

St. Gaspar's Letters

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3151

June 21, 1836
Fr. Pietro Spina
Roma per Nepi

Hail to the Divine Blood

Fr. Pietro

Your letters: "Rome"

In regard to the soul of NN., I shall write lengthily, but not today. In the meanwhile, I say what De Sales says about a soul, etc.

Your preaching is going quite well: but, you find it difficult, and you do not see the happy results. Courage.

I would never have believed that of a companion. ... It proves that old saying: "It's a good plant, but it's not for our kind of soil". May God inspire him to return to his own diocese.¹

I urge you to look into the matter of the tax, soon after the month.²

I have understood what you said with regard to the Mission. Concerning the Retreatant, it is all right.

I shall investigate the problem of the vestments as soon as I get to Rome.

The Bishop's representative must first give a reply to the Bishop concerning the Nun. Otherwise, how can I present myself? Keep me informed.³

I am awaiting clarifications concerning the Legacy, etc..⁴ The deeds of possession: at that time the Bishop thought it sufficient. Have them state what is to be done.

Let me know whether Fioravanti is getting the bed; otherwise send it directly to Rome. But first, answer, and then we shall figure out a way.

I urge the use of the relic of St. Jerome.

With regard to preachable matter, it is necessary to come to a decision, although NN.

¹ Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Plant, A Good

² Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Taxes, Exemption From the

³ Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Nun, Concerning the

⁴ Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Legacy, Tiberi

ought to keep encouraging himself. I have a special need of setting up a House of Studies there,⁵ at least on a small scale. So, we would require a President, capable of teaching etc. In that case, either you would remain there as Economist, and we would agree on that, etc; or, perhaps you would move on to Romagna, still assigned to the position of Economist, in Macerata Feltria. At present, the matter is dependent on prayer. On the other hand, in the meantime, get ready for the arrival of the man who is to preside over the House of Studies and who will give you a bit of relief. It is a city that stands at the crossroads. I do not want you to worry so much. Abide by whatever God disposes, and continue working in the meantime, etc. etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. d. B.

M. Ap.

Piperno, June 21, 1836⁶

3152

June 26 , 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail etc.

Dearest niece⁷

Be insistent with Father Filippo⁸ with regard to the certification. Hold on to the relic of S. Filomena until my return.

I have understood all the rest etc. I am in a hurry, etc.

G. C. d. B.

3153

June 28, 1836
Pietro Barcaroli
Chiaravalle

⁵ Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Nepi (House of Studies)

⁶ The year is deduced with certainty, not only from the full agreement of what is recorded in the Congress held in 1836 in the House in Nepi and the various topics touched on in this letter, as can be noted in the preceding footnotes, but also from the fact that it was written from Piperno (Latina), where, only in the year 1836, did the Saint spend a large part of the month of June. As a matter of fact, he preached the Retreat to the Clarissa Nuns, beginning it on the 11th of that same month.

⁷ From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter was sent from Priverno and, after passing through Terracina, arrived in Rome on June 26, 1836.

⁸ Father Filippo Gonnelli.

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Pietro

The occupations of the ministry have delayed my sending a response to your recent letter. But, with regard to the Missions, the only thing I can do is pray that you will make a decision so that we can come to some agreement. Around September, I should be in that area; this is a purely accidental thing. First of all, we must set up a sure thing. May God give you his illumination. Send your letters to "Rome". With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Miss. Ap.

Frosinone, June 28, 1836

3154

June 29, 1836

Luigi Fuschi

Norma

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Luigi

I have taken care of your matter with Monsignor Ruspoli. Prayers. In a hurry, I remain etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Frosinone, June 29⁹

3155

June 29, 1836

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Send the letters to Frosinone.

Seal the enclosed. Observe the destination of Father Gennaro¹⁰ at the schools of albano.

⁹ In all probability the year is 1836. In that year, as a matter of fact, St. Gaspar was located in Frosinone at the end of June.

¹⁰ Father Gennaro Gamboa, who was preaching the Month of the most Precious Blood in S. Andrea delle Fratte, in Rome.

Give me greetings to Father Pietro, etc..¹¹

3156

End of June, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece¹²

From Poggioli, see that you get 18 candles of four ounces each and another 18 of three ounces each, and send me the bill.

Then, see that this material is consigned to the presenter of this letter of mine, together with a letter from you to Maria Nazzarena, so that it can be delivered to Sonnino immediately, since this will be needed for the feast of the most Precious Blood. I understand that the coachman will be leaving soon. I am etc.

Your affectionate uncle
G. C. del Bufalo

3157

End of June, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece¹³

I have read your letter and I am sending a reply.

1. I understand about the expense for the wax for Sonnino.
2. The affairs dealing with Father Eugenio¹⁴ are of such a delicate nature that no one of

¹¹ Father Pietro De Victoriis, who was preaching the Month of the most Precious Blood in S. Nicola in Carcere, in Rome. From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter was sent from Priverno and, after passing through Terracina, arrived in Rome on June 29, 1836.

¹² This letter is written urgently, probably at the end of June, because of the nearness of the feast of the most Precious Blood. But in what year? Here, St. Gaspar is ordering wax for Sonnino. In the records of administration of Sonnino, in the outgoing funds for the 27th of June and the 5th, 6th and 7th of July, 1836, there are expenses listed for wax. The largest expense, (three *scudi* and 40 *baiocchi*) is entered under June 27, 1836. Thus, it appears that this letter could be assigned to the end of June, 1836. Even more so, since in other years, there are no entries of expenses relating to wax for Sonnino. Cfr. also the following letter.

¹³ This letter, without a date, was written from Frosinone, a few days before the 1st of July (a Friday) as is evident from the text. It is the year, 1836. St. Gaspar, in 1836, was in Frosinone starting from Saturday, June 25th (cfr. the letter to the Vicar Forane of Torri, dated June 20, 1836). Hence, this letter is placed at the end of June, 1836.

¹⁴ Father Eugenio Pechi, St. Gaspar's uncle.

the relationship can and must be involved. Even though our uncle, the monk, did everything correctly and with permission, it will, indeed, be necessary to avoid talk; in addition, the case of dividends is something quite remote. I spoke of this to you several times, reserving to myself the opportunity of reading the copy. But, then, what did you do? You wrote a letter which displays nothing other than real, diabolical confusion. As is my wont, I simply offered this up to God; as a consequence, I feel that it is not proper for me to give any further response. You talk like someone who has *carte blanche*, and you say so many other things that are the product of your imagination. You say to me that if you had known the things that were conceived, you would have acted otherwise. To these and to other things, I have answered several times, and I am simply tired of giving responses. The only thing I can say is that this type of procedure is not pleasing to God; and that is sufficient.

I add that no person has *carte blanche*, and neither is what you imagine about the money true. Only that much that is just is to be given and nothing more. Certainly, in my entire career, I have never used the method of thought or of writing as the one you have chosen to use. So, you have my compassion.

Since I act in accordance with my conscience, I place no value on what has been written, but rather on what is my duty, what is virtuous, and what is the will of God. The Lord reproved Martha because she was getting overly upset about temporal things. I would be delighted to see more noble sentiments in you, and I am hopeful that you will acquire them. I point out to you that in reference to these matters, I wish to hear nothing more, ever desirous to live peacefully the time left that God is pleased to grant to me. Now, let us go on to other things.

The notification of Masses of Father Isidoro¹⁵ you are to retain for the time being. As soon as Masses are available, they will be sent. Presently, I do not have any. We shall see. Try to get them from the Vicar General of Nepi.

At the first opportunity, send two linked chaplets, the inexpensive type made of coconut, to Maria Nazzarena in Piperno. Tell her to give one to each of the peasants who accompanied me from Piperno to Frosinone. One was named Giovanni, the other Giuseppe, if I am not mistaken.

Get hold of a rule of St. Xavier, crossing out that usual line and, under a separate cover, send it to Canon Setucci, or, give instructions to Maria Nazzarena since she, as Procuratress, will take care of it. Finally, to the aforementioned Nazzarena, send two copies of the rule for the sisters of charity, one of which she is to give to Canon Setucci, the other to the president of the sisters of charity.

Inform Father Gennaro¹⁶ that on Saturday, July 2nd, Merlini will be sending the cartdriver from Albano to haul the trunk which he should have ready. In order to immediately spare the Paolotti Fathers any inconvenience, right now I am advising that, for the morning of

¹⁵ Father Isidoro Paoletti.

¹⁶ Father Gennaro Gamboa.

July 4th, you reserve a place, as usual, on the coach for Albano, for the aforementioned Father Gennaro so that he can be in Albano at the time of the noon meal, and he can then load on whatever is still remaining. Father Gennaro is to give firm directions for the exact transportation of the things, seeing that it is done properly. In the coach, as is surely wellunderstood, all men, as usual; I am advising you of this from this very moment. Nothing more is needed. With regard to de Victoriis,¹⁷ I will make arrangements. But, be ready. Presently, I am planning who will be travelling with him. Provide Father Gennaro with a passport so that he can hang on to it for future occasions. Nothing else is needed. Hold on to the one for de Victoriis.

Mail 3 *scudi* in *francs* to Father Antonio Lipparelli: Urbino per Pennabilli. I repeat, send them in francs. I shall write to Father Antonio.

Obtain a shirt for Brother Giuseppe Franchi who is in Vallecorsa, along with a pair of black, summer stockings, two handkerchiefs, one of color, the other white, using the usual procedure. Put this all in a single packet to Brother Giuseppe Franchi and, using an outer covering, send it to: Father Francesco Saverio Ricciardi, President in Vallecorsa, with a line or so telling him: "Here are the things needed by Brother Franchi". Send the notification of the cost to me. You already know that. Forward the package of Vallecorsa to Fontana in Frosinone. It will be necessary for you to arrange for a barber for Father Gennaro, for if there is no one to handle it, it will be necessary for us to pay. So, you manage yourself and take care of this too.

Send 6 hymnals to Luigi Fuschi in Norma. The dealers in Piazza Montanara will be having a sale, so, get there as soon as possible. Leave a line, saying: Send them to Canon del Bufalo, as usual.

Galli says that you should keep his money on deposit.

Send letters to me to Frosinone. More in the maildelivery on Friday.

Has the certification come in?

3158

July 1, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece

I have gotten word of the packages and I see that they have gone to the places intended, even though delayed, perhaps, because of a lack of opportunity.

Virgilj has not received the package. Perhaps, no opportunity has offered itself. Canon Fontana was also awaiting something else; and, finally, I remind your about the small vases.

It will be necessary to send 24 copies of the images of Jesus Christ under the winepress to Maria Nazzarena de Castris in Piperno.

¹⁷ A few words that are illegible were crossed out here.

Likewise, you are to provide a copy of the directory for confessions of Blessed Leonard, along with the one of de Rossi, which Contedini has in stock. De Victoriis, who is acquainted with him, can handle that. Send it under an outer covering to Verili. Everything that is going beyond Porta del Popolo, is to go in the usual manner, entrusting it to the aforementioned de Victoriis who will see to using a secure delivery.

Send three *scudi* in *francs* to Father Francesco Verili in Rimini. I have already informed him. You are to seal the faculty of the *Concezione* for Father Verili and give the package to de Victoriis.

You must send to Piperno two linked chaplets of the most Precious Blood to Maria Nazzarena. Tell her that one is to be given to the nun, Maria Teresa (she understands), the other is for Maria Nazzarena.

It will be necessary to provide two corporals *sufficienti* with lace *sufficiente*. As soon as they are made, inform me and let me know the cost.

If a ciborium can be found, like the one in the enclosed leaflet, I would be delighted if you would let me know the price. Who knows, one might perhaps get the one in S. Agnese. If not, we will order one. Needed, likewise, is to find out about the small, silver key.

Send two certificates of aggregators to Albano, telling Merlini to hold on to them until I return. Also, send letters I get to Albano. I will be celebrating the feast of the Divine Blood here. Canon Fontana has sent me the enclosed small card. A part of it regards you, the other part, where you see my handwriting, pertains to me. Keep this card for me and remember then to give it to me.

A job that I am giving you.

1. On the morning of the 4th, Viola from Albano will be coming for the noon meal so that he can accompany de Victoriis on the trip.

2. For the timebeing, others will not be leaving. Only De Victoriis and Viola.

3. De Victoriis will take care of getting his passport and seeing that Viola gets there, or, Giovanni¹⁸ will go. See that everything goes along according to regulations.

4. De Victoriis should plan to leave either after the noon meal on the 4th, or the morning of the 5th at the latest.

5. As he passes through Nepi, he will contact Coppola. After you have read this letter of mine, inform Spina so that Coppola will be ready. If de Victoriis cannot work things out in getting Coppola, he should leave him there, but he should let me know. Perhaps, he might write to Spina with some doubt in mind. Still, he should try to get Coppola. De Victoriis, likewise, is experienced in making arrangements for a coach; again, the greatest thriftiness should be sought. It seems to me that, up to Spoleto, it should cost 2,50 *scudi*, including the meal. The fair in Sinigaglia is not being held.

6. He will give some thought to sending Coppola to Pievetorina and, while bringing him to Giano, he will write, in my name, to Santarelli in order to economize, so that he can be sent

¹⁸ Giovanni Minicucci.

for by mounts from Pievetorina.

7. He should keep Viola in Giano until I write, which will be quite soon, about his next position. I repeat, let everything be provisional and, in the meantime, keep at work.

8. De Victoriis will find my letters, covering everything, awaiting him in Giano. May he, indeed, travel in the name of the Lord.

9. Give him only as much money as is needed, but rather one *paolo* less than more; you handle it and then write to me. As much as is needed for Giano, since mounts from Pievetorina will be provided for Coppola. In time, I will take care of Viola.

10. See that de Victoriis gets off and then send me a page of those things that you have to tell me by way of information; make sure the page is minutely detailed. Wish him a good trip and tell him that I will see him again at the time of my visitation of S. Felice.

Let us be in agreement. The maildelivery is about to leave. Pray for me and let us become saints. I am etc.

Your affectionate uncle

G. C. d. B.

Frosinone, July 1, 1836

P. S. There is urgency in Giano for the return of de Victoriis. I repeat, send letter written to me to "Albano".

3159

July 1, 1836

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Orazio

Send your letters to me to "Rome". Your father gives you his greetings. At his age, he is in quite good health. He would be happy to get your letters.

With regard to your reimbursement, you will learn everything from Santarelli. In reference to Masses, I am sending you 20 of them, but all of them with the obligation of a privileged altar, something that will have to be expressed in your notification. Anything else will be taken care of later.

The occupations of the ministry have delayed my letterwriting. With esteem, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Frosinone, July 1¹⁹

Send your letters to me to "Rome". Remember that on semidoubles, in order to enjoy the privileged altar, it is necessary to celebrate a Requiem Mass etc.

Promote the observance of the rule, the day of recollections, etc.

I do not know whether it is true that you had some influence on the new design of our image of the most holy Mary of our Missions. If this is true, I would not be able to give it my approval. It would be wrong.²⁰

3160

July 1, 1836

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the Divine Blood

Frosinone, July 1, 1836

I am ever so obliged to you for your very great charity. The case which you will be receiving you must return to Rome where its delivery will be paid for. Tell Gentili that the little sack containing a bit of sugar, which he will be receiving from Sermoneta, is to be sent back to Rome.

Buffoni has written to me that he has received the holy water sprinkler and he adds that he has also received a small case about which he knows nothing. I gave him this reply: Hold on to it until you hear from me. Now, please be kind enough to give me instructions.

As for the oil, everything is all right. The only thing that bothers me is the inconvenience I cause you. I keep seeing an increase in the obligations that I have toward you.

I shall remember the two brass horns of plenty which, I suppose, must turn out to be just a mouthful for each one, and also to hold a single candle. As soon as I get to Rome, I will look into this. You keep praying and recommending me to God.

Be insistent about the pious organizations, in particular, with Canon Satucci and with the other Canon whose family name I do not recall exactly right now; I think it is Martinucci. Let us continue to pray for the Mission.

I give thanks to God for your nephew's²¹ preaching. May God fill him with many blessings. Return my best wishes to the Mother Sacristan and ask her to pray etc. To you, I say nothing more. Your soul is getting along fine. Maintain your virtuous abandonment to God, the

¹⁹ The year is 1836. In that year, in fact, the presence of St. Gaspar in Frosinone on July 1st is verified, along with the presence of Bracaglia and Santarelli in Pievetorina, as is evident from the congressus held on June 20, 1836 in that House. Cfr. also the letter (n. 3181) of July 18, 1836 to this same person, making reference to the image of most holy Mary of our Missions.

²⁰ This paragraph is on the fourth siding, near the address.

²¹ Enrico De Castris.

center of peace. In every event, we are to remind ourselves that the Heart of Jesus Christ is surrounded with thorns; thus, we will have peace and comfort. With esteem, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Frosinone, July 1, 1836

Send letters to me to "Albano". Inform Gentili too.

3161

July 1, 1836

Fr. Domenico Silvestri

Macerata Feltria

Hail to the Divine Blood

July 1, (1836)²²

Esteemed Fr. Domenico Frosinone,

In reference to the harpsichord, be assured that, in the complexity of our present circumstances, *non expedit*.²³ *Deo dante*,²⁴ one day we shall speak in person. Here the old saying applies: "*Non omnia quae licent expediunt*".²⁵ *Saltem*,²⁶ it has to be so *pro nunc*.²⁷

The only Economists assigned there have been Santarelli, who opened the House, you and Fr. Gennaro. Anyone who substitutes does not handle administrative matters.

As for crosses, be assured that if we work with an upright spirit, they will facilitate our road to Heaven.

I, too, agree that in reference to the pieces of land, it is necessary to get our bearings. I do not think that we can speak at this time about rents because of the imminence of the harvest.²⁸

²² The year is derived from the various circumstances mentioned in the text of the letter, especially the matter dealing with the harpsichord. It connects this letter to the preceding one (of August 17, 1836), as does the matter of the renting of land (cfr. footnote 24 below); and, above all, from the fact that on July 1, 1836, the Saint was located precisely in Frosinone, from whence he wrote other letters (for example, to Suor Nazzarena in Piperno,; to Luigia Del Bufalo in Rome,): Something which is not verified in the other years that Fr. Domenico was in Macerata Feltria.

²³ It is not expedient.

²⁴ God giving.

²⁵ Not everything that is lawful is expedient.

²⁶ At least.

²⁷ [For now.] Concerning the harpsichord, see Gasparian History and Trivia: Harpsichord

²⁸ Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Macerata Feltria (Mission House)

Keep me informed on this matter. Furthermore, to speak frankly, since the policies between us and the Commune are not settled yet, let us handle ourselves *meliori modo*²⁹.

I am expecting to send Lipparelli to handle the proceeds from the Lenten series and other matters.

In the meantime, you are to adhere to what we have already established between us concerning many points relating to our church and other matters. This is one of the reasons why I sent you there, at least for the timebeing.

Maintain the observance of the rule, from which every blessing arises. When in doubt, ask me questions, and let us not lose courage in working for God. I know that, occasionally, when it comes time for the last Mass, there is a priest there who can be helpful. Outside confessors are to hear confession in the parish church. Be governed by prudence. I am presently gathering together some Masses. I am, etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

P. S. Your letters to: "Rome".

3162

July 2, 1836
Fr. Pietro Spina

Nepi³⁰

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Pietro

Here is what I have concluded, in order to proceed with orderliness.

1) You shall remain as President until the opening of the House of Studies. At that time the new President will arrive and you will have a change.

2) Paoletti is to remain as the second Missionary, with the assignment as Director of Retreats.

3) There is a particular urgency that you complete the arrangements for the House of Studies. At least on a small scale, it is necessary that you initiate the new studies. I shall make an effort to get those who can afford to pay some room and board. In general, I shall do what I can.³¹

²⁹ In a better way.

³⁰ The posterior halfsheet for this letter with the address that we have transcribed here, was located, completely out of place. But, after minute examination, it was determined that it belonged to this present letter; with great care we have restored it to its proper place.

³¹ In regard to the House of Studies in Nepi, cfr. the 5th footnote of Lett. n. 3151 of June 21, 1836.

4) I would like to have the locale for the House of Studies ready for the Retreat that is called for by the rule.

5) The President will be one of the Missionaries there for the Mission. You shall stay on during the Mission, and then proceed wherever God wants you to be. The Visitation will be held at that time.

6) All of this, except for unforeseen matters. It might also happen that you could remain there in an administrative position. In the meantime, let us go forward, let us do good, and, let us pray.

7) I remind you of the relic of St. Jerome, the observance of the rule, the activation of the refectory next to the garden, a decisive reply concerning the *Fioravanti* bed.

In reference to NN., here are the established principles:

1) Surrender yourself peacefully to God: "*Ecce in pace amaritudo mea amarissima*".³² At the same time, have great confidence and offer yourself in obedience.

2) Amidst pains and thorns, do not abandon the ministry. The act is that much more meritorious the more difficult it is.

3) Do not give way to apprehension which simply dries up the spirit.

4) Prepare yourself for preaching, but not with aversion.

5) The devil will flee if NN. will show more courage and invoke the Divine Blood.

6) The suffering that you had to endure was due to your having to preach on the Divine Blood.

7) Offering up the Divine Blood, implore him for the gift. The B. Leonardo used to offer it 33 times before celebrating Mass.

Anything else, *cum Directore*.³³

I would like to have you look into the matter of the taxation so as to remove a burden, which other Institutes do not have. The Episcopal headquarters is one thing and a Convent is something else. Formerly, the Convent was deserted: so, it is not surprising that we have to pay. Am I forgetting anything?

I hope to be there for the Mission, unless something unforeseen comes up. In all these comings and goings, it is not always up to me.

I am, etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Frosinone, July 2, 1836

P.S. For a short while, send your letters to Albano; later, "Rome".

³² Behold in peace my most biting bitterness.

³³ With the Director.

Soon De Victoriis will be passing through, or, perhaps he has already done so, etc. etc.

3163

July 4, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece

To the letter which I have already posted, I now add that I would like to know the cost for the crucifix and rosary sent to Father Camillo³⁴ for a member of the St. Xavier group, also indicating to me the cost for the coatofarms; if it was not ordered, then order one. As soon as this is taken care of, inform me.

There should be an umbrella there for Frosinone which you can put in along with the other things. In not having any favorable occasions, it will be necessary to wait and see when the cartdrivers come in; or, possibly, after your reply, I will look into it, etc., etc..

Tell Cencio³⁵ that since I presently am in need of Masses, I shall be disposing of a certain number of the ones from Lesinelli; otherwise, I would need to give alms to some without any particular purpose. However, I hope to be getting some soon.

Did I write to you in reference to a certain amount of money belonging to Lipparelli? It seems that I did.

Give to Minu the enclosed small paper which he will then return to me when I get back; he should see whether the missing volumes can be located. If he finds them, I should be informed about the price, etc. before you conclude things.

It will be necessary that, with the small copperplate of most holy Mary with the Christchild holding the chalice, you have 600 images made in cloth, to be used for uniforms. Then, let me know the cost as soon as they are ready. Everything, little by little.

A pastor friend of mine would like to have two surplices, *sufficienti e gricci*, even though they are secondhand, but in good condition. At times, they can be found on the occasion of a sale in chapels or in S. Caterina. Before you conclude things, let me know about this. A certain amount of care is called for. Otherwise, I would say: there is no way.

Send your letters to me to "Albano". I am etc.

Your affectionate uncle

G. C. del Bufalo
M. Ap.

³⁴ Father Camillo Rossi.

³⁵ Vincenzo Severini.

Frosinone etc.³⁶

3164

July 5, 1836
Fr. Francesco Verili
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco³⁷

From the enclosed small paper, you will note how the case is to be solved, and therefore, make a memorandum in accordance with the regulations. Let us lay down the principles ... if it is a matter of a sanation for temporary Masses, the Sacred Penitentiary is required for NN. But if the documents of a legacy, a benefice must be externally produced, since this is an external affair, it will be necessary to have recourse to the vestryboard. If recourse is to the Sacred Penitentiary, I will handle it for NN. and I will be awaiting the petition from you. If it is with the vestryboard of S. Pietro, being a matter to be investigated externally, it would be good for the priest to find another close friend of his to act for him. There will be an expense involved with the vestryboard. I would not care to be involved etc. In Rome, there are people from Romagna.

To the query: "For one who falls again, after making a general confession, etc., etc.", I reply: You will discover a lessening, at least in the first days, an attempt to fight the battle; the help given in the sacraments, prayer and devotion to the Divine Blood, etc. etc. will complete the work.

For priests who are not leading a good life, advise them to make a Retreat, withdrawing themselves *ex devotione* etc.³⁸ Urge them to make a meditation, even though only a short one, have devotion to the Divine Blood, and to most holy Mary etc.

Anyone who confesses out of fear of death demonstrates that he experiences remorse of conscisnce; that feeling of remorse is the voice of God. The confessor should encourage the person and go ahead with the usual means. To have to change one's state of life, one's profession, is not an ordinary matter.

Much thought must be given before deciding. Father Rafaele is experienced, etc., etc..

You will soon be relieved of the position of economist. In the meantime, conduct yourself *meliori modo*.³⁹ When you have reached the just level, let them talk; perhaps they may be talking in jest.

³⁶ This letter, sent from Frosinone, arrived in Rome on July 4, 1836, as is evident from the postal markings.

³⁷ From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter, sent from Frosinone, is dated July 5, 1836.

³⁸ Out of devotion.

³⁹ In a better way.

As for hearing confessions, men *ut plurimum etc.*⁴⁰ and, when necessary, *juxta regulas*,⁴¹ make yourself available for the confession of women. Trust in God and in obedience. Do not get involved in cases worthy of examination as you have already done. Be tranquil.

With reference to cases for the Penitentiary, you are to apply for them *ad annum*⁴² from the bishop, obtaining a copy in writing from the chancery etc. It is too early to get them from Rome. Slowly.

At the first opportunity, you will be receiving the directory of Blessed Leonard.

With regard to room and board, I will not be requiring anything from your father. I do not have the heart to do that. You take care of it. It seems that we are all even in reference to the past. Keep me informed. You, too, can make use of it freely for your own necessities. This is very, very just. Your father can forward it to you through the mails.

As for the offerings for Masses, you can make use of them as you wish. Indeed, I will be sending through the mails three *scudi* in *francs* for the notification which I shall be awaiting, even though the postage might have been subtracted from those offerings. So, you can consider yourself with the fulness of freedom, now that you have properly left the Province. So, look for it in the mailoffice.

You people should frequently visit the hospital, but at the same time have the proper attitudes and concerns, etc., etc. [...].⁴³ Tell me, did you give orders or permission for having tables set up in our locale, without saying a syllable to me, perhaps because of forgetfulness? In view of the fact that your example is influential, it would be good if you would clarify this situation with Gentili and admit the mistake. Please accept this advice: In many cases, saying no leads to good results. In handling people, if one offers a yea, another person is hurt in getting a no. So, let us stick to our practices, and when necessary, ask questions. I am etc. [...]⁴⁴

3165

First part of July, 1836

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

⁴⁰ That the most.

⁴¹ According to the rules.

⁴² Within a year.

⁴³ In the original, four lines follow that were crossed out by Verili.

⁴⁴ In the original, there is a postscript of some eight short lines that were crossed out by Verili.

Dearest niece⁴⁵

Presently I am reading another letter from you (indeed, I have found so many).

With regard to the coatofarms for the St. Xavier group, everything is all right. You will send it to Father Camillo,⁴⁶ telling him that it is to go to Father Francesco Saverio Ricciardi for the member in Vallecorsa, enrolled in the association.

As for the other things you mentioned, all is very, very good. We shall be awaiting the results with regard to the surplices.

I have understood about the book for Verili.

With regard to the ciborium of that measurement, check again to see what the cost is, and then I will decide. Be economical.

I thank God immensely for the wonderful success of the second of the month. Praise to the Divine Blood.

How many are there of those small images of various saints? Let us work hard for God, for he will be a generous rewarder. I am

Your affectionate uncle

3166

July 9, 1836

Luigi Francesconi

Maenza

Most esteemed Luigi

I have received your petition, so have no doubt that I will do all I can to go along with the good work. I will also contact the most reverend bishop. We will try to arrange things in such a way that on Palm Sunday there will be the general communion and then arrange the functions for Holy Week.

May God bless your zealous efforts as well as those of the others working for the glory of his adorable Name. With esteem I remain,

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare Can. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Mission and Retreat House in S. Paolo of Albano, July 9, 1836

⁴⁵ From an examination of certain points (e.g. the coatofarms of St. Francis Xavier and the two surplices) present in the letters (n. 3170, n. 3178, n. 3183) of the 11th, 18th and 21st of July, 1836, as well as the one on August 1, 1836, we conclude that this letter is to be assigned to July of 1836. Given the statement with reference to the successful preaching of the month of the most Precious Blood, the letter is dated: first part of July.

⁴⁶ Father Camillo Rossi.

3167

Fr. Pasquale Virgilj
Frosinone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Pasquale

You are to celebrate 12 Masses which you will then list on a separate sheet. Though in a hurry, I remain, with esteem

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Albano, July 11, 1836

Tell Chiodi that he should write to Buffoni for Masses since he has some on hand. He will understand.

3168

July 11, 1836
Camillo Possenti
Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

Please check with the printer there to see just how much the cost would be for each of the small works enclosed. One is for the members of the St. Xavier group, the other for the members of the sisters of charity. The third manuscript is for the country folks. Much attention must be given to exactness in the correcting of the printing, to the use of good paper and print and finally to make no final decisions without indicating to me first the cost and the precise expense, since I will be figuring out my account with other printers who will offer their services. Perhaps it might be possible to print each individual work at one time. These little works are all to be according to one format, even though the print may be different. I would say: something like the format for the Chaplets. We would like to have 500 copies of each work and no more. I shall be awaiting your reply and, though in a hurry, full of gratitude to you and asking you for your prayers, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

July 11, 1836

3169

July 11, 1836
Ignazio Lesinelli

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Ignazio

It is necessary to supply for a mistake that has been made, as you will note in the enclosed material. Also, read what is in the sealed packet. Being far away from Rome and unable to delay the situation any longer, I beg you to be so kind as to do me the favor of presenting the enclosed matter to the most reverend Secretary of the *Buon Governo*. I have already spoken personally with the Delegate in Frosinone. After all of us worked together in good faith, the Institute must now remove itself from this embarrassment and regularize the matter that is still pending. I have no doubts about your favorable cooperation. This will increase your merits.

If you agree and for the sake of the record, I would say that you should stop off, whenever it is possible for you, to visit with Monsignor Alberghini in order to find out the outcome of the dispositions of the will of his Eminence Cristaldi. Upon my return, we shall discuss it. In the meantime, if there should be some expense involved with the *Buon Governo*, all you have to do is drop me a line. I am begging you for your assistance since the petition will be forwarded with the faculty to the most reverend Delegate in Frosinone; do this in the best way that you can. With esteem and gratitude, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

July 11, 1836

3170

July 11, 1836

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece ⁴⁷

I sent a measurement on which there is written Piperno. Please save this.

I would like to know whether the two bronze lampstands and the chalice are made.

The price of everything that Minu gets should be listed on a sheet of paper.

I have received notification of the expenses for the Month. In the report of de Victoriis, computing the income and outgo, it should come to 12 *scudi*. The Lord will take care of everything. Even S. Andrea has cost something. Is the month being observed in S. Venanzio? Cencio⁴⁸ would know about that. Raffieri used observe it in the church of del Monte It would be

⁴⁷ From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter, sent from Albano, arrived in Rome on July 11, 1836.

⁴⁸ Vincenzo Severini.

a desirable thing for it to continue under the one who is taking his place.

It will be necessary to send Giovanni⁴⁹ to Salviucci's and find out whether the breviary has been printed and how much time will be required. Have you located a Baldeschi? Only one cheaplybound copy is needed,

I have received everything through the assistance of Bartolomeo,⁵⁰ it is all very good. Thanks be to God.

I have received a letter announcing the death of the good Canon Tori. Now, I will figure out how to regulate my things from the benefice. Pray for him and have others do so too.

Everything is all right with regard to what you tell me about the paintings of Graziano to whom you will suggest that he should get together with one of his children.

I am delighted to be relieved of the worry about the red vestment sent by Spina. Let him take care of that.

I know nothing about Merlini's *bajocchi*. He will give you instructions. I have already notified him.

I will check on the ciborium with reference to measurements.

I shall write to Brandimarte concerning the receipt.

With reference to the payments from the Datary, you handle that. Write to Father Beniamino⁵¹ to see whether he wishes to have this in Cesena, where, I think, he will have it sent, while having the mailingcosts subtracted from his own money. This holds likewise for the others, and, you should advise them of this.

Within a few days, the collection will be taken up in Nepi and at that time you will balance things out, unable to do otherwise. Let each one make his payment.

With regard to the cutting of a cassock of sergewool for Sante, similar to what the Jesuits use, if you cannot find one in Rome, then tell Spina to have one made in Nepi with the Jewish fellow. If you do find one, you must send it to him immediately. Should you be unable to be thrifty, whatever expense occurs will be up to Spina to meet.

With reference to the two surplices, I would say that for both of them, eight *scudi* should cover the cost, including the lace. The *agricciatura andante* is to be paid for separately. A bit of red ribbon can be added to the lace. So, from the 285 *scudi* you are to take whatever is needed for the expense and then indicate this to me, along with that of the *agricciatura*. If you are too busy, have others sew it, but always with the greatest attention to economizing. More than this we cannot spend. If you do not succeed in this, I myself will look into it and I will write. Send your answer as quickly as possible. I have no doubt about your concern with regard to the library, the commode etc.

⁴⁹ Giovanni Minicucci.

⁵⁰ Bartolomeo Panzini.

⁵¹ Father Beniamino Romani.

I urge you to take care of the coatofarms which is to go to the member of the St. Xavier group who is an acquaintance of Father Ricciardi in Vallecorsa. This is to be done, using the good graces of Father Camillo.⁵² Let me know the cost.

When the umbrella goes to Frosinone, write to me about it.

In Piperno, they are waiting for what you know about.

You must have on deposit 4,50 *scudi* for Cotino. Send him that money at the first opportunity using the good graces of Maria Nazzarena. Since he is donating the Bible to the Institute, you are to record the expense to the Province; that is why I have said: "Send the whole thing to Cotino," that is to say, the 4,50 *scudi*.

The mail is about to leave. Other things will be covered with another letter from me. Swamped with things to do, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your affectionate uncle

A prompt reply is required for the enclosed matters.⁵³

3171

July 1113, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Roma

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece⁵⁴

Father Serafino from Monte S. Giovanni, a Capuchin in the convent of Monte S. Giovanni, is asking me for some Chaplets of the most Precious Blood. Send him 20 copies or, at most, 24, but the ones that are of the lesser quality. He also would like to have certifications for those who enrol. Send him 100, and that should be adequate. He would like to have one or the other habit of the Divine Blood. If you can make some for him, at most seven, include them in the package which you will forward to Fontana in Frosinone so that he can send it on.

You write that 15 *bajocchi* is the cost for the book for Veroli. Remind me of that again.

With reference to the vestment for Vallecorsa, let me know what it comes to and I will settle that.

Let us move on now to something else concerning which you will give me your opinion as well as that of your mama. Amongst other things, I am to send a bed to Sermoneta. Should we

⁵² Father Camillo Rossi.

⁵³ This postscript is found on the fourth page, near the address.

⁵⁴ This letter does not have a date. In IV, 71 a note, concerning the clothes given in the spring of 1836, is written in the handwriting of St. Gaspar: "To Luigi from Sonnino, on July 15th, cloth was sent for shirts and underwear and a pair of stockings", just as is referred to in this letter. So, this letter is placed among the letters (n. 3170 and n. 3177) written to this same person between the 11th and the 13th of July, 1836. (Cfr, also the reference to "sofa".)

also send along the sofa? Or, do we want to retain it in order to have an extra bed at home? If the sofa is sent, it would be necessary to appraise it; furthermore, it would be necessary to have a cover made for the mattress, to be filled again in Sermoneta and the cover is to be of material similar to the covering which is already there. I do not know whether I have expressed myself clearly or not. Of course, I would have to know the price of everything involved. I would have the mattress filled again, leaving the two pillows with the same covering, but adaptable for a real bed. I would also suggest that those tassels be removed from them [...].⁵⁵ Thus, I would get it ready as a regular bed. Indeed, I could write to you how to get this done and how to conclude the whole process. Also, in sending the sofa, I do not know whether it can get through the stairway when it is to be sent. This is something to be investigated. Finally, if this sofa is sent, let me know whether you would have another one made similar to the one that is in the library room. Necessary, too, would be to know the cost so that I can figure it out as something to be covered by the Institute as well as to know what the difference would come to. Otherwise, I would also like to know whether you feel that the sofa is needed as a bed in the house. Answer me with clarity, and then I will make a decision.

The nuns in Piperno would like to know what the cost would be for a small, silver vase with a small dish, to be used for cleansing the fingers after receiving communion. The sacristan asked me to handle this. Send me your reply, and then I will make the decision. You need not inconvenience Frattini, for every inconvenience calls for a compensation. I would prefer to have you contact a silversmith and get information. After my reply, an order and a payment can be made. I am trustful of everyone; however, this is how I must do it, if only for the sake of economy.

Let me know how we stand in regard to stationery and cloth from Fabriano, and, whether we are to continue to get cloth from Fabriano, and with what considerations. Let me know the things that are available, for example, how many pairs of stockings there are for summer and winter, how many bed linens and shirts, so things, such as stockings [...],⁵⁶ can be regulated and ordered as usual, observing the customary methods, if necessary and if useful.

With regard to printing, let me know whether it is more useful to get it done in Rome or in Fabriano. I believe that the printing done in Fabriano is more alive.

There is a standard of St. Xavier for the Missions and a staff to be repaired. You probably have seen to their repair.

Other things, as follow.

I sent you the measurements for the trimming of the draping to be used in Albano. Let me know what it would cost for trimming of false gold, the type that strikes the eye and is called 'lame', if I am not mistaken. Then, I will decide. Wherever there are satchels or anything else to be returned, please inform them.

⁵⁵ A word is missing here where the manuscript is torn.

⁵⁶ Here there is an illegible word due to a tear in the page.

Giovanni ⁵⁷ is to purchase some *vitello Romanesco* that is not too heavy and a piece of choice *sola* weighing around 20 *libre*. It should be tenderized. Send this all to me here in Albano. Pay for it from the Institute's account and let me know the cost.

Send me one or two pairs of black, summer stockings, the smallest size, for one of our Brothers, as well as sufficient cloth for making a couple of shirts for the Brother. That Brother happens to be Luigi from Sonnino⁵⁸, short in stature, and he has requested to have them sewn in Sermoneta. To content him, we will also send him enough cloth so that some underwear can be made for him. If the cloth is not on hand, you will have to get some, adaptable for Brothers, as you well understand. Little by little, we take care of everything. When you have the opportunity for [...],⁵⁹ that material or that package should be sent with the greatest possible haste.

You are to give the Missal that I am sending to Minu whom you will contact; tell him to put in it the Masses that are missing for popes as well as any other Mass that is missing. Father Filippo⁶⁰ can check the Missal and give a notification to Minu. Forward it to me with a report of any cost involved. To have uniformity in the Missal, Minu is to gild those sheets that he adds.

You will have to place postage on the enclosed packet for Fabriano.

Tell Minu that if he does not locate the breviaries at Salviucci's, concerning which I wrote, or if a great deal of time is still needed for the printing, he should get one copy of the ones printed in Bologna. They come in two small volumes, bound in black leather. He is to observe the greatest possible economy. In those breviaries, he is to include the proper for popes and the new saints, obtained at Salviucci's for 9 *paoli*, it seems to me, and then he is to send everything on to me. I do not recall the precise cost for the breviaries printed in Bologna. But, try to get them at the most economical cost.

Send me 50 images of St. Xavier, the ones of Bianchi. After removing 200 of the small images for Sonnino from the ones of Butirroni, the others that are left over of that type, you are to send on to me. They should be sufficient for the present time. Maintain a record and let us keep moving forward. While awaiting an account for everything, I remain

Your affectionate uncle

Let me know when Frasoni will be departing, since I have to be writing to Nocera. Let me know whether I have sent you some measurements in a letter from Piperno, in addition to one tied with string. Write to me.

⁵⁷ Giovanni Minicucci.

⁵⁸ Luigi Carocci.

⁵⁹ Because of a defect in the page, the word is illegible.

⁶⁰ Father Pilippo Gonnelli.

July 13, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Albano, July 13, 1836

Dearest niece

In regard to the measurements for Piperno, there is one with the twine and that is the one to be preserved. There is also one in paper, and that is for a set of *carteglorie* which are to be of good quality without images, but a simple edging or a contour of flowers, as they say. I do not know whether there is any other measurement in paper. Observe, then write to me. Furthermore, the coatofarms of the chalice with rays. I would suggest you give this task to Father Filippo.⁶¹ But Giovanni⁶² perhaps could do it after you give him instructions.

The letters that Minu does not understand, you are to send back to me.

The collection in Perugia will be delayed since I am presently working things out with the bishop as to who is to follow.

If there is a delay in getting the serge for Nepi, perhaps the season will advance. I am awaiting a reply with reference to the surplices; since the bill will have to be paid, I urge thriftiness and you should show preference for Nanne; but, this calls for some hurriedness. I do not know whether that will be possible.

You probably have subtracted the postalcosts for Father Orazio⁶³ from his money.

I am waiting for an estimation on the sofa and also for the cost of another one which should be similar to it; there is the need for a bed, since I do not know whether one bed is sufficient.

Give me an estimate likewise on a couple of bed linens for Sermoneta. This can be sent along, in its time, with the sofa. Inform me of the cost. It will be necessary to add another pair of bedlinens along with four small coverlets, plus some handtowels, purchasing the cloth at an economical cost. On everything, "MM". Send me the notification of the expense.

I shall be writing to Fabriano for stationery and cloth and I shall include that letter to you as soon as I can so that you can put postage on it and send it on. You are to purchase the trimming for the draping for Albano and then send it to me, indicating precisely the cost.

Send six scudi in francs to Father Camilio Rossi in Frosinone. If you have the opportunity, send the small vases at the same time and thus save on postalcosts. I shall forewarn Father Camillo to whom you also should write. Have new cardinals been named yet? How many are there?

⁶¹ Father Filippo Gonnelli.

⁶² Giovanni Minicucci

⁶³ Father Orazio Bracaglia

If the breviary, which Minu is to get, is not available at Salviucci's, you go ahead and get a copy of those small ones put out in Bologna, together with a *Proprio*. Indicate the cost. The ones put out in Bologna, I believe, are available at *Pie'di Marmo*.

Send me a copy of the small work of Liguori for confessors. This comes in three and even four volumes. Minu knows about this. Indicate the cost and urge Minu to use thriftiness and see that it is good print.

With regard to the chasubles made from Lipparelli's material, one is ready. I intend to put it here in Albano. Send it to me and let me know whether it has been blessed.

In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your affectionate uncle

I await the reply on other things. Read my letters again.

Take care of the books and the records, because of woodworms.

3173

July 14, 1836
Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Camillo

A couple of lines. Let me know whether the cloth is ready, how much there is, whether it has been welltreated and of good quality. Likewise, what the cost comes to. In a hurry, etc.

Your servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

July 14, 1836

3174

Middle of July, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Have Minu get the book bound which you will then send to me along with the cost involved. Have Minu see that the place where "Casa di Albano" is written is covered.

Get two *libre* of incense; let me know the cost and send this to Gentili in Sonnino⁶⁴ along with 300 holy cards: 100 of St. Xavier, to be purchased at Bianchi's, and 200 assorted ones of the

⁶⁴ The date for this letter is derived from the records of administration for the House in Sonnino. On July 23, 1836, Father Michele Gentili writes, in regard to the outgo for the House: "for some images to be used in the collectiontaking, 0.27 1/2"; in regard to the outgo for the church: "for incense, 4,30 *scudi*". This letter, then, must have been written before the 15th of July 1836. (cfr. what is said about the Baldeschi work in the following letter of July 15, 1836).

smaller type from Butirroni's. See that there are some of Jesus or Mary, or of Saints Peter and Paul. You understand. Everything to Gentili.

Seal the enclosed for the Kingdom.

Has a copy of Baldeschi been found? Check with Bartolomeo⁶⁵ to see where it can be located.

3175

July 15, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece

I have received the breviaries and the *Proprio*, and everything is fine.

I understand about the money from S. Nicola.

Be patient if a copy of Baldeschi is not found. Tell the Bianchi's to inform you as soon as it has been printed.

I do not have to give a reply to anyone. If a woman from the Marche comes, directed to me by a pastor using a memorandum, tell her that regretfully I am not able to be of assistance to her. She should seek other means from someone permanently in Rome and especially with the help of her own bishop. I have no other replies to give her.

Take 2,73 *scudi*, which Merlini owes, from the Society's money and then enter it under Albano's account where it will be put to use.

For the economy of Frosinone, send to Father Camillo⁶⁶ two *scudi* in francs as soon as possible.

I am enclosing the certification; but, it is necessary that the one who sends it should give an explanation which, if need be, I will do on another sheet, upon receiving the word to do so. However, Father Carmazzi is experienced. Since it deals with Lucca, Carmazzi will take care of supplying the small booklet of the Chaplet. You check into this. I am

Your affectionate uncle

G. C. del Bufalo

M. A.

Albano, July 15⁶⁷

Thousands and thousands of thanks for the good tomatoes which I enjoyed.

⁶⁵ Bartolomeo Panzini.

⁶⁶ Father Camillo Rossi.

⁶⁷ The year is 1836 as is evident from the postal markings.

3176

July 16, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Ro me

Appendix

to my letter of yesterday⁶⁸ through the mails

1. Send a discreet number of Chaplets to Father Carmazzi, because as Abate he has a way of providing for them. But, send a discreet number, in your judgment, along with as many certifications as you think necessary, but that at least one is left there as a sample, since there are only a few on hand. Add some other related printed material, as you see fit, and a copy of the Month written by Father Amici or the one of Strambi. In sending these things, it is understood that it should be the less expensive type and not the ones bound in leather. You understand surely. If there should be no certifications left over, please let me know.

2. Send Giovanni⁶⁹ with the enclosed packet to Colonel Fioravanti at a time when he is in, that is, I would say at 211/2 hours. He lives on the way to the Marchese del Bufalo. Opposite to his place there is an image of most holy Mary on the roadway which goes from Palazzo Poli to the Marchese del Bufalo. Perhaps the Colonel will give him 14 or 19 *scudi*. Giovanni should accept them, bring them back to you and then you are to write to me immediately and I will tell you etc. This year, and this time only, the *regalo* in Perugia will not take place. Presently, I am working things out with the bishop of Perugia, that is to say, with his secretary.

3. Pay attention to the directions with the enclosed matters.

4. If you would like to give Abate Carmazzi a book of the blessings given by aggregators, go right ahead and do so; but you will have to tell him that for the blessing *in articulo mortis*,⁷⁰ he will have to have recourse to the bishop of Agatopoli,⁷¹ a blessing which he will give to aggregators, if he wishes, for those that they enrol in the devotion.

5. Also, two packages: in one I would like, as I said before, my preachable compositions which are kept in the cabinet, regardless of what condition they may be in. Compositions that pertain to study, you are to leave where they are in the cabinet. It seems to me that this latter material is where the picture of St. Francis de Sales is. The preachable compositions are in the cabinet where the timepiece is. All in alphabetical order, bound by Minu; two of them, you are to send to me, using the method that you think best. I am not speaking about the bound books in the

⁶⁸ Carmazzi is referred to in the letter to Luigia del Bufalo of July 15, 1836. Hence, this letter is assigned to July 16th.

⁶⁹Giovanni Minicucci.

⁷⁰ At the moment of death.

⁷¹ Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli.

library with the title *Miscellanea*. Let these remain there. The ones that I am referring to have the alphabetical listing in the margin.

In the large, side table, there are two books, bound by Minu, for accounts, or one where, on the outside, there is no written title or anything. Send them to me if you find them there.

3177

July 13¹⁸, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

For those coming in for gratuities in August, give the usual thing to the usual ones only. You understand. Other things, through the mail.

Let me know whether the chasuble which you will be sending has been blessed.⁷²

3178

July 18, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece⁷³

Giuseppe reminds you about his stockings, that is, a pair of summer ones. It will be better to send him all of them, but especially the summer pair. Let us be in agreement. I remind you about the coatofarms.

With reference to the measurements of Piperno, two are for the *Carterglorie* in good print and of the size I wrote to you. The third measurement is for the frame of St. Frances de Sales which you sent to Piperno and concerning which we will come to an agreement. So, now one can see immediately what the measurement is for the picture, which must be that of the string. The Carteslorie you are to send also to Piperno, addressing them to Maria Nazzarena so that she can give them to the sacristan. To me, you send the cost. I would like them to be very beautiful and modest; I have no doubt that you will see to that. With regard to the picture of St. Francis de Sales, let me know whether the cornice is done in good gold. I am speaking of the one sent to Piperno; also, keep the measurement. The nuns say that they have spent, totally, 10 *scudi*, as you probably remember.

⁷² In the letter (n. 3177) of July 13, 1836, mention is made of a "chasuble", readied for Albano and he asks whether it has been "blessed" just as he does here in this little note. In the letter to her of July 18, 1836, St. Gaspar says that he has received "the blessed chasuble". Consequently, this brief note must certainly have been written in the month of July 1836 (as is evident also from the expression "gratuities in August") and probably should be placed somewhere between the 13th and 18th of July.

⁷³ From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter, sent from Albano, arrived in Rome on July 18, 1836.

Hold off on the surplices. As for that small, silver vase with the small dish for the purification of the fingers, that should come to around ten *scudi*; go ahead and get it. I would like it to be beautiful. A few more or less *paoli* between ten and 11 *scudi* will be all right. Since I will have to be visiting the nuns in Piperno, I will let you know when and how to send it as soon as you inform me that it is ready. It costs so and so ... Enter everything on the sheet as usual, taking the money from the cash box, as usual. I know of the departure of Fransoni.

I understand about the estimate for the sofa. Buy a new mattress and send it emptied, but sew it properly. The old one can be put to use in our house. So, for the mattress and the stuffing, let me know again the cost. I have understood about the frame. I have received the chasuble which has been blessed. Everything is very fine. Is the other one ready? I do not think so. Remember about the other matters concerning which you will keep me informed.

You have probably sent or will be sending the six *scudi* to Father Camillo,⁷⁴ in addition to two more *scudi*. These eight *scudi* for Father Camillo you are to enter under: "Economy of Frosinone". See to getting the small vases for Frosinone. I wrote to you about the corporals. With reference to the vestment for Vallecorsa, I am awaiting a response as well as for other things. Understandably, everything, little by little.

I received the information about the chasuble. Enter the *scudo* for the Liguori under: "Economy of Albano", as also for the trimming. I understand about the money from S. Nicola which I have already put to use. It is true. Have I forgotten anything? I have already reviewed the letters of the Institute. I would like you to send me, not all, but one package, wellpacked, of the preachable material that I have; I am not speaking of the ones that pertain to study, but the preaching material which is in the cabinet. If this happens to be a lot, then send me half of it. At the same time, send me one of those books bound by Minu with the alphabetical order and in white paper, so that I can jot down some thoughts for my preaching. You understand. So, send me this package quickly. Pray for me. Do you have any tickets for a return trip by coach?

Everything is fine with regard to the sofa; you will pay for this from the Society's cashbox. I, then, when I withdraw your sheet, which I will discover in the writings found in the archives, though wornout, I will accommodate everything. Let us be in agreement. I am

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

I need to have a new mantle made for my Madonna of the Missions. I would suggest good material or moire. I would like it to be strong, economical and beautiful. Send me a sample and the price, and then I will make a decision. The form should be similar to that dark blue one of the Sorrowful Mother. The ornamentation, I would say, should be similar to that old red mantle. Haste is needed.

If Fumante has not made the small vases as yet, see that they are beautiful and wellmade.

⁷⁴ Father Camillo Rossi.

There is some haste here. I am speaking of the ones for Father Camillo. Hold off with regard to the ciborium. Do you remember what each copy of the Biamonti cost?⁷⁵

3179

July 18, 1836
Fr. Filippo Galli
Pievetorina⁷⁶

Hail to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Esteemed Filippo

The concerns of the Archbishop with regard to a document, which as a matter of fact is not necessary, have come to my attention through Companions, and not directly from the Archbishop. In this same ordinary mail, I am writing to him about the matter and we shall await the results. In the meantime, prayers. I shall remind the Archbishop that the property was made available by him; that he invited the Society, and that the canonical acts of other legal matters will show how willingly we cooperated with the Archbishop.

God surely knows how unhappy I would be to close that House of Missions. I would never renounce it, except under obedience, which by necessity would force me to withdraw the Society. God looks into my heart: the expenses that I faced in a special way for that House of Missions as well as the most recent Missions are proof of that. As far as I know, no Rescript has come from Rome, nor will any Rescript be issued without the Archbishop.

Meanwhile, work at it; speak to the Archbishop. Go to him and call for his support. For if the Archbishop does not back us, how can we ever go forward?

Consider me, with esteem and gratitude, as

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

House at Albano, July 18, 1836

3180

July 18, 1836
Msgr. Nicola Mattei
Bishop of Cemerino
Camerino

⁷⁵ This is found on the fourth siding, near the address.

⁷⁶ The destination of this letter is the House in Pievetorina, to which the difficulty mentioned in the text refers. In Volume VIII, f. 90, one can read a long letter from the Saint to the Archbishop of Camerino (in whose jurisdiction the House was located) dated just as this one is, "House of Albano, July 18, 1836", in which the same theme is treated, namely the request for the Deed of possession of the property of Pievetorina, made by the aforementioned Archbishop.

I am writing this letter to comm [...] ⁷⁷ in reference to what you manifested [...] relative to the document of possession. To tell the truth, I do not know how to interpret your reasoning, since from the beginning I was never asked about it, as I point out that your invitation was clearly known and the rescripts and subsequent acts showed everything to be quite clear, and that instead of having two chaplains, you had the kindness of calling upon our Institute already set up in Giano. Furthermore, I have learned from a Passionist religious that not too long from now, they will be coming to Pievetorina. From this, I deduce that this move is a means of excluding us; if this is what is pleasing to God, may his holy will, indeed, be blessed. So, in that event, after the inventories are made as well as anything else that is pertinent, whatever properly belongs to the Institute, the Institute will claim.

Likewise, whatever I or my companions have paid out, this was spent in order to assure ourselves of a gradual endowment sufficient for our sustenance. That is the reason why you, whenever it pleases you to have our withdrawal, should deign to give me a year's time to set up an economical administration with a single Missionary and one Brother, thus balancing out the economy as best as possible, and then, peacefully to withdraw, making use of those comforts which our holy religion provides for any event. Indeed, from all of this there comes a delay in our activities and a discouragement among our men, since this matter has been divulged already in Pievetorina. With regard to matters still pending relative to [...] from your Curia, I had charged [...] to write also on this question from S. Felice in Giano and [...] some plan. However, after the discussion with the Passionist religious, I felt it was my duty to write of this directly to you. I did not do so before this, noting that your most reverend excellency was in lettercorrespondence with my confreres, which does not change things.

I saw a page of articles with regard to the hopedfor document, but it certainly was not produced by me. In fact, it was sent to me only after your annotations and observations were made with reference to the mistake made in good faith. Our Institute cannot enter into pacts and agreements, but wishes, by requesting this document, to hold itself to whatever is subject to your good judgment. Either a rescript from Rome will be necessary, produced in the Curia to support that document, in which case it will be sufficient, through the services of your secretary, for him to supply me with an outline of whatever pertains to the description of the locale of S. Agostino and the chaplains, as well as your call for our Institute; or, should that rescript not be necessary, then the document should be drawn up in accordance with the norms of other canonical acts of possession.

For example, the recent rescript of the present Pope is that of the aggregation of the Congregation of the Filippini Fathers in Pennabilli to our Institute, at the request of those

⁷⁷ The upper, lengthwise part of this page is torn away. Hence the usual invocation to the Blood of Christ and the complementary opening are missing. In the text there are a number of places that are deficient, as indicated by the use of brackets here and in following places.

Fathers. From this it is clear that it is not in my power to make pacts; each bishop receives a Society *prout est*⁷⁸ and with simplicity *prout* everyone and whatever more the Holy See might wish to decide. So, look upon us *ad instar*⁷⁹ the Filippini Fathers with a slight, accidental difference, insofar as we undertake trips for the ministry. [...] nowadays with the method [...] Benevento, Cesena etc., in addition to Giano, concerning which Leo speaks [...] in a brief sent to Spoleto, and an entanglement [...]

I pray to God that with his illuminations, you, in your good judgment, will decide what you think is best; and if the slightest controversy were to arise and we would be disappointed, I would withdraw to a prudent place of retirement, safeguarding the observations mentioned above.

On other occasions, you suggested the transferral of our Institute to other locations. That suggests to me that you have decided to give the locale to the Passionist Fathers. I have given you my respectful observations and you have not disregarded them. The first one was that in Pievetorina, within a short while, there will be an endowment for living expenses; but elsewhere, there is none. This is the reason why a transferral cannot be agreed upon.

If I were asked to express an opinion, I would say: let us pray just a bit longer and you will be given a copious supply of illuminations to make a decision. I will be a child of obedience and my very special esteem, respect and affection for you will always remain the same, despite the disappointment that I experience in these difficult moments. I kiss your hands. I recommend myself to your prayers. Most reverend excellency, consider me always to be, in Jesus crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano (upon return from the ministry) July 18, 1836

3181

July 18, 1836

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

By the grace of God, there is no disfavor in your regard. Only I cannot approve certain exceptions made in the House, since I would want to have that holy abandonment to God which is the very soul of every good work, adhering closely also to the situations in accordance with what Rodriguez says. However, the thing that heals everything is that you did indeed open up, abandoning yourself to God; and that is very, very good.

⁷⁸ As it is.

⁷⁹ After the fashion of.

I had the six *scudi* sent on to your good father through the kind services of Father Camillo Rossi.

The painter has perhaps made some variations in the painting in Rimini. They have written from S. Agata for that image and wish to have it. I, who knew nothing about this, was somewhat surprised. So, you consider writing or have someone write whatever you think is best in this matter.

In that beloved area of solitude, you, with the help of Father Santarelli, will be able to work over your writings and perfect them. I urge you to observe our rules and use the greatest caution in hearing the confessions of women; safeguarding the rule, you can do less.

Indeed, please say whatever you wish to communicate to me and do so with total spiritual freedom.

NN., therefore, should make know his present status and we will then resume discussing spiritual matters.

Pray for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

House in Albano, July 18⁸⁰

3182

July 1821, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece⁸¹

If there should be something left over of the green damask for the sofa which has come, and this would not be needed in the house, you can send that. I am not speaking of what was left over of the material for the church; you understand.

Let me know whether I have sent you a brief note in the handwriting of Canon Fontana in which there was mention of a few devotions which the Canon wishes to have. I do not find it among my letters. Write to me about this.

Liparelli says that he has not received the money. Let me know where it was addressed. In this regard, send me all the notes that you have received in the mails relative to the Institute. I

⁸⁰ The year is 1836 (cfr. the letter addressed to this same person on July 1, 1836).

⁸¹ From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter, sent from Albano, arrived in "Rome" in "July". The indication of the day is not legible, but it certainly must have been after the letter (n. 3178) to this same person of July 18, 1836, but previous to the one on the 21st.

am speaking about those things for which no reply has been given. Whatever is perfectly clear and has been taken care of, you need not bother about.

With reference to the two bedsheets for the bed in Sermoneta, let me know whether you are considering two pairs of sheets, for that is what is needed. Let me know the total price, And with regard to the mattress that has been sewn, what price is involved. Likewise, let me know about the mattress. As for the packing of the sofa, I understand that the cost will be four *scudi*. Let me know when everything is in good order.

To Monsignor Ruspoli, you could have given either coffee or some ice cream. You might have given some thought to it in order to handle it in the usual way. Did he leave a notification for Masses? Is Ruspoli in Rome or has he left?

I understand about Iacovacci, and, I am delighted that he has been provided for.

You have sent a very, very good reply to the mother of Verili. Indeed, always continue to do just that, since the Institute cannot.

I shall forward to Merlini the memorandum from Canon Muti.

Here also is the certification with which you are to include, for this time only, (in order to be able to handle the good work) one or the other Chaplet and anything else decided by your own good judgment and discretion,

If the new aggregator in Bracciano needs further explanations with regard to the enclosed certification, take care of it and write down his questions.

Send me a short note with regard to Sermoneta, telling me: the sofa: 4 *scudi*, and then all the rest.

Send ten *scudi* in *francs* to Santarelli, addressing it: Camerino per Pievetorina.

Tell Father Filippo⁸² that he should obtain from the Council a memorandum for Lipparelli in Pennabilli of Montefeltro, and then send it to me, etc.

3183

July 21, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece⁸³

If I should have a duplicate copy of the *Selva Predicabile* by Liguori, send it to Minu for him to check and after his evaluation, send it on to me. However, I think that I do not have a duplicate. In that case, obtain a copy, and, as usual, make a record of it, letting me know its cost as you send it to me. Likewise needed is a copy of *Gesu al cuore del Sacerdote*, written by

⁸² Father Filippo Gonnelli.

⁸³ From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter, sent from Albano, arrived in Rome on July 21, 1836.

Doctor del Monte. Send this to me, indicating its cost.

As for the Bianchi lady, inform her that as soon as the Baldeschi is printed, she will be notified.

I already wrote to you in regard to the two corporals which Father Filippo⁸⁴ can bless, since I believe that he has the faculty. Keep me informed. Let me know when the figures for the uniforms are ready, namely, the sacred images in cloth, that I wrote about. Likewise, about the coatofarms, concerning which you will read something a bit further on. With regard to the four small vases, I already wrote to you. As for the Madonna in Graziano, I am awaiting a reply (read further on). With regard to the relics that I have, at your convenience, make out a new listing for me which I will then check upon my return to Rome. Has Muti given the reliquary yet?

From the birettamaker, was there not another biretta to be picked up?

Another job to be done. Here, there has to be some renovation of the draping for the main entry of the church. So, read the brief note which has been submitted; see that the material is provided and then send it to me along with the bill. The work will be done here in Albano, applying it properly. As for the color, I would say: the color of gold, that is, yellow; you understand already. See that it is of good quality and durable. I would say that it should be similar to what is used at the Gesu. Let us be in agreement.

When I was in the Houses mentioned above, I ordered a few things in keeping with the notification of Father Biagio.⁸⁵ Let me know whether those things have been sent, since I have not as yet gotten the price for the orders. In order to serve as a reminder to me, it will be necessary for you to send back to me the brief notification from Father Biagio. If the abovementioned articles have not been sent yet, hold off for now and send back to me that small notification. Then I will be able to give you more specific directions. Furthermore, it will be necessary to prepare what has been written.

Then, too, I sent you a certification for an aggregator, signed by me, and the name of Father Giovanni Battista Ricciotti from Civitella. So, if I have sent you that certification, as I believe I have, now you are also to include with it a few more certifications, if you have some on hand; otherwise, let me know. Furthermore, include 24 or even 25 copies of the Chaplet, the less expensive sort, since these are to be divided among the different aggregators. Also, some of the other printed matters in praise of the Divine Blood, etc., etc.. Prepare everything in a single bundle, addressing it to Father Lorenzo Felici in Affile, and for the sake of forwarding, to Father Giovanni Damasceno, a disalced Augustinian, Prior of the Convento di Gesu e Maria in Rome. This complete package, Giovanni⁸⁶ will deliver in such a way that it will not be lost.

I have just received a couple of your letters. One by mail, the other in the bag containing

⁸⁴ Father Filippo Gonnelli.

⁸⁵ Father Biagio Valentini.

⁸⁶ Giovanni Minicucci.

the package of Ambrosini. And as I now send my answer, you will see, in this letter from now on, the connection with the items spoken of above and what must be done.

1. I am waiting for the summer stockings for Giuseppe; it is a good idea to have the others made because Giuseppe says that within a short while he will be using them. It is understood that there is no worry about time.

2. The coatofarms is in your hands. What is the cost? I am in need of this. Send it to Father Camillo⁸⁷ and see that it is not harmed in the forwarding. It is to be addressed to Father Francesco Saverio Ricciardi, President in Vallecorsa and you yourself are to write to Ricciardi saying: "This is to go to the member of the St. Xavier group who has already received the crucifix".

3. All is well with regard to the eight *scudi* to Father Camillo.

4. I am awaiting the cost for the sofa and everything else, identifying the objects. For example: the sofa, four *scudi*; and then the rest. Do you know where the coachmen from Sermoneta are? Write to me immediately and then I will give you instructions. See whether any are available.

5. All is right with regard to the figs. Now the matter dealing with the Passionists is in good order.

6. If Father Pietro Pellegrini should be seeking a reply from me, tell him that it is at the post office, and that I have sent a reply by mail in order to save him the expense of coming, not having to spend anything in Locanda.

7. I do not know why Maria Giuseppe should be asking for permission to go into a monastery in order to see the place. Indeed, it would be necessary for you to go there and hire a transport. It is useful for you here and now to remember that the nuns, at least some of them, out of sheer simplicity, are asking questions and wishing to know why. You will know how to conduct yourself, I have no doubt.

8. The mantle for most holy Mary, with regard to its form, should be like the blue one of the Sorrowful Mother, but the color is to be red. The samples sent are of no use. Send the others along with the prices, but red ones. Will the trimming of the old, red mantle be usable for the new one? For the sake of economizing, I would like to know.

9. In speaking about the small chalice, I intended to speak of the one printed which is seen on the *Carteglorie* and not the one in wood. Then, send the *Carteglorie* to Piperno.

10. Should there be a cope sent with the vestments to Vallecorsa? Send me a reply.

11. Address the *Carteglorie* to Maria Nazzarena who will then give them to the sacristan. Indicate to me the cost involved.

12. Get the small vases already made and inform Fumante that he should suspend work on them if he has not already begun them.

13. With regard to the surplices, I am awaiting a response. I did not want to make the

⁸⁷ Father Camillo Rossi.

decision.

14. Everything is fine when you sent all of the preachable matters to me. I have already received them in the bag that I mentioned previously. Now send me all the other materials covering study, since I would like to put all of this in good order when I review all of my writings which is something that I have long been wanting to do. If I do not do it now, other occupations will demand my attention and will prevent me from doing it. Little by little I [...] ⁸⁸ will get rid of so many useless pieces which I will then burn. I am speaking now of whatever is left over in the cabinet holding my writings of every sort. I repeat, the writings in the cabinet. I will be working on this and sending it back to Rome. In the drawer of the large desk, well-dusted, you probably have placed the bunches that were sent ...

15. The replies are in good order; everything is in very, very good shape, by the grace of God.

16. The image of the Madonna for which the frame has been made, should be going to Vallecorsa, but after it has been loaned as usual to the Oratory of the Bianchi of S. Nicola in September. Is this the beautiful image? Write to me about it. As you understand, will the other one suit Merlini? Send me a reply since I do not wish to learn that Merlini is not content. It is supposed to go to Acuto. So, I will regulate myself accordingly. In the meantime, send me a small note which indicates the expense involved for the Madonna going to Vallecorsa, with the cost of the frame included. So, also, with regard to the other one, without a frame, made as of now likewise by Graziani.

17. I am awaiting the price for the little, silver vase; later, I will give you further instructions. With regard to the errands that I give you to do, keep me informed as to what is still left in the cashbox.

18. I myself shall write to Turchi.

19. I will take care of the *preciutti*. You were right in reminding me since business concerns have been coming in torrents, and, it is not easy to keep everything in mind. In the meantime, use up whatever is still on hand.

20. As on your own, remind Graziano that he should get together with one or the other of his children. His advancing age renders him incapable of certain paintings.

21. I would like you to clear out well the cabinets, leaving vacant one drawer in the larger cabinet, and distributing the various things. For example: put all the Marian psalms in one drawer. Set everything in good order also in the large desk, arranging the images of the saints, everything just as you know how I would like to have things in good order. Also, I urge you to look after the library, removing from it any duplicate copies, placing them in the large cabinet that is in the large room with the statue.

The books, with alphabetization, that you sent me are not to be kept in the library any longer but are to be given a place. I am trusting in your sense of exactness. In Jesus Christ, I

⁸⁸ The page is defective here.

remain

Your affectionate uncle

Whenever you happen to be sending some package or other, include a couple of images of most holy Mary with the chalice.

3184

July 21, 1836

Fr. Pietro Spina,

Nepi

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed D. Pietro

In reference to the transfer of the property, I would say that you should go to see the Bishop's representative when the Bishop says: "Go". In this way the situation will work out better. Let the one who is supposed to handle this put pressure on, especially the Bishop himself.

In regard to Sante's hat, you can find some in Civita. If you should want one from Rome, send the measurements to my niece and remind her that it should have a black lining, be for everyday usage and durable. I have already written concerning the serge material and I hope that you get it soon.

As for Brandimarte's reports, I do not deny that I have read them. But, as a result of the Visitation by Merlini, you are to adhere to what he established pertinent to the records and payments. I would say, pay what is of obligation and in accordance with that obligation. I admit that at the present time I do not have a detailed recollection.

Please get the relic of St. Jerome for the time when the Bishop will return.

Never any debts, Spina. Try to do whatever you can. For now, I suspend every project underway. Let us first complete the wing: then, other things can be done in due time. Remember to get rid of that debt assumed by Brandimarte, contrary to the rule. This is one of your primary obligations.⁸⁹

In regard to the tax, memento; *item*,⁹⁰ with regard to the observance of the rule. God would like to have a bit more efficiency from you in these matters.

Pray for me, and with the wish of seeing you again soon, when I pass through, I am

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap,

House in Albano, July 21, 1836

3185

⁸⁹ Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Financial Matters, Dependence on St. Gaspar.

⁹⁰ The same.

July 1836
Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece⁹¹

I received the bag with the writings. Bartolomeo will take care of the bag which I have given to him so that he can bring it back along with the *preciutti*. I have also received the *Selva Predicabile* and the copy of Doctor del Monte. But, how much does each one cost? Please write this to me.

Maria Nazzarena is quite anxious to have, immediately, the copy of the *Mese del Cuor di Maria*. If I should have a copy of this, without putting out any money, I would send it. But, if there is none, as I believe, see to providing it and send it to her. Otherwise, she will not get it in time to begin the month of August which is promoted in Piperno.

I, too, know that it would be a good idea to have the material dyed, but this would take a bit of time. It would be better to get it, not the flimsy type, but of an endurable quality, quite strong. You are experienced in this sort of thing. If you care to send a sample or even the cloth itself, do so; but, there is some hurry needed.

It will be necessary to purchase 200 images of St. Xavier and send them to Father Francesco Saverio Ricciardi, President in Vallecorsa. Let me know the cost involved. Ricciardi would like to have, also, a large image of St. Xavier, but it must be the full figure, not just the bust, and it should be a beautiful representation. Inform me of the cost.

In tomorrow's maieldelivery, the other things. Step by step, we manage to get everything done.

Tell the Superior of S. Caterina that she should make plans in plenty of time to propose preachers for Advent, the Retreat and the Lenten series, and that she should inform the Cardinal as soon as he returns from the baths. In that way, the Community will be making the selections as it wishes. Through the services of Canon Gonnelli send a similar message to the Abbess of the Purificazione. Each one of those superiors, then, can work things out with his most reverend Eminence.

[there is no signature]

3186

July 22, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

⁹¹ This letter comes after the one (n. 3183) addressed to this same person on July 21, 1836 (cfr. the reference to the "*Selva Predicabile*", the Gesu al cuore del sacerdote" of Del Monte, the bundle of preaching materials etc), but it comes before the one of July 22, 1836.

House in Albano, July 22, 1836

Dearest niece

I am sending a reply to your very dear letter.

1. I shall be awaiting the information concerning the price of B. Liguori's "*Selva predicabile*" as well as that of Doctor del Monte. I understand about the coatofarms and the small vases. All is very, very good.

2. With reference to the images from Graziano, I will look into that; however, I am afraid that ...

3. I received the short note in Father Biagio's⁹² handwriting. I had already made provisions for the trousers; so, everything is all right.

4. I received the two pairs of stockings for Giuseppe. What is the expense incurred?

5. With regard to the sofa, here is how you are to make out a separate notification, which you will send on to me, saying:

A *Bucchero* sofa, four *scudi*; then continue with: Bed sheets for two: at such and such a cost

With two or four coverlets, which must come to ... etc. Mattress: at such and such a price
Straw mattress: at such and such a price.

I am in a hurry to get this small note as soon as you can take care of it. I hope that I explained myself clearly. In Sermoneta, they will be opening the hospice; so, all of this will be needed. In fact, even another bed will be required and I would like to send either the one where de Victoriis was staying or the one which Vencio⁹³ uses; the inferior one. But, first, I must know how much a new mattress and a new straw filling will cost, as well as the value of the one which I am sending; so, if the ones that are in the house are good, then, when I can, in the meantime, I will have an entirely new one made for Sermoneta, and that will be better that way. Let me know when the new sofa is ready and when the materials for Sermoneta can be sent. The sofa and other stuff will have to be sent with the cartdriver and not with the use of our burros. Meanwhile, it seems to me, that you have ordered for me a pair of bedsheets along with four coverlets and two handtowels for Sermoneta. Is this correct? As above, I will be awaiting a notification about this, and the other pair of bedsheets. This material will be sent along with the cartdriver when I set the time for him and after you have written to me that: "The new sofa is ready".

6. If you do not care to go to the Ursulines, I leave you entirely at freedom. Neither yes nor no is said. But a word of gratitude should be written to them. If, however, you should decide to go, take the coach. This is something altogether new, and I have no idea how it has come to a head. Also, you even wrote to me saying that you have gotten permission, etc., etc.. I answered that I was thankful, but that I did not know whether it was to your good or not, and I said nothing

⁹² Father Biagio Valentini.

⁹³ Vincenzo Severini.

more.

6. ⁹⁴ I understand about the *Carteglorie* for Piperno, which you will send to them at the first opportunity. Tell Maria Nazzarena that she is to pass them on to the sacristan.

7. Have them make a cope along with the vestment for Vallecorsa. But, first, let me know what is still lacking and what the cost will be. Then I will inform you. In the meantime, let us be set on having the cope made. I will be waiting for your answer.

8. I received the writings dealing with study.

9. We shall see what Colonel Fioravanti sends.

10. I understand about the small vase from Borgognoni. Within a few days, you will write more about it.

11. You should have gotten the receipt from Turchi. I had already written to him.

12. The cabinets should always be kept empty both for the materials that I will send you as well as for newly printed materials. These things are to be kept where there is room. Figure out the weight and arrange the books neatly with proper identification and distribution.

13. I sent on to Merlini the green remnants; I presume they are for the chairs.

14. With regard to the note from Fontana, do as follows. Send him whatever he wants and let me know the cost for everything; you yourself are to go about making the purchases of what he desires. In time, I will make arrangements with reference to the Masses. Let us abide with this understanding.

15. Lipparelli has gotten the money. I am sending the postal notes concerning which I have no knowledge. You probably do, so tear them up.

16. I am sending another notification for 15 Masses to be added to the listings of Masses for Zamboni.

17. Put stamps on the letter for Possenti.

18. Read the letter from Moretti. Seal it and send it in the enclosure to the superior of S. Caterina. But, if Paolina does not speak out clearly, we will go on and on.

As for other things, in a future ordinary mail delivery.

I am in a hurry.

G. C. d. B.

3187

July 23, 1836
Ignazio Lesinelli
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Ignazio

⁹⁴ He repeats the number 6.

*Quid retribuam?*⁹⁵ for so many, many obligations that I have to you. Presently, I find myself quite busy, but I shall not delay long in getting back to Rome. I hope that the matter of the *Buon Governo* is going along well. At any rate, may the will of God be done in all things. All that you have to do is to inform me of the expenses involved so that you can be justly reimbursed.

Canon Muccioli ⁹⁶ speaks of the beautiful things that are resulting from your generous heart. In all other circumstances, it would be a very, very good idea to go to the Holy Father; however, not so in the case and the circumstances in which we now find ourselves. The Holy Father derogates, and he does so at the insinuations of his Eminence Lambruschini. And, am I to make demands? It should rather be the fiduciary heir, that is, Canon Muccioli who should have manifested to the Holy Father the mind of the deceased. Perhaps he may have done this; but, if his demand has not had any effect, do you suppose mine would? Then, too, has the manuscript been issued? I can say that I have exhausted every means in this matter and in the circumstances when the papal authority has gotten involved. So, I would conclude as follows:

1. Dear Ignazio, in fulfilling your charitable deed in this matter, you should be good enough to approach Monsignor Alberghini and ask him for a simple copy of the manuscript, so that this, along with the last will, as the situation presently develops, can find its place in the general archives of our Institute.

2. Also, find out from him if there is anything left to our Institute and get the details. Thus, we would have a proper documentation for action, if necessary, being notified of the method involved.

3. With your customary gentleness in speech, assert that the Institute has not been remiss, with regard to information to the most reverend auditor as well as reports to Monsignor Alberghini himself, to whom you will extend my distinct greetings together with greetings also to his brother.

Finally, ask for the prayers of both his Eminence Giustiniani and his Eminence Fransoni. But this matter has proceeded just as you know. If this were a matter between private individuals, I would be able to have recourse to the Holy See; but, when the Holy See decides to proceed in this fashion, what can be done? Obey. In a memorandum, I would say: "Holy Father, Cardinal Cristaldi has made such and such a disposition of his things etc." He might reply: "We know that; and it was deemed best to derogate. We have been informed that this is the way that it has to be done ...". So, you see, there is nothing more to be done except to recommend ourselves to God that his holy will be done.

From your conversation with Monsignor Alberghini, you will discover whether it will be necessary for you to contact the most reverend auditor, by whom the manuscript has probably been issued, with the hope of getting that copy which will be joined to the last will. At any word

⁹⁵ What shall I give in return.

⁹⁶ Msgr. Antonio Muccioli.

from you, we are ready to make payment for any expense involved.

Finally, may the Lord reward you for this good work which, with his grace, you are promoting. In the adorable Heart of Jesus, I now renew to you, as always, my sentiments of deepest gratitude, esteem and respect, with best wishes likewise to your sisters, and I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

July 23, 1836

3188

July 23, 1836

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the Divine Blood

Albano, July 23, 1836

I will be limiting myself to the most important items in this present maildelivery.

1. You will inform the reverend Vicar of Roccasecca that Father Cotino is not in a condition to be going to do the preaching; however, from Sonnino, another of our men, who is very effective in the ministry, will be ready.

2. Tell Canon Setucci that he should conduct the month of August and that I have already written to Rome for the booklet. For the sake of regularity, notify the members of the St. Xavier group, as well as the men in general, that in the month of August, around the 23rd and a bit longer, the month of most holy Mary and her adorable Heart will be observed. Since it is a matter of a daily function, both men and women will participate. Later, the Oratory will be resumed following the usual regulations and nothing more is to be added. Before August comes to an end, I will write more about this and in this regard you are to remind me of it since we must be very attentive to our regulations. It will, therefore, be necessary that the previously mentioned Canon should convene a meeting with the members in order to alert them to the prescribed regulations. Should any doubt arise, write to me.

3. Your nephew⁹⁷ should read the *Selva predicabile* by Ligouri and take note of what is said. Along with his director, Father Biagio,⁹⁸ (I believe he is that), he should make his decision. I would like to see him become another Xavier.

4. Be insistent about the pious organizations which are so difficult to implant. During the Mission, they will take on a new vigor. In the meantime, however, keep after them. With pleasure did I learn of the conferences to the sisters of charity.

⁹⁷ Enrico de Castris.

⁹⁸ Father Biagio Valentini

5. I am still waiting for a letter dealing with Maenza. I have already received one with reference to Lent, substituting a Retreat or a Mission.

6. As for the Mission in Piperno, I am waiting, momentarily, for a letter from the bishop. I would say, with reserve, that it would be a good idea to send another new voice to be heard (I am speaking of myself). I would not want to be too insistent about this. What do you say? As for the lodging, you look into that and pray for this intention. Surely, it will be difficult to find anything better than the episcopal quarters. It might just be possible to locate another place. I know very little about that area. You know the freedom of action which the ministry demands. I would say that it would be better to follow Manassi's directions. But, in this sort of thing, you are much more experienced and are more acquainted with Piperno as well as the Mission needs; for example, the crowds seeking confessions etc. However, I myself would not care to be nominated. Indeed, it should be wellknown that I feel that it is only right that I am one who loves to have freedom in the ministry. Everyone is aware of this. Perhaps the magistrature will find this so; at any rate, be concerned about making safe preparations for the sleeping arrangements.

7. Get rid of any diabolical interference. The devil is an enemy of any good work that is sought. Move forward.

8. I understand about the horns of plenty.

9. I thank you very much in reference to the annuity.

10. I have given the message to Father Merlini. He sends you his regards.

Here, we are very, very busy. Praise to the Lord. While extending my best wishes to the community, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Albano, July 23, 1836

3189

July 24, 1836

Fr. Pasquale Virgilj

Frosinone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Pasquale

I am sending you 10 more Masses and all of them to be said at a privileged altar, which you are then to indicate on your report.

The President, Ricciardi, our Missionary, on the 30th, that is, on the morning of the 30th, will be sending Gaetano with the mounts to get you, so that you can assist with the *perdono* in Vallecorsa. After that, Ricciardi has received the order to send you back to Frosinone with Gaetano's coach. So, be advised of this. Please suffer this inconvenience patiently for the glory of God.

Tell Ricciardi, quite privately, that if the religious invite him to dinner on the day of the *perdono*, the answer is to be "negative". I am etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. A.

House in Albano, July 24⁹⁹

With regard to the faculties in Vallecorsa, check with Father Ricciardi.¹⁰⁰

3190

July 27, 1836

Father Vitale Corbucci

Fossombrone

Hail to the most Precious Blood

Dear Father Vitale

Enclosed is the recent letter from the bishop of Cagli to which I have sent a reply that he will get the information from you, as I will point out here.

1. With reference to temporalities, you are to adhere to what was discussed. There is to be no alteration.

2. The number of Missionaries will be four, addition to Bartolomeo.¹⁰¹

3. The rest is known to you.

4. The time has been set for immediately after the Nativity, first for the clergy then the Mission. So, presently, I will do things as follows, keeping your letter in mind. First, I would take care of the clergy in Fossombrone immediately after the Nativity, then, after Fossombrone immediately to Cagli, taking care of the clergy first and then the Mission for the people. If you should wish to avoid the beginning of October, it would be necessary to include the clergy during the Mission itself, and while I am staying in Fossombrone, I would join up with my companions. I will govern my moves in this matter after the time for the Mission is finally settled. Certainly, if it would not displease the bishop to have the Mission conclude during the first days of October, it could be arranged (and this would be quite a bit better) that after Fossombrone, first the clergy, then the people, as I mentioned before.

I repeat, I will be writing to the bishop that I have put things in your hands, and I have no doubt that everything will turn out well. I point out that in making these arrangements for after Fossombrone, I would not wish to have you involved in October and then have the good work previously set up for Cagli to be lost. I will do whatever you direct me to do. I ask only for haste

⁹⁹ The year is 1836. Only in that year is the presence of Father Virgili in Frosinone verified.

¹⁰⁰ This postscript is on the fourth siding, near the address.

¹⁰¹ Bartolomeo Panzini.

in sending your letters to me with a decisive response. Then we can continue, through our communications, to determine the method for the Retreat to the clergy in Fossombrone. Policies relating to my stay with you priests are firm, and likewise that I be able to take along with me only Bartolomeo. That is all. The companions will get together where I direct them and in accordance with what the bishop of Cagli will establish.

I kiss your hands and I remain

Your obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

House in Abano, July 27, 1836

3191

July 28, 1836

Msgr. Guglielmo Aretini Sillani

Bishop of Terracina, Sezze and Priverno

Terracina

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos a peccatis nostris in Sanguine Suo*¹⁰²

Venerable Monsignor

The people of Maenza have addressed a page to me, signed by the public representatives, in which they expressed the desire of having a holy Mission or Spiritual Retreat in place of the Lenten preacher. I would suggest that the Mission be completed by Palm Sunday. I would like to have your approval of this so that, in time, we can make arrangements for the ministry, since in the upcoming year Lent comes early and Lent is a time for gathering people together. After receiving a response from your most venerable person, I shall undertake definite correspondence with Maenza and all will proceed in good form to the glory of God.

Do not forget to pray for me; I feel assured of your charity in this regard. Father Francesco Saverio Ricciardi, our Missionary, will be able to be the upcoming Lenten preacher in Sermoneta, if you so wish. As for Sonnino, I will be able to let you know since our Institute is planning a threeday affair, which will take place within a short while. After the Commune has come to a decision (it is the people of the Commune who rely on those who make a selection of the Institute), I will quickly send information to your most worthy person.

With esteem, respect and very special affection, while kissing your hands, venerable Monsignor, I will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

House in Albano, July 28, 1836

¹⁰² Christ loved us and washed us from our sins in his blood.

3192

July 28, 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece¹⁰³

For a boardingstudent, whose name is Ammirati, a span and a half of mediocre, black cloth is needed. For what it will be used, it will not be necessary to send a sample; also, a half *libra* of black *caesicciola* in skeins to be sent just as is; all is to be put into one packet along with a notification of the cost of each thing.

You will be receiving a package in which there are three packets for the Bonarelli woman. You will send them on to this lady along with my letter which is enclosed.

There is a daily which is good only for one who goes to the choir in S. Pietro. Cencio ¹⁰⁴ could send it to that trainbearer from Galeffi who goes to that choir, it seems to me, in S. Pietro. He is to inform him that he should cherish it and should give what he feels is just; or perhaps Muti can find one or, ultimately, Minu may know about it. This daily is being sold by a young boardingstudent to whom whatever is obtained will be granted. I repeat, it is usable only for the choir of S. Pietro. In that package, there are also two other packets, one for Father Orazio,¹⁰⁵ the other for Lipparelli. Put these together with that other one that I sent for Pedini. For the time being, take good care of them, placing a note of this in the list of reminders; then, remind me of this when I get to Rome. They are not urgent.

As soon as you possibly can, send to Father Michele Gentili, using the services of Maria Nazzarena, 16 *scudi*. I will alert Gentili.

A small bundle will be arriving with a note from Merlini therein. Since it deals with the church, the lacework that is enclosed as a sample you are to send along with a note of what is still needed; indicate the cost to me and use the greatest possible thrift.

Father Serafino was wellpleased with the coat of arms for the seven habits. He would like to have only the images in a rollform. So, see that 500 of them are made and send them to him at the first opportunity; a single roll should be fine. Include with those 500 images, a lessexpensive book of the blessings to be given to the aggregators. Make a notification of all this and let us be in agreement.

I would like to know the price for the large image of St. Xavier, if you can locate that.

I shall be awaiting the cloth and the bill. I am speaking of the yellow material.

¹⁰³ The date is gotten from the postal markings of departure (Albano) and of arrival (Rome, July 28, 1836).

¹⁰⁴ Vincenzo Severini.

¹⁰⁵ Father Orazio Bracaglia.

Write a line or so to Father Crescenzo Ascione; send him the name and familyname of the aggregator, the town and the diocese and also that of another aggregator, if there should be one. In this matter it will be sufficient to write: "Napoli, per Torre del Greco". Also say: "Canon del Bufalo will get in touch".

I shall be awaiting here the arrival of the other two bedsheets for Sermoneta. The sofa and the mattress, wellpacked in the lining of the mattress, are to be sent to Sermoneta, using a trustworthy person and a wellknown cartdriver. It would be a good idea to wrap the sofa in an old covering, which you can purchase, so that it does not get chipped, otherwise, I may be embarrassed. You understand. Likewise, write to me and give me the cost of all this on a small sheet of paper which you will send separately, explaining everything. Everything is to be sent to Father Pietro Buffoni, Missionary in Sermoneta, recommending that all be carefully looked after and that it should not be soiled with oil. The address should be placed on both bundles, the sofa and the mattress. If they would prefer to cover the travel expenses in Sermoneta, that would be better. You handle things accordingly. One or the other merchants in the Piazza Montanara will know about the people of Sermoneta. So, go ahead and send this without any further directions.

As for that other bed, everything is all right. More in person and in time.

See that the cope is made for Vallecorsa. If the wife of Graziano is available, have her borrow a cope on loan so that she will not make a mistake and have her begin work on it. But be careful that no harm comes to that cope. The trimming is to be in that yellow silk, since I cannot spend more, and this will be all right for Vallecorsa. If you think otherwise, write and let me know; that trimming in false gold would not cost little; so, first the cost must be known and then I can make a decision. The lining should be the same material.

See that spaces are available in the cabinet for both the papers that I have revised and am sending back to you as well as for storing new printed materials. You already know this; but you are to set up a method of separating the books and maintaining an equal distribution of weight.

I will be awaiting the notification of the expense for Canon Fontana.

Make out an order for Gentili for around 28 *paoli* and another for around 13 *paoli*. The one of 13 *paoli* is to be wrapped separately and all is to be sent to Gentili. For me, a separate notification of the expense.

With regard to the pension requested by Father Beniamino,¹⁰⁶ do whatever he has written to you. I would like, however, that you get a receipt from his father and then send it on to Beniamino. With reference to the receipt, more in person; then, remind me of this.

You will be getting another packet in a white sack. In it there is a bundle of papers on which there is written: "*Predicabili*". Open it. Save the cardboard and the twine.

Put the bundle in one of the drawers of the cabinet where you think best and do so with good order. I am speaking here of the bundle of preachable materials.

I am sending the Bonarelli woman's letter along with this package, so as not to increase

¹⁰⁶ Father Beniamino Romani.

the postal costs.

3193

July 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece¹⁰⁷

Send, in francs, 7,36 *scudi* to Petruccioli for the enclosed bill for wax delivered to S. Felice. Tell him in your letter, on which you will place stamps, that he should have the provider of the wax to sign the bill. Then, send it to Father Pietro de Victoriis, the President in S. Felice, simply as a record in writing for the economist. Give him thanks. Also, tell him that if he has incurred expenses for the transportation, he should seek reimbursement from Father Pietro de Victoriis.

Father Brandimarte has sent the receipt! Send me any notifications of Masses or anything else that you have on deposit.

I am etc.

Your affectionate uncle

Hold on to the enclosed note. I shall be writing to you.

3194

July 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Order a sofa of the same kind or as you think best, and do so hurriedly. Advise me of the cost; while the upholsterer is working, have the small mattress made just like the other one. It must be done in a hurry. I would say that the newer one should be put where it is going to be used more. Then, the change can take place. I hope that I have expressed myself clearly.

Send the usual to Teresa; and enter it as usual in the list of reminders. I will not send the other sofa away in the meantime etc.

Have mama's chemises made.

I understand about Verili. One less worry for us.

¹⁰⁷ In the congressus of June 13, 1836 of the House in S. Felice, with respect to articles for the church and sacristy, we read: "Indispensably necessary is wax for the church since there is nothing at all left. We have written to the Director General on the matter and we are awaiting some result". Then, a bit later, they added: "It has been sent". From March 10, 1836 to October 2, 1836 when Fr. Pietro de Victoriis was the "President" of S. Felice in Giano, there are no other requests for wax. De Victoriis was absent from S. Felice in June since he was to preach the month of the most Precious Blood in S. Nicola in Carcere in Rome. He is present once again in S. Felice on July 13, 1836. From this letter we deduce that De Victoriis had returned to S. Felice. So, tentatively, we assign the letter to the second half of July 1836.

Gather together the money left by Bartolomeo¹⁰⁸ and tell me how much we have, subtracting 20 *scudi* which you are to give to mama for the houseexpenses. Those 20 *scudi* are to be subtracted from the sum without making a notation: "Given to Canon del Bufalo" Just for this time are you to do this. Put stamps on the letter to Possenti. Have I forgotten anything? As they say, I have written in a confused way.

I received the *sole*, etc. the cloth, etc..

Have you sent to Sonnino the 300 images?

Insure only the letter to Naples.

Send me a notification concerning the reams of stationery, both as to the number and the quality, which I must order from Fabriano; also, the lesser quality and the size. We will make do with what is already on hand since we presently do not have a place to put things. How do we stand with regard to Chaplets?

Enclosed is the notification from de Marchis. Make an exact computation; let me know what amount the Masses come to.

I understand about the books for Frosinone.

With reference to the measurements for Piperno, one is to be on paper, the other by twine. Are there any others? The one on paper is for a copy of the *Carte glorie* concerning which I have already written.¹⁰⁹

Get and send the trimming for the frontal piece for Albano. For the sake of economy, see that it is not too heavy, but also that it looks good and is durable. Hold on to Gentili's hostmaking iron until my return.

It would be a good idea to get an estimate on the sofa and the mattress and for everything, indicating to me that so much was for the mattress etc., so much for the stuffing ... so much, etc. ...

In my name, write to Butirroni and tell him that if he has any Masses he should send them to me, but not for images. If he should not have any presently, send them when he does. Say the same to Father Filippo Gonnelli.

3195

July 1836
Camillo Possenti
Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

¹⁰⁸ Bartolomeo Panzini.

¹⁰⁹ Cfr. the letter to this same person of July 13, 1836. Thus, this letter, too, is assigned to July 1836.

Dear Camillo¹¹⁰

Thank you for your recent, very kind letter. At my convenience, I will send a reply in the next ordinary maildelivery. In the meantime, instead of the booklets in print for the new edition, use the manuscripts that I am enclosing together with the manuscript for the country people, have them do the printing for the 12 scudi in toto and the printings should follow the pattern of the Chaplets. More in the next ordinary maildelivery. I am in a hurry.

G. C. del Bufalo

I urge you to make corrections in the printings.

3196

End of July 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece¹¹¹

Put stamps on the letter to Perugia. I urge you to take care of it.

I have written through the mails, but, I repeat that if the letter should be delayed,"On Sunday, a double maincourse".¹¹²

In a package, send me all the methods for conducting Missions. I am not referring to the books covering the pious organizations, bound in blue, but only the methods of conducting Missions, keeping on hand 12 copies of the ones in better shape and bound better. Thus, we will make room. You look into it, and I will place them here in the general archives.

I am sending you a pair of stockings which need some patching; it will be necessary to get this done quickly so that Bartolomeo can bring them back.

More later about other things. I am

Your affectionate uncle

In Vallecorsa they are concerned about the image of St. Xavier. See that a large one is sought; in the meantime, send the small ones.

3197

End of July 1836
Luigia del Bufalo

¹¹⁰ This letter does not have a date. From the letters to this same person of July 11 and August 1, 1836, we conclude that this letter, too, belongs to the second half of July.

¹¹¹ This letter is to be assigned to the end of July, 1836 (cfr. the following note).

¹¹² July 31, 1836, the anniversary of St. Gaspar's ordination to the priesthood, was a Sunday; hence, the double maincourse! A confirmation for the date assigned to this letter: during St. Gaspar's life, only in 1825 and 1831, in addition to 1836, did July 31 fall on a Sunday.

Rome

Make a listing of the deposits which, as money for the Institute, you will itemize and keep with you; also, give an accounting to the Missionaries when the occasion arises.

The documents dealing with the Masses have already been sent to De Marchis:

For 20 Masses to Fr. Galli 3.00 *scudi*

For 20 Masses to Fr. Santarelli 3.00 *scudi*

For 20 Masses to Fr. Rafaele Brandimarte 3.00 *scudi*

For 20 Masses to Meloni 3.00 *scudi*

For 20 Masses to Fr. Camillo 3.00 *scudi*

With regard to the offerings for Fr. Camillo, I know what to do. Remind me about this when I return.

Another disposition of money

To Father de Victoriis, who has already been alerted, send in francs 12 *scudi*. I have already informed him that they would be sent "Fuligno per Giano". Make a notification on the sheet of reminders: "12 *scudi* given to Giano" and then include also the cost of postage.

The money for S. Nicola

Make a donation in behalf of our house as soon as you see the need.

The money from Fioravanti

For the new mantle for Mary most holy, my statue used in the holy Missions, Fioravanti is supposed to donate either 14 *scudi* or 19. It depends on whether he sees his son get out of sickbed. If he has not sent the money to the house, then, at an appropriate time, Bartolomeo,¹¹³ who will be spending a short time in Rome at the beginning of August¹¹⁴ and will be delivering the *preciutti*, should, with prudence, pay him a visit.

Give the usual to Fr. Filippo Gonnelli for August. Check to see that all is going well.

I am not returning the sample for the mantle since it is not needed. I would like it to be durable, and after some further thought, made of beautiful, red damask. Try to find some that is used, but in good shape and without anything added. Let me know quickly the cost. We will look into this and then I will make a decision.

I do not remember if there is anything left of that chocolate from Ponziano¹¹⁵ and how much it cost.

When are you going to return to me the books that I sent to Minu? Tell him to work on them and let me know the price.

¹¹³ Bartolomso Panzini.

¹¹⁴ This letter, therefore, belongs to the end of July. The year is 1836. Cfr. among other indications, the 14 or 19 *scudi* from Fioravanti mentioned also in the letter (n. 3176) to this same person dated July 16, 1836, to which this letter is a followup.

¹¹⁵ Ponziano Morichelli.

Merlini is concerned about the Madonna. Tell me the ideas that you have and, in case it will be necessary to put in an order, I would speak to Spallodoro. Later, I will make the decision. Gamboa is waiting for certain bound books. At least, that is what, it seems to me, he said. May it please God, on August 16th I will be back in Rome.

3198

JulyAugust 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece¹¹⁶

Give the enclosed letter to the lettercarrier, subtracting the *bajocco*. Read the short note from Merlini. With reference to the hornsofplenty, I know that you have written about the price. Give the response to Bartolomeo if those nuns wish to have them at the price indicated. I did not wish to take on this task. With regard to the wool, that is one less worry.

With your customary diligence, draw up an account of the sheets covering the Masses that I send; let me know this upon my return. Keep them carefully, counting etc.

Would that it were the will of God that Father Abate should manage for me to have the same faculties as the President. I would be more than content. Have I forgotten anything? Pray for me. I am

Your affectionate uncle

A pair of underwear is needed by Filippo Fausti.¹¹⁷

3199

JulyAugust 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece¹¹⁸

Check the addresses, as you are already experienced.

Send three *scudi* to Cotino in Sonnino and I will alert him. Do this through the services of

¹¹⁶ This letter is not dated. In various letters written to her and to Sr. Maria Nazzarena de Castris in JulyAugust 1836, mention is made of those "hornsofplenty". So, JulyAugust, is the date we assign to this letter.

¹¹⁷ This postscript is near the address.

¹¹⁸ This letter has no date, but, one is derived from a comparison of it to the one (n. 3178) written to this same person on July 18, 1836 (cfr. the mention of the Madonna's mantle, the cost of each copy of Biamonti, etc.). Here, St. Gaspar says that he will need the mantle for the image of the Madonna in "September". Hence, very probably this letter should be assigned to the Julyfirst part of August time of 1836.

Mother Nazzarena, enclosing them with a letter to Cotino. It will be sufficient to say to him: "Here are the 3 *scudi*".

I have already written to you about the 4 *scudi* for Father Camillo on deposit.

Also send to Cotino 14 *paoli*, but address this to Brother Filippo Fabrini, the cook in Sonnino. Simply use the letter to Cotino, saying: "Give to Fabrini the small package of the 14 *paoli*". I will send him instructions.

Let me know what Fontana's account is. Whenever there is a sale in some private chapel, let us watch for surplices, that you know about.

Soon, Bartolomeo¹¹⁹ will be ordering the ringshaped cakes made with eggs. Send the crucible here to Albano.

All is well with regard to the St. Xaviers to Frosinone.

I am awaiting the price for the horns of plenty.

A thousand thanks for the stockings which I shall be expecting.

It will be necessary for you to take care of something, and it is the following. I have determined that everything that pertains to Missions, namely, the printed matters, are to remain in Rome; whatever is to be used in our Mission Houses is to be kept here in the general archives in Albano. The printed matters to be used in our Houses include: The *monita salutaria* directions for those who are to conduct Retreats leaflets for making meditations and for examination of conscience the materials from the Ospizio del Buon Consiglio papers dealing with the founding of a new House regulations dealing with temporalities. All of these printed matters ¹²⁰ are to be sent here at the earliest possible time. Include six copies, I repeat, six copies only of the ones treating pious works, that is, the booklets on pious organizations bound in blue. I am also waiting for the missals.

Let me know how many barrels I have here of wine. You have this in your memory. Do you recall the cost for each copy of Biamonti?

You will have to hurry the preparation of the mantle for the Madonna since I will be needing it in September. Then, when I get there, we can look into the matter of the ornamentation.

I know that Merlini has written with regard to the measurements for a frontal piece. In person, we will discuss this, and you should remind me of it. The sheet of reminders. There is a letter addressed to Father Michele Ridolfi, Perugia. You will have to put stamps on it.

There is an old hat of mine which I said I would like to dispose of. Perhaps Filippo might wish to have it, if it fits. It might be necessary to have it cleaned a bit, if you think so, and then to remove the *fittucia* and replace it with a small, black cord to draw it together. Then, after taking good care, send it to me here.

¹¹⁹ Bartolomeo Panzini

¹²⁰ Two illegible lines, crossed out, follow.

Here, too, Merlini needs to have the *terliccio* mattresses of 12 *canne*. You yourself can take care of cutting the linings. Keep in mind two things: durability and economy. It makes no difference whether it be striped or plane. Concerning other things in the future, more by mail.

Merlini is sending some things to be repaired. Note that the napkins need to be done with a middle stitching; they are included here, putting things together that are more or less similar. Along with that vestment, also order a cope for Vallecorsa. As for the trimming, I leave that up to you.

[here is no signature]

3200

JulyAugust 1836
Luigia del Bufalo
Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece¹²¹

When the opportunity arises, send to Piperno the enclosed matter, without their spending for postage, since this is not urgent. Enclose it to Maria Nazzarena.

Here we need to have a halfream of the *palomba* stationery, but from Fabriano, if there is any. Send it.

Is there another drawer, in the cabinet of the first room, that contains papers that I still have to review? If so, send them to me. I would like you to open, at your convenience, that small box in the room where the statue is. In it, there are books on St. Joseph which, after dusting them well, you are to put in the large cupboard, thus leaving that box available for the reams of stationery that will be arriving. Also, there are some handwritten books, which you will send me after wrapping them well so that they do not get soiled. When I get to Rome, there will be just a short while for me to complete the work that I have done by way of revision. I would say that in the hallway to the large parlor, you should put duplicate, disposable books, as I will discuss more when we get together. In the meantime, gather them together.

Brandimarte has sent me the receipt for the 7,38 *scudi* and I have already put this in its proper place. It seems to me that the balance should come to 38 *bajocchi*.

In Missionary Galli's deposit, put down twelve *scudi*; enter this on the sheet of reminders. Other money matters will be handled within a short while.

¹²¹ This letter is to be assigned to the end of July or the early part of August. In fact, there is a reference to Monsignor Antonio Piatti's manservant in the letter (n. 3201) of August 1, 1836, just as there is in this letter. St. Gaspar is asking his niece about his health and in the letter (n. 3222) of August 13, 1836, he is delighted to get "the news about Msgr. Piatti's manservant". Furthermore, in the letter (n. 3200) of the end of July (cf. e.g., the letter (n. 3183) of July 21, 1836) St. Gaspar lets her know that he has been reviewing all of his writings. In that letter of July 21st, St. Gaspar sends for the other writings dealing with study. In this one, he asks if there are any other writings of his there. So, we find that this letter must come a bit after July 21st. Hence, we assign to it the date: end of Julyfirst part of August .

I have already ordered winter stockings for the Institute. Other things, when we see each other.

After the collection is made, do not send money to Spina, without first checking with me.

Send to Father Beniamino's¹²² parents what he wrote to you; but, it would be a good idea, in a prudent way, to find out how they are doing at the present time with regard to temporalities since Father Beniamino is not capable of doing everything and they are in need of many things. This is something to be taken care of in the future. More in person. Bartolomeo¹²³ could deliver that money.

Send me a small, black sack.

How is Piatti's Checco?

Read in between the sheet.¹²⁴

¹²² Father Beniamino Romani.

¹²³ Bartolomeo Panzini

¹²⁴ This is found on the first page. The letter is written on the second and third pages. The numbering of the pages in the original are reversed.