can now tear up that note.

Send four *scudi* (we are to pay for the mailing) to Cesena to Father Antonio Liparelli.

Take 15 *scudi* from the deposit and sign them down as given to Canon del Bufalo. From

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<sup>108</sup> To weigh carefully.

<sup>109</sup> Things to be heard.

<sup>110</sup> From the postal markings it is evident that the letter was sent from Albano.

<sup>111</sup> Father Beniamino Romani.

these 15 *scudi*, you will take the fifteen *paoli* for Chiodi, as you wrote to me. The rest are to be given to Mamma for living expenses.

I understand about the humeral veil. I received the missal. I note that you have already sent Canon Fontana the 1,70 *scudo*. If not, put it in with the following.

Send an order of 20 *scudi* to Frosinone to Father Camillo Rossi to whom I have given instructions. Otherwise, if the 1,70 *scudo* has not gone yet to Fontana, send 21,70 *scudi*. I hope that I have made myself clear.

Next Saturday, after the noon meal, I shall be arriving in Rome. You might send to me here two copies of the Marian month by Palotta,<sup>112</sup> the ones that are roughly bound; in fact, four or five copies if available, and likewise a meditation book with the translations of Kempis, if a copy is available, and eight or 12 *quinterni* of long paper used for memoranda. I am in a hurry.

Your affectionate uncle

October 14, 1835

Read the directions for the letters to be posted or forwarded.<sup>113</sup>

2991

October 15, 1835

Student Fr. Francesco Verili

Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco

Send your letters to me to "Rome". I am checking over your letters and I am sending a reply, following your paragraphing, while pointing out that with regard to a few things (read my letters again if you still have them) I will be awaiting more precise information.

1. Paint brushes can be located either in Terracina or in Piperno. Check with the masonworker to see where they can be obtained, and then immediately apply the whitener to the baseboard. I already have two boardingstudents confirmed in Sermoneta, and I am holding them back until you take care of the situation. I will be sending them on the day before the vigil of all Saints; let me know whether it will be possible to send them before that.

2. With regard to the small desks, make use of mine and the one for Bartolomeo, gradually using them until they become worn. Little by little, everything will be in order. In the meantime, quickly order, in your way, the things that are still lacking; and immediately everything will be activated as I keep saying; give me a progress report.

3. Father Merlini says that the granary is all right where the carpenter is now working. Check also with your companions; then, too, see that the *ramate* are made as soon as possible

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<sup>112</sup> St. Vincent Palloti.

<sup>113</sup> This was written on the fourth siding.

and continue from there. The carpenter can work elsewhere etc.

4. So that the locks will be disparate, adapted and counterbalanced, see that they are made there. I already wrote about this. We are living in times when things must be done hurriedly. In particular, whitened also the small corridor and thereabouts, etc. Please, quickly.

5. With reference to the chairs, I said that 12 would be coming. You are to provide 12 from the ones in Veroli; they are to be stained.

6. I am writing to Rome for the devotional materials for the collections, but an occasion is needed. Let us pray. You wrote too late to me about this. Perhaps I will send them through the mails. I recommend the request for estimates.

7. Women are not to be admitted into the surroundings. Father Biagio <sup>114</sup> should preach this and, with reason, people should be advised etc. Tell this to Father Biagio. When the bishop has arrived, you should request that an order be given to the pastors so that they will be informed. We shall see. In the meanwhile, winter will also take care of this; in addition, prayer and the use of the means suggested etc.

With regard to the water, I already mentioned, that is to be provided in the large room of the association of St. Aloysius. I am speaking of the locale where they have their meeting; you understand me. For the other men, I expressly enjoin that they get a drink outside the entranceway. You are to adduce the reason for this, namely, especially because of the boarding school etc. Wine, however, is not to be given them; you did not even have to ask the question. What is needed is one of those reasons that, some time ago, I cited to Father Biagio without having to be repeated, ready with an answer to whatever might happen, so as to make everything clear, when necessary, etc..

8. The man from Veroli knows how to take care of the rubble. A certain Nicodemo is supposed to be coming from Benevento and he is capable of handling the rubble. So, along with the man from Veroli, they can work together, allowing Buonafede to look after the garden. Then I shall assign Emidio to Sermoneta where he will be needed by me. And, with Nicodemo appearing on the scene, he can take over Emidio's responsibilities. *Adhuc modicum igitur etc.*<sup>115</sup>

9. The price for Must<sup>116</sup> is usually announced in Sonnino, and later the price varies. Once the price is set, one calculates how many Masses are involved at the synodal amount, and anything more, in reference to the offering, is left to the option of the donor. So, the execution of the Masses belong either to the obligations which the families have, and in that case, *standum pro executione iuxta mentem etc.*<sup>117</sup> If they are for the Purgatory Society, then consult with the

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<sup>114</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

<sup>115</sup> Therefore, for now a little bit.

<sup>116</sup> Unfermented grape juice.

<sup>117</sup> A stand should be taken for execution according to the mind, etc.

Vicar Forane to see whether they can be said *ubique etiam extra Diocesim pendet enim hoc a Sinodo et a decretis ab Episcopo emanatis*.<sup>118</sup> If they are simply devotional Masses, except for a particular vow, *pendet a mente dantis*.<sup>119</sup> In Masses to be fulfilled out of obligation, theology points out within what amount of time they are to be celebrated. If of devotion, *audiatur is qui celebrationem injungit*.<sup>120</sup> In Masses at a privileged altar, on semidoubles, it is proper, in order to enjoy the privilege, to celebrate a Requiem Mass. *Satis*.<sup>121</sup>

10. Also see that the surroundings are plowed up for planting, and put the associations etc.

11. Contact both the carpenter and the masonworker for the fulfillment *tantum* of what we have agreed upon, *et coadjuvantibus omnibus juxta vires*.<sup>122</sup>

12. Get the cornstraw where you find the best price etc. Be informed.

13. Save the *terliccio*, and, in regard to the wool, a bit of respite for the writer.

14. With reference to the cleaning of the corn, it will be necessary to get the help of the associations, but they should remain out on the public road and not within our surroundings for any reason whatsoever. See that they are the older women, and get this done quickly. Emidio might be of help for whatever is needed.

15. I will take care of the cassock for Antonio.

16. With regard to the ideas expressed by Quattrociocchi and Mother Nazzarena <sup>123</sup>, let them be. Your doctrine was more clearly presented. We are already aware of the fact that every proper act, not only for the Institute but also in general, must be mortified etc. These are common principles.

17. As for your letterspatent, have one of your friends in Rome, who is available and fit, take care of this.

18. You will be getting your priesthood certification. Have no doubt. In Rome, things do not move quite as fast. In the meanwhile, you can give your thanks to Annivitti without burdening him with the mails. Pay for the delivery of the letters to him.

19. As soon as I have the notifications for the Masses, I will note down the ones said by you and the offerings will be used for postal expenses, Missions etc.

20. This is how it is: Whatever you have received from Mother Nazzarena is included in

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<sup>118</sup> For everyone even outside of the diocese this would depend on the Synod and the decree emanating from the bishop.

<sup>119</sup> It depends on the mind of the giver.

<sup>120</sup> The one who enjoins the celebration should be heard.

<sup>121</sup> Enough.

<sup>122</sup> And to all coworkers according to their abilities.

<sup>123</sup> Mother Maria Nazzarena de Castris.

the 20 *scudi* account. You probably have gotten this money through the mails.

21. In the rooms adjoining the entryway, either Father Biagio or you will occupy them. I would say that Father Biagio should be near the entryway and you, the first room down the corridor where I said de Castris should be assigned. The reason for this is that it joins up with the maincorridor stairway and is more proper for the Proeconomist. De Castris can be located near the entranceway. I hope that I have made myself clear.

22. Of the two boardingstudents who are already in Sermoneta, one will be bringing everything, the other one nothing, since he has been dispensed, *in principio*.<sup>124</sup> Be advised of this [...].<sup>125</sup>

[there is no signature]

October 15, 1835

Let me know what more money is needed, but always seeking the greatest thrift, etc.<sup>126</sup>

2992

Middle of October 1835

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece<sup>127</sup>

Galli has received his money. Tear up that note.

Some small images, the economical type but at the same time devotional, are needed immediately in Sonnino. They will be used during the collections made for wine, since there is no other immediate opportunity. So, under separate cover, prepare several packages addressing them to Father Francesco Verili "Terracina per Sonnino".

While observing the greatest possible thrift, pay Sottovia for the frames and tell him that no more will be needed. The cost is to be entered for Albano, and, in person you can tell me the price.

The notifications for Zamboni's Masses should include 160.

I recommend that the quillpens be sharpened, the inkwell cleaned, and, be sure that the sand and ink are not lacking. Get the chapel ready.

Send by mail 6,40 *scudi*, in *francs*, for some sashes that will be coming from Rimini, and

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<sup>124</sup> In the beginning.

<sup>125</sup> Half of this page is torn off, hence the signature is also missing.

<sup>126</sup> This final paragraph is found on the fourth siding.

<sup>127</sup> This letter has no date. From the letter (n. 2991) to Verili of October 15, 1835 (in no. 6, reference is made to the images to be sent to Sonnino) we conclude that this letter must be contemporaneous, that is, about the middle of October 1835.

enter this under the Province. Send that money to Father Paolo Venerucci in Rimini for whom you are to place postage on the enclosed matter that I am sending to you.

Silvestri, too, has received his money.

Seal the enclosed materials to be mailed, as I have said.

## 2993

Middle of October 1835

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Dearest niece<sup>128</sup>

I am adding a couple more lines.

You can inform (with a couple of lines) S. Marta that, generally speaking, I shall be in Rome during this month.

Keep this between us: those beloved nuns should be able to provide for themselves. You might mention this to Maria Diomirra. A Missionary is relative.

In your letter, you told me that you are spiritually afflicted. Recalling the spirit of the Saints when they suffered, we too must submit in holy abandonment to God. Place everything within the Heart of Jesus Christ, as I do, and I look to have more. The reminders given by St. Teresa should be very dear to you: "Let nothing disturb you, etc.."

If I have forgotten anything, please remind me.

If I were to make a quick trip to Spoleto, it will be a short one, since I will have to be on hand for the clergy in Velletri on the feast of All Saints. But I will always stop off for a bit of time in Rome. Who knows, perhaps that trip to Spoleto might take place after Velletri. That will depend on lettercorrespondence.

Upon my return, we shall discuss the matters dealing with our uncle, the monk.

## 2994

October 17, 1835

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

## Hail to the Divine Blood

With regard to spiritual direction, it is quite true that there should be a single director; and, according to the principles given by Monsignor Albertini, one is to bare the soul to one only guide. This does not detract respect for all; but such is the rule.

Dimissorials are not needed for your nephew since, for the first year, I shall keep him in Sonnino. With reference to permanence, I do not know what to say; that does not depend upon

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<sup>128</sup> From the reference to the Retreat for the clergy of Velletri, this letter, written from Albano, is to be assigned to the middle of October, 1835.

me. Prayers, and let us be hopeful. I am in the process of leaving for Rome. Remain most tranquil ... keep ready before you the reminders of St. Teresa: "Let nothing disturb you; let nothing frighten you". All is going well. I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Albano, October 17<sup>129</sup>

2995

October 18, 1835

Fr. Giovanni Chiodi

Sermoneta

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Giovanni<sup>130</sup>

I mentioned to you that on the evening of the 26th of this month, you should be here in Albano for the Retreat. Bring along with you whatever is needed for the days of your stay for you will then quickly return there. Father Pietro Buffoni will, in everything, cover your duties. The two deacons will be leaving on the day before the vigil of All Saints. By night they are to be in Sonnino.

In the meantime, they are to remain there; see that they use their time in a holy way, as I have no doubt you will do. Needed is a packanimal for the luggage, since the other two little burros are here. Check with Carpini to see whether he can get one from one or the other of his relatives. Otherwise, you will hire one and the expense will be covered by the economist in Sonnino. For the trip, you provide what is necessary for food; for a bit of time, they will have the helper rest etc. The helper will be either Leoni or Andrea.

Tell Gentili, who I hope is cured, that at some time or other he should be instructing the boardingstudents in very useful things. I realize that now is the time for vacations and I do not wish to change things etc. But one might manage this in such a way as, for example, while taking a walk in the garden, and not as recreation, to point out whatever would be helpful in studies. Have the archpriest contacted by Buffoni with regard to Advent etc. etc. Send your reply to Rome.

2996

October 1835

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<sup>129</sup> The year is 1835 (cfr. the letter to her of September 10, 1835 and the one on October 1, 1835)

<sup>130</sup> This letter has no date. One is derived from the postal markings (Albano, October 18) and from the letter to Verili of October 15, in which mention is made of the two boardingstudents who were to go to Sonnino on the day before the vigil of All Saints, likewise mentioned in this letter.

Fr. Michele Gentili  
Sermoneta

### Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Michele

For the sake of economizing on postal charges, at the first secure opportunity, send the enclosed to Can. Fontana,<sup>131</sup> so as to save postal costs.

With reference to the plot of land where the bones have been placed, I would say:

- 1) That it was a precarious move.
- 2) It is not a *bona fide* cemetery.
- 3) I would conclude: use diligence in finding the bones again, in order to deposit them in a true cemetery. Then, that plot of land can be used again for cultivation.
- 4) I warn you that even dogs could come to eat those bones, since they are out in the open. At any rate, I will abide by whatever you decide, since you are more experienced. Check to see whether Fr. Biagio agrees with what I say. In this matter, contact the Vicar General of Terracina through Fr. Biagio.<sup>132</sup>

With respect to the furnishings, that is, the drapes, candle holders, etc., I would distinguish as follows: either it is a question of something that is very expensive, in which case there is no further problem: or, it will be something doubtful and I would then answer: if, for example, the coat of arms of the nobility is on the drapes, the benefit of the doubt would favor the patrons who have those coats of arms; if there are none, I would ask: what is your proof for this? etc., etc.. With no proof forthcoming, the church remains the owner. Following these procedures, all doubt will be removed.

As for the property of the Franciscans and Capuchins that we own, and these are to be marked with proper identifications, I say that all that should be left *prout est*.<sup>133</sup> Anyone who thinks he has a right, should prove it, and do so clearly.

Fr. Cotino will be returning. Prepare for him that room which is vacant in the section for Missionaries, on the side facing the fields. Use his own mattress and provide everything that is

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<sup>131</sup> Can. Fr. Vincenzo Maria Fontana was at that time the President of the Mission. House in Frosinone.

<sup>132</sup> cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Sermoneta (tombs)

<sup>133</sup> As it is.

necessary, etc.<sup>134</sup>

(on the outside and above the address, we read:)

For the Ceremonial that you are writing, it will be good for you, within a short time, to have a copy of the rule and the elucidations that is now being prepared, so that you can fit things together, etc.<sup>135</sup>

2997

October 22, 1835

Domenico Antonio Massarella

Fondi

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Domenico Antonio

I am inconveniencing you with this letter of mine so that you might do me the favor of sending to Terracina a *canestra*, that is to say, a carriage with four places, since I have there three of our men who will be going to Benevento. You will be paid by the Missionary who will be directing the trip when he passes through Fondi. In order that the Missionaries will not have to worry about it, see that an agreement is made that the coachman will take care of getting them through the Garigliano pass and the barrier at Capua, I repeat, all of this should be taken care of by the coachman as well as to provide for their meals where they stay over night; also, separate beds, even if the three of them, who are traveling with the coachman, should have to stay in the same room. The *canestra* should be ready in Terracina next Wednesday morning on time, for our men, on Tuesday night, will be staying in Terracina at the inn near the seaside. I ask you to please try to use the greatest possible thrift, informing me, by open letter, about the cost for the coachman in Terracina. I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, October 22, 1835

P. S. Please see that the carriage is not lacking. The coachman will likewise pay for the passage through Portella, including that in the cost for the coach.

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<sup>134</sup> In our opinion, the dateline for this letter should be: Albano, October 1835. Since we are not able to produce apodictic arguments drawn from documents in the Archives, we designate it as "very probable", with the exception of the year which is certain, for only in 1835 was Fr. Michele Gentili located in Sermoneta. He was there specifically from the middle of June to October 25. Thus, the month has to fall within this brief span of time. We have indicated the month as October because the work on the graves during that month was certainly completed (cfr. preceding footnote) as well as because of other indications which would apparently take too long to present here. Finally, the place of origin depends on the month. We know that the Saint, after having been in Albano at the end of July when he dictated to Merlini the Rule and the praxis, returned there at the end of August and stayed on during the month of September and October to review all the methods and directories.

<sup>135</sup> Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Rule and Customary

2998

October 22, 1835

Madre Abbadessa  
 Monastero di S. M. del Buon Consiglio  
 Velletri per Cori

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Esteemed Mother Abbess

With pleasure I have received your most esteemed letter. In reply, I assure you that quite willingly I will send someone for the Retreat at your venerable Monastery, always however with the previous approbation of the Bishop or his Vicar General. As to the person, Fr. Biagio Valentini will be engaged in preaching the Lenten sermons at Sermoneta; with that destination, it will be incompatible for him. With regard to Merlini, I see difficulties because of the classes that he must take care of. At Carnival time they would be on vacation, but not so in Lent. There are, however, other able and mature members from among whom I would be able to select someone to do the good work there. Be assured, you will be most content, with the grace of God and the help of your prayers. I shall await a line in reply, so that eventually I can arrange things.

God willing, I will be in Velletri on all Soul's Day in order to begin the Retreat for the Clergy and the Seminary. Pray, and have others pray, for me. In general, address your letters to me: = Rome =.

In regard to the Mission, prayers and acts of charity.

Let us not lose our trust in God with respect to the cure of the Nun; let us be hopeful. God wants us to pray, and with more perseverance.

Referring again to the Retreat, I would like to know the days of the stay there. In general, you may command me freely.

Recommend me to God; consider me always, as I renew myself with esteem and respect, as your

Humble, devoted, obliged servant

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, October 22, 1835

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October 22, 1835

Fr. Francesco Paradisi  
 Montalto

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

Here I am sending a reply to your very kind letter.

Keeping in mind the advice of Father Giovannelli, and especially the one that pertains to your Canonry residence, which is of great relevance, you are the boss as to when you wish to go to S. Felice in Giano. In an upcoming maildelivery, I shall write to them about your arrival. In case that climate does not suit you, then you might select another nearby, and that might be either Nepi or Pievetorina, which are the closest Houses. With this understanding on my part, nothing more is needed. Recommend me to God. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, October 22, 1835

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October 23, 1835

Ignazio Lesinelli

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Ignazio

I am returning your note which you, as a practice of humility, wanted me to read. Everything is just fine. His Eminence Cristaldi will be calling first for Missions and the Retreat for the clergy, and then the foundation, if I am not mistaken. It is quite possible that some details may have escaped my memory.

I am sending a package of assorted devotional materials for Lawyer Capogrossi who, perhaps, may be outside of Rome until the feast of All Saints. You probably know that. I will not be writing to the lawyer, but you will be able to tell him in person that in whatever way I can be of assistance in serving him, all he needs to do is drop me a line. Also, that within a short time, he will be getting the prospectus of our Institute which he has requested. Oh how many obligations I have to you: May the Lord reward you for me. Recommend me to God. With esteem, respect and gratitude, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House, October 23, 1835

After I had written this letter, the most reverend auditor for his Holiness has made known to me that it was his Eminence Lambruschini who stimulated the project, from what I have learned from the Passionists. Still, we are totally submissive to whatever God will dispose. Nevertheless, the note to Lawyer Alberghini will always be something useful, etc., etc..