

## St. Gaspar's Letters

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3301

December 24, 1836  
 Madre Abbadessa  
 Monastero della Purificazione  
 (Rome)

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Mother Abbess

The Mission at Nepi, which begins on St. John's Day, prevents me from coming personally to greet you and along with you the entire Community. I am substituting, therefore, this very humble letter of mine. I ask you to admit the nunto be, Maria Rosi, on the feast of the Epiphany, as a day of particular remembrance and of greater devotion. With you in favor of this, I do not doubt that you will be willing to agree with whatever is requested; since it is a question of a variation of only a few days, I am hopeful that in your zeal you will be able to make these arrangements. Upon my return, I shall come to the Monastery in person.

Meanwhile, asking for your prayers during these recurring Mysteries, I have the honor of reasserting myself as your

Humble, devoted, obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

House (Rome), December 24, 1836

3302

December 27, 1836  
 Fr. Angelo Santangeli  
 Bassiano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Archpriest

I am writing you a couple of lines in order to find out whether it would be possible to schedule the Mission for a bit after the middle of the upcoming January, and, in preparation for the feast of the Purification. Or thereabouts. I shall be awaiting your response. Asking you for your prayers, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.  
Rome, December 27, 1836

P. S. I would be very grateful to you if this time should meet with your expectations.

3303

December 30, 1836  
Fr. Innocenzo Betti  
Benevento

Hail to the Precious Blood of J.C.

Esteemed Canon

I was very delighted to hear from you and receive your good wishes during the recurrence of the Christmas feast.

I thank you ever so much. With the greatest effusion of my heart I return to you my sincere desires for every good thing, whether spiritual or temporal. Extend them likewise to all the individuals of our Community there, upon whom I wish in like manner the special blessings of the most merciful God.

You can be certain that I never forget you at the Holy Altar. I am hopeful that you do as much for me, for I have even a greater need of it.

On this occasion, I would like to inform you that Fr. Cotino has written to tell me that, because of personal discomforts, there is a new urgency to return to the climate where he was born. Be very kind to welcome him as soon as our fellowmember arrives. When he is rehabilitated, he can occupy the position of 4th Missionary there.

With this understanding, then, in esteem and affection, I renew myself in the Heart of J. C., as

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap

On the Missions in Nepi, December 30, 1836

Send your letters to: Rome

3304

December 30, 1836  
Giovanni Francesco Palmucci  
Ascoli

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Giovanni Francesco

I was most delighted in receiving your handwriting again which brought me your best wishes for the recurrence of the holy feast of Christmas.

I thank you so very, very much, and, with the greatest outpouring of my heart, I return to you my sincere desires for every good thing, both spiritual and temporal. You, of course, can be certain that I do not ever forget you at the holy altar, and I hope that you will also remember me, so much more needful because of the greater responsibility that I have toward God. Let us place our trust in the merits of the Divine Blood, the devotion so close to our hearts, and let us spread it ever more and more.

With pleasure did I learn of your plans for your family and loved ones. I see in this the everlovable providence of the Lord whom we bless incessantly.

In truth, I can assure you that I have never forgotten you in my poor prayers. The examples of virtue demonstrated by your entire family have always provided me with reasons to be over joyed in the Lord. Read even more by looking into my heart. Oh how willingly would I like to see you again! But, even though we may be *absentes corpore*,<sup>1</sup> we are, however, present to each other in spirit in the most lovable Heart of Jesus. Therein, let us keep in touch with each other. Therein, let us be inflamed with the holy fire of charity. Therein, let us maintain our home here below, so that, one day, we will be inseparably united in Paradise. Extend my sincere regards to your wife to whose prayers I recommend myself. *Saluto omnes nominatim. Gratia Dei nobiscum. Sum tuus ex corde in Corde Jesu Christi.*<sup>2</sup> With these sentiments, I express once again that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Nepi (while conducting a Mission), December 30, 1836

P. S. I am hopeful that the observance of the Month of the Divine Blood will be continued in Offida. For the forwarding of your letters, address them to Rome.

3305

December 31, 1836

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece<sup>3</sup>

The fact is that Merlini would like to have his hat. Try to find an opportunity. I am aware

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<sup>1</sup> Being absent in body.

<sup>2</sup> I greet all by name. The grace of God be with us. I am yours from the heart in the heart of Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup> From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter, sent from Nepi, arrived in Rome on December 31, 1836.

of the fulfillment of the tasks that I left for you to do and which you have carried out with your customary diligence. A thousand thanks to Abate Mugnaj for the ten Masses. They will be fulfilled exactly.

Your affectionate uncle

3306

December 31, 1836

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Camillo

The work of the Missions has delayed my reply. With your usual charity, please excuse me. In Rome, I saw Monsignor Piervisani and spoke to him immediately about you; I learn that you are in quite good health. *Laus Deo et Mariae*.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, I received the cloth and everything else is in order and in agreement in detail with what you wrote in your letter. I owe you 16 *bajocchi* which you should enter now, please, as another account, which will not be long in coming, just like the other one I sent, not too long ago.

With regard to the dowry, even though right now there is no influence because of the changes made and even if there should be no other means available for next Lent, send me a new petition along with the usual document and once again, I will make a new attempt for the other Rondini sister.

Thousands and thousands of thanks for your season's greetings. With the greatest outpouring of my heart, I return them to you, desiring for you every blessing, spiritual and temporal. Do not cease praying for me, most grateful to you for so many, many reasons. I shall constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Nepi (while conducting a Mission), December 31, 1836

Rome, for forwarding.

3307

January 1, 1837

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest niece

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<sup>4</sup> Praise to God and Mary.

Send immediately the enclosed to Monsignor Riario. He wants me to pay 30 *scudi* in Albano to a Head Master Bricklayer, and so I am quickly doing this. I am enclosing, for this reason, a letter to Father Cristoforo<sup>5</sup> to whom you will send the 30 *scudi* along with the letter. You know from where to take the 30 *scudi*; we will replace them as soon as Riario reimburses us. Let us be in agreement.

In sending the money, make a strong packet to be carefully consigned to the coachman so that no slipups occur. I am trusting in your use of exactness.

You probably have received from Father Tomasso<sup>6</sup> the offering for the ten Masses. Is that true?

Everything is all right with respect to the calendars. How many you have on hand for individuals and how much will each one cost?

I give my thanks to Cencio<sup>7</sup> and we are grateful to God that his niece is entering the probandate.

Thousands and thousands of thanks for your season's greetings. I send my regards to everyone.

But, now, I am being summoned for the ministry in the church. I remain

Your affectionate uncle

Nepi, 1 of 1837

P. S. If Riario might have sent some word or so, then, in that case, hold on to the letter to Father Cristoforo. Otherwise, go ahead with it.

3308

January 2, 1837

Pietro Barcaroli  
Chiaravalle

*Sanguis Jesu Christi emundat nos ab omni peccato*<sup>8</sup>

Most esteemed Pietro

Pardon me for the delay in answering your very kind letter.

I give thanks to God that presently the danger of contagion<sup>9</sup> has ceased; thus, in a holy fashion, we must occupy ourselves in removing the cause of those castigations, that is, sins. In

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<sup>5</sup> Father Cristoforo Frioli.

<sup>6</sup> Father Tomasso Meloni.

<sup>7</sup> Vincenzo Severini.

<sup>8</sup> The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.

<sup>9</sup> Because of the cholera epidemic which existed in Ancona and the surrounding area.

these times of ours, it is evermore necessary to promote holy Missions. However, the Lenten season is not an available time. With Father Abate, to whom I send my greetings, work out a couple of other times, getting also the bishop's approval. I will then make a selection from the two.

With respect to the cost of room and board, if the bishop should get involved, perhaps he will cover it through some patrimonial title. I will not be able to cover it. And, even if I knew of some way of doing so, I would not spend a moment of time busying myself about it. Two plans are possible. First, that there would be some sort of chaplaincy given to the young man to cover the room and board as his patrimonial title. Second, that God is calling him to work in the Missions and thus to reside in our Houses. In that case, as a true vocation, then I can see to having him ordained without a title, requiring him to live in our Mission Houses. So, if he is willing to leave, he would first have to be assured of a patrimony *ad instar Regularium*.<sup>10</sup> Of course, it is necessary that he be a student of theology. Though in a hurry, I remain, with esteem

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Nepi, while conducting a Mission, 2nd of 1837

For forwarding, address your letters to Rome.

3309

January 2, 1837

Fr. Giuseppe Bachettoni

Spoletto

*Sanguis Jesu Christi emundat nos ab omni peccato*<sup>11</sup>

Most esteemed Canon

So that they can be forwarded, address your letters to me to Rome. I have read your letter while conducting a Mission. In truth, I can tell you that his most reverend Eminence has always responded to me in reference to the holy Oratory. So, I would think that the priests of the Oratory, as an act of gratitude to his most reverend Eminence, should send by mail delivery (thus requiring him to send a reply to them as well as to have, thus, a document on hand) a paper expressing their gratitude for everything that his Eminence della Genga<sup>12</sup> has assured them, joining along with that a memorandum requesting protection for the Oratory through a rescript that he would issue, to be preserved in the archives, confirming his protection of the Oratory.

So, along this line, and in your own good judgment, you can refine the idea. I, too,

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<sup>10</sup> After the fashion of regular religious.

<sup>11</sup> The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.

<sup>12</sup> Cardinal Gabriele della Genga Sermattei.

recently, mentioned to his most reverend Eminence that he should make his sentiments on this matter known, and, that he should once again have the Confraternity called together by the Archbishop and make it known that etc. ... If you have any suggestions for further action on my part, I am ready. However, the procedure described above is the most decisive. His most reverend Eminence has many occupations and so it will be necessary to remind him etc. ... Even better, have the Archbishop write a letter, after everything up to now has been done, and have him serve as the mediator etc. ... Do whatever you can etc. ... I am writing in a hurry. Pray for me. I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Nepi, while conducting a Mission, 2nd of 1837

### 3310

January 3, 1837

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Rimini

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Orazio

I am sending you ten more Masses to be celebrated; I shall be awaiting the usual notification for them as soon as possible. I give you my sincerest thanks for your religious greetings with which you were pleased to implore copious blessings upon me from the most merciful God during the recurrence of the holy mysteries. In a few words I say: *Dominus retribuet pro me in benedictionibus dulcedinis*.<sup>13</sup>

Right now I am working on the schedule for us during Lent. As far as I can see presently in your regard, you will probably be handling the assignment in Montefeltro or Father Mattia<sup>14</sup> will be covering it. May virtue direct each one of our operations. In the meantime, prayers. More in another letter of mine. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your most humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Nepi, while conducting a Mission, 3rd of 1837

Address your letters to "Rome".

After Easter, we will settle things better.

### 3311

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<sup>13</sup> The Lord will repay on my behalf in sweet blessings.

<sup>14</sup> Father Mattia Cardillo.

January 4, 1837  
Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece

When you have copied down the indulgences, send me those copies.

Write to Ricciardi giving him the cost of the cloth that was sent, or that you will be sending, and get for this a receipt. Let us be in agreement.

Let me know how much you have spent in postage of the 5 *scudi* for Martini, which I suppose that you have mailed.

With regard to Monsignor Riario, everything is all right.

As for the calendars for Nepi, enter this under a new account. For the Province, ask for a receipt from the economists when the opportunities occur. As for the other places, I will handle that. Let me know whether they will be costing a *paolo*.

See that the chalice is consecrated.

With the assistance of Ponziano, get word to Father Luigi Portelli that I have received his little note and that I have understood everything and all is fine. Give him my best regards.

Send Giovanni<sup>15</sup> to his relative to see about the coaches, and find out whether the coachman, whose name is Amico and the one who brought us here, wishes to return to get us, on the condition that if Amico does not come, then no other coach or coachman will be needed at all. And if Amico does not come, then, I am already in verbal contact with one from Civita. So, I advise you to stick to the letter, otherwise things will become confused. I am saying this so that you instruct Giovanni that either Amico comes with the same coach or no other will be needed. The schedule will be this: On Sunday, the 8th, I shall close the Mission; on Monday, I will have the first communions; on Tuesday, the business meeting pertaining to this House, so that on Wednesday we can be back in Rome. Hence, the coachman must be in Nepi on Tuesday evening, the 10th of January, for on the 11th, which is Wednesday, we can be back in Rome. I hope that I have made myself clear. I shall be awaiting, in the mails, your clear and decisive reply as to what has already been done.

They are calling me for the sermon. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your affectionate uncle

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Nepi, 4th of 1837

3312

January 6, 1837

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<sup>15</sup> Giovanni Minicucci.

Fr. Angelo Santangeli  
Bassiano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Archpriest

If there is anyone to whom I should render acknowledgment for the ministry, in particular of the divine word, it is surely you. However, in writing to you about the Mission for January 1st, I did not remember, because of an involuntary oversight, a previous appointment made with the bishop of Nepi who was expecting me for a Mission. But, as soon as I reflected about that, busy as I was in Piperno, at the time that we wrote to each other, I wrote again to see whether he would be pleased with the time of the middle of January, thus completing the ministry by the feast of the Purification. In Velletri, at the time of his Eminence Mattei, the Mission aroused such fervor that not a word at all was said about Carnival time. Now, in your last letter, you say to me: "Let us try to begin on the 8th". But, how can that be if I find myself in Nepi and on the 8th I will be giving the final blessing, and on Monday, the first communion ceremony? So, under these circumstances, I find your suggested appointment unworkable.

According to your letter, which excludes for me the time that I suggested, I see that in Lent the people will be occupied with a Lenten preacher who will be leaving halfway through (this is something new for me; perhaps there are reasons for it) and the bishop will take over. So, select precisely some other period, more or less about the same day, and please write to me quickly, addressing your letter to Rome, and we will work things out then. In general, I would suggest after Easter. Also, let me know when the bishop will conclude his preaching.

In view of the Mission, if Monsignor is occupied, it would be possible that he would not have to tire himself out so much. But, if he is able, he can do great work. If he should wish to have the Mission during Lent, then, write to me in time and quickly; however, during Lent, I myself could not be there in person. That, of course, does not change anything. God is marvelous in his workings.

I do not know what else to add, except to renew my sentiments of esteem, respect and gratitude with which I remain constantly as

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Nepi, while conducting a Mission, 6th of 1837

P. S. Regards to Vicar Giorgi. If you should have any bills with the Mission House, check with the economist.

3313

January 7, 1837  
Luigia del Bufalo  
Rome

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece<sup>16</sup>

The crowd of penitents is increasing.

I understand what you tell me.

Thousands and thousands of thanks for your season's greetings.

I wrote to you about the coachman Amico who brought us here to Nepi so that, if he is willing, he should get here in Nepi next Tuesday in the evening in order for us to be back in Rome next Wednesday, at some hour after the noonday meal. If Amico (the name of the coachman) is not able to come, then no other will be needed.

I will be awaiting word from you in Sunday's mail.

In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your affectionate uncle

I recommend that you get some pounds of the usual dusting powder etc..<sup>17</sup>

3314

January 7, 1837

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

Enclosed are the documents for Simonetti so that I do not misplace them.<sup>18</sup>

3315

January 9, 1837

Luigia del Bufalo

Rome

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest niece<sup>19</sup>

1. Everything is all right with regard to the coach. I have understood.

2. I am writing in a hurry.

3. I shall check over my papers, after this Mission, in reference to the cloth for

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<sup>16</sup> From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter, sent from Nepi, arrived in Rome on January 7, 1837.

<sup>17</sup> This paragraph is found on the fourth siding, near the address.

<sup>18</sup> This message is written on the outercovers which enclosed the two certifications as aggregator of the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood, signed by: "the President, Gaspare C. del Bufalo, Miss. Ap." From the postal markings, it is evident that this packet, sent from Nepi, arrived in Rome on January 7, 1837.

<sup>19</sup> From the postal markings, it is evident that this letter, sent from Nepi, arrived in Rome on January 9, 1837.

Vallecorsa.

4. All is well with regard to the other things you mentioned.

5. As soon as de Marchis returns to me, he will either be included or excluded; we will quickly think about it. I, too, am concerned. Do not send any more letters here. We will be seeing each other on Wednesday evening. I am etc.

Your affectionate uncle

3316

January 14, 1837

Fr. Angelo Santangeli

Bassiano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Archpriest

The Mission in Nepi, though very, very fruitful, was accompanied by snow, cold winds and continuous rain and caused me to catch a cold from which I am recovering, but not to the extent that I am able to travel yet. So, I would say that the Mission should be scheduled as soon as possible, and as soon as a time in the upcoming Lent is feasible. I, for example, could conduct a triduum in Bassiano in view of the fact that I am in the area. I promise to keep you informed in due time.

In the meantime, the director of your Mission will be Father Biagio Valentini, instructed by me in everything. He will be expecting a line or so from you, informing him about the saddlemounts and the transportation of the baggage, which could be collected even beforehand. In short, there is nothing more that I can say. Father Biagio is in Sermoneta. Write to him for the *exequatur*.<sup>20</sup> Also, write to me as a matter of historical record. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem, respect and gratitude

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, 14th of 1837

3317

January 17, 1837

Fr. Domenico Silvestri

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<sup>20</sup> Let it follow.

Macerata Feltria<sup>21</sup>

Hail to the Divine Blood

Fr. Domenico

Concerning the last notification of 40 Masses, I must know whether you have received the offerings. It seems to me that you did not. Among the many expenses that I must sustain, can I retain something for Viola's trip? I shall do whatever you tell me. Concerning the other notifications about Masses, it seems to me that everything is clear and square, except for one or the other involuntary error on my part.

The letters and papers dealing with the matter of the nomination<sup>22</sup> have arrived in Rome. I am still working on it. We shall see.

After Rimini, you shall return quickly to Macerata to resume your responsibilities. You will preach the Marian month there.

With regard to the pieces of land, I am generally opposed to renting them out to others.<sup>23</sup> See to it that the premises and the buildings of every pious place are exempted from taxation. From other assessments, ask for exemptions.

Just for the record and for safeguarding our own rights, you will explain to the civil authorities that Fr. Beniamino had already been assigned to Pievetorina. Fr. Santarelli will be coming there.<sup>24</sup>

In regard to renting, bear in mind that no one rents property to do the other party a favor. Let us pick out some good workers, and honest gain will be ours.

As we have already agreed upon, there is to be a *clausura* for the premises.

Recommend me to God, and celebrate or have someone celebrate the 20 Masses as soon as possible.

In J.C., I am

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<sup>21</sup> On the back of this present letter, written on a halfsheet and appended perhaps to another letter, Fr. Silvestri placed the following brief notation: "Departure and return". Evidently he intended to underline what the Saint directed him to do in the third paragraph concerning his trip to Rimini for the Lenten series at S. Martino in Riparotta and his return to Macerata Feltria after completing the ministry.

<sup>22</sup> Concerning the question of nomination for the Lenten preacher in Macerata Feltria cfr. fifth footnote of Lett. n. 3262 of October 20, 1836.

<sup>23</sup> In a previous note, we spoke of the pieces of land that belonged to the House in Macerata Feltria and of the replacement of the farmers (cfr. Lett. n. 3161 of July 1, 1836, footnote #3). Here, as well as in a few lines further below, the Saint makes it known that it was not a good idea for the House to enter into a rentcontract with the new workers, as perhaps Fr. Silvestri had proposed, but that it was preferable to set up some system by which they could cultivate it themselves.

<sup>24</sup> He is referring here to the preacher for the Lenten series. The Commune had asked for Fr. Beniamino Romani, but the Saint sent Fr. Nicola Santarelli. Only out of courtesy, and without prejudice to the rights of nomination which the Institute claimed entirely for itself, Fr. Silvestri was able to inform those interested concerning the matter.

Your humble servant  
*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 M. Ap.  
 Rome, 17 of 1837

3318

January 17, 1837  
 Msgr. Dionisio Ginnasi  
 Imola

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>25</sup>

Venerable Monsignor

I am inconveniencing you with these few lines to find out whether you have favored us by celebrating the ten Masses which you were kind enough to promise.

With esteem, respect and gratitude, along with my best regards to your very dear mother, I remain

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

3319

January 17, 1837  
 Mother Teresa Cherubina  
 Monastero di Maria SS. del Buon Consiglio  
 Cori

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Rome, 17th of 1837

With regret did I learn about the death of one of your choir sisters and I would like to know who it was. She will pray to God in heaven for us. I shall not fail to offer suffrages for her. With regard to the Retreat, if it would not be a disappointment, then, after Easter. I point out that it would bring about more good with a bit of encouragement to the people. During Lent, it will be necessary to note who is preaching the Lenten series, and that is right. In that event, you would be free to establish for me the time starting right now. I say this for the sake of having some idea. Indeed, I am ready to send you someone promptly for Ash Wednesday. Up to now, I have not encountered any obstacle standing in the way for Father Biagio,<sup>26</sup> whatever time is

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<sup>25</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

<sup>26</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

selected. But, since it is a question of Lenten time, it is necessary to begin immediately. Let me know how many days in all you are accustomed to set aside.

Please send your reply by mail to Rome and the matter will be taken care of when and how you say; have no doubt about it. Finally, pray for me and for our holy Missions. Give my regards to your community. With esteem and respect, consider me as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

3320

January 18, 1837

Pietro Barcaroli

Chiaravalle

Hail to the Divine Blood

Rome, 18th of 1837

Most illustrious sir

I have scheduled the Mission for the feast of the Ascension, completing it then on the feast of the most Holy Trinity. One day sooner or later will not interfere. But the time period must be the one indicated, shall I say, that is basic. A letter from the Curia covering the usual requirements is necessary; and this should be taken care of immediately. I confirm my word to you of doing, in general, whatever I can with respect to the travel plans; more, when we meet in person. If a real obstacle prevents me from being there in person have no doubts about the one selected from my companions whom, with the grace of God, I am able to promise you with tranquility. I repeat, however, I myself would come, for I really long to come. *Scit Deus quod non mentior*.<sup>27</sup> It seems that I have nothing more to say.

Before our Institute began, the wonderful priest Ribeca used to come and assist us in the Missions; in this regard, it seems to me the idea arose because of a previous letter of mine. I hope that he will do good work in preaching the Lenten series, and that he will turn out to be, just as you expressed it, the precursor. Please give him my best regards.

Return my warm greetings to Father Fabretti.

I renew my esteem and respect for you, and I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap .

P. S. Starting from now, let us pray for that holy Mission.

3321

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<sup>27</sup> God knows that I do not lie.

January 18, 1837  
 Mother Maddalena di S. Teresa Marani  
 Rome

Hail to the Divine Blood

Rome, 18th of 1837

Very reverend Mother

Having returned just a short while ago from the Mission in Nepi, I received one of your very esteemed letters in which you bring me the sad news concerning the Sisters. I do not deny that these are sufferings, but virtue converts them into mystical roses for heaven. God's ways are admirable! He is the one who consoles us *in omni tribulatione*.<sup>28</sup> Suffering has principally three degrees. To suffer with patience, to suffer voluntarily, and to suffer with joy, that is, to suffer with that joy which keeps in mind what the apostle has said: "*Superabundo gaudio in omni tribulatione*".<sup>29</sup> I, indeed, will not fail to pray to Mary most holy for graces, and I shall do so with particular concern. May God hear my prayers that Mary will present to him, and may he grant what we desire for the glory of his adorable name. With this understanding, and asking you for your prayers, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

3322

January 19, 1837  
 Fr. Vitale Corbucci  
 Fossombrone

*Sanguis Jesu Christ emundat nos ab omni peccato*<sup>30</sup>

Dear Father Vitale

Even though I am aware that arrangements have already been provided there, still, for the sake of my own peace of mind, I am writing this letter to let you know that my correspondence with the bishop of Cagli has been resumed. As of now, I have not had any results as yet; however, please let me know whether I am supposed to consider anything further for the clergy of Fossombrone. I cannot clearly recall any other problem. Please remind me. I would like to have from you some general indication; also, the suggestion of a couple of possible times, so that I can make my selection of workers because of the arrangements to be made for traveling which call for economical plans.

I kiss your hands. Recommend me to God. Give my best regards to the members of your

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<sup>28</sup> In every tribulation.

<sup>29</sup> With superabundant joy in every tribulation.

<sup>30</sup> The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from every sin.

congregation, I remain, with esteem and respect  
 Your humble, devoted and obliged servant  
*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 M. A.

Rome, 19th of 1837

Father Antonio Mosti is in Rome because of the sanitary cordons.

3323

January 21, 1837  
 Fr. Angelo Santangeli  
 Bassiano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Archpriest

Father Biagio<sup>31</sup> has written to me concerning the Mission. Do not worry about it; and let us agree as follows. Around the end of the time for fulfilling the Easter precept, we will have the Mission. In springtime; the time for doing great work. With reference to Lenten preaching, our Institute does not preach Lenten series; only certain sermons can be given, for example, on feastsdays after the noon meal (just like sermons of visitation) with the Missionary going and then returning. He will go after having had his noon meal and return then by the *Ave Maria* hour. Otherwise, you will have to place your request with the bishop, since this does not fall within our area of work. They would have to be *ad instar*<sup>32</sup> visitation sermons and much good could flow from that. With your being pleased to leave things *prout sunt*<sup>33</sup> with regard to Lent, the Mission remains set for after Easter; and, I will come. As to the precise day, I will write and let you know in plenty of time.

I shall be awaiting your prompt reply for my own schedule. I am feeling quite a bit better after having a cold. Pray for me, With esteem and respect, I am

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

Rome, 21st of 1837

3324

January 21, 1837  
 Mother Teresa Cherubina

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<sup>31</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

<sup>32</sup> After the fashion.

<sup>33</sup> As they are.

Monastero di Maria SS. del Buon Consiglio  
Cori

Hail to the Divine Blood

Very reverend Mother Abbess

You will be obeyed not only in this circumstance but always, in whatever need, at whatever time, and for whatever occasion. The Retreat will be held, therefore, on the first day of Lent. In time, send two mounts, on the morning of Ash Wednesday, to Sermoneta: one for Father Biagio Valentini and the other for the lay Brother. I shall inform them that they are to see to getting there in time for making a brief introduction. Asking you for your prayers and extending my best regards to your community, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Rome, 21st of 1837

P. S. You take care of getting all of the faculties from the most reverend Vicar General.

3325

January 23, 1837

Mother Maddalena Costante

Superiora delle Barberine

Rome

Mother Superior

I have received your plan. Within just a few days, I shall send you everything in response. Deeply obliged to you, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

23rd of 1837

3326

January 24, 1837

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

I am going over your letter and I will be giving you an answer to whatever is necessary.

1. Rendering an account of the spirit is the method to follow. God is at work in your heart which he activates just like a furnace of charity. And what really is true zeal if not the ardor of charity?

2. Bring your desires to fruition, and where God does not wish them to be carried out,

then, be thankful for the promptness of your mind.

3. Stick to the usual procedures. Particular situations, those that call for special illumination, just take note of them for the time being, relish them and be resigned to God for whatever ardor the divine mercy might surprise you with, while saying: "O Lord, always greater is your love and your grace; may this be my comfort".

4. Like the thirsty deer, long for the most holy sacrament; and may the sacred ciborium be the sweet place of abode for your soul which, evermore stimulated with fervor, exclaims: "*Vivo ego jam non ego, vivit vero in me Christus*". Repeat often: "O Lord, enkindle in this monastery of mine your divine love; may that fire purify us, inflame us so that this pious place will become like the bramblebush".

5. Pray for the Holy Father, for the Church, for the conversion of sinners, for the longedfor reform, for all the pious organizations, for those in agony, for the souls in Purgatory and for our holy Institute which urges, revives and promotes all those pious works. *Omnia ad Dei gloriam*.<sup>34</sup> From Sezze, Father Biagio<sup>35</sup> writes to see whether a foundation there is sought. Prayers.

6. With reference to Sonnino, as is happening everywhere, the thing that we are seeking to achieve also is encountering its opposing faction. Keep this to yourself. Let us forgive everyone. The devil is always whispering to someone; but, what is even more perplexing is that it was not enjoying good health. I simply do not know what conclusion to draw.

7. You will be receiving 250 certifications for the sisters. These are to be given to those who have the faculty of enrolling people in the Divine Blood, in the very act of enrolment. They are not altogether essential, but are given as a matter of practicality. With regard to the faculty of enrolling, the priests are to observe what the document says; if they need to have clarification, have them write to me. It would be a good thing to stimulate the pious works in accordance with the regulations. So, keep things moving. That is what God wants.

8. I am sending the cincture for the pastor, this time only, since I am not able to be of help again to anyone in this regard. It costs 85 *bajocchi* which he should send to Father Gentili, the economist in Sonnino, and tell him to include that in the report.

9. I am sending Father Isidoro<sup>36</sup> for the sanctified carnival time in Sonnino. Soon, Father Chiodi will be passing through on his way to conduct the Lenten program in Sonnino. I am hopeful that great results will be achieved.

10. Give my regards to Canon Martellucci, the confessor who is supplying, as I learned about the change. What is to be done? It would seem that God wants Canon Martellucci as a Missionary as well as confessor for nuns. Maybe, this is just my own idea.

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<sup>34</sup> All to the glory of God.

<sup>35</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

<sup>36</sup> Father Isidoro Paoletti.

11. In regard to the decree, it seems to me that wearing the uniform in the refectory is a much better method and as long as the food is sufficient. As for the regulations that speak of the things that can be eaten, it appears that the decree changes nothing. "with permission, it can be taken in recreation time as a private meal". I write in this way, but not really knowing very much about this. Indeed, I would see to it that anyone who was needful of some special attention should be placed at a second table instead of at the usual position. It should be the responsibility of the Superior to see that nothing excessive is done and be very watchful to see that the community has a sufficiency. Community living should make adequate provisions; however, you are not to worry about that. What is needed would be a lengthy discussion and then a very prudent, wellworkedout system. Each, then, ought to manifest to their own bishop, what is needed, especially, when there is no other way to handle it. The provision of food must be adequate; and that is only just. Think over these remarks and, after receiving the Blessed Sacrament, make a decision as to how to govern yourself.

12. After the Mission in Maenza, Father Biagio will be coming to take care of the function in honor of S. Filomena; thus, he will be preaching to the people, etc., etc.. Write to him that he should get the faculty from the bishop for giving the blessing. But first, Father Chiodi will be passing through and will do some good work.

13. Have I overlooked anything? With regard to your duties ... abandonment to God.

14. Pray a lot for me so that I will be entirely with Jesus both through time and through blessed eternity. In Jesus Christ, the only haven of peace, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

24th of 1837

3327

January 26, 1837

Fr. Domenico Silvestri

Macerata Feltria

Hail to the Divine Blood

Rome, 26 of 1837

Esteemed Fr. Domenico

I am content with the six *Sc.* for Viola's trip, the offering for the 40 Masses. I have condoned the other expenses incurred at other times. Only God knows how much I would like to do for the Society. I shall mail three *Sc.* to Rimini for the other Masses, and this time I shall take care of the postal charges. It will be up to you to get them, once they have arrived there. Send me notice of this for my own peace of mind.

Ask for exemptions from the assessments, as well as you can. Inform Santarelli.

Because of the last Mass during Lent, it will be necessary to have Fr. Pontoni come as a

second companion, whom you can send for whenever you wish. In sending for Pontoni, tell Brandimarte, in my name, to go to Penna, where he should not preach <sup>37</sup> since Santarelli will be on duty. This latter will come to Macerata when you think best and I shall instruct him in the next ordinary mail. In the meantime, I shall direct Pontoni to be ready. Pontoni will take care of the oratory and, in that way, all will go well. After Easter, we shall assign three Missionaries to the House with you remaining as President as usual, etc. Brandimarte will go to Penna, and I shall send another of our men as a companion. I will handle that.

As for S. Martino of Riparotta, entrusted to you, come to an agreement with Lipparelli in Rimini. However, note that Bishop Gentilini<sup>38</sup> wants all of the Lenten preachers to be present for his allocution. So, Lipparelli will have to acquiesce; but, I know that it displeases him, etc. You act accordingly.

I shall not permit Pontoni (keep this between us) to preach on any account.<sup>39</sup> If you have to remain one or the other day alone, should Santarelli not get there, fill out the services with pious devotions. You understand me. Govern yourself prudently, *hoc in casu et pro hac vice*.<sup>40</sup> I repeat, send for Pontoni with the same means that will be used to convey Brandimarte. As for the rest, because of these present changes, try to act *meliori modo*.<sup>41</sup>

Upon his return, Santarelli will conduct the Visitation after Lent. In the meanwhile: Pontoni will be proEconomist, after you have instructed him, and along with that job he will have charge of the church; Santarelli will be the proPresident: *et satis provisum*.<sup>42</sup>

Remember about going to Rimini, as I have said. In this matter, write to Bishop Gentilini. Regulate yourself: and do good work.

I praise you very much for the firmness you show in your vocation, put to the test by God. Your good Uncle in heaven, far from weakening it, will strengthen it,<sup>43</sup> Let us win over souls for God; let us suffer for love of him; and let us not lose courage. The devil is cunning: but *ipsi vicerunt draconem propter Sanguinem Agni*.<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Brandimarte, Lenten Preacher

<sup>38</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Gentilini, Msgr. Francesco

<sup>39</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Pontoni, Fr. Alessandro

<sup>40</sup> In this case and for this time.

<sup>41</sup> In a better way.

<sup>42</sup> Enough provided.

<sup>43</sup> Cf. Additional Biographical Data: Silvestri, Giuseppe, No. 2

<sup>44</sup> They conquered the dragon because of the blood of the Lamb.

Wholeheartedly, I embrace you. With the usual affection and esteem, I am, in J. C.  
 Your humble servant  
*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 M. Ap.  
 P. S. Pray for me, etc.

3328

January 26, 1837  
 Fr. Mattia Cardillo  
 Rimini

## Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Mattia

Here is God's will in your regard and share this letter of mine with Father Lipparelli insofar as it regards him too. We have a Lenten appointment near Pievetorina for the feasts of precept alone, the sermons to be given after the noon meal and from a platform, *ad instar*<sup>45</sup> visitation sermons; much good work can be achieved. This request has arrived here just now and I, in God's name, am entrusting this task to you. So, after reading this letter of mine, you will immediately leave for Pievetorina in accordance with our usual regulations and observing the thriftiest means, making the trip by way of Fossombrone since the other routes are disastrous. You take care of this. Tell Father Lipparelli that he should arrange for a loan of as much money that is sufficient for his traveling expenses and that he should inform me of the bill. With any notice from Father Lipparelli, I shall quickly give him a reimbursement through the mails. You will preach the material that you have on hand, for all of that is useful. Bring along your clothing. Up until Easter, your residence will be Pievetorina, and, perhaps, even beyond that time. We shall see what God wills.

With all my affection, esteem and special attachment, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, the 26th of 1837

After arriving in Pievetorina, check with the President. In reference to faculties, the usual contact with the bishop, etc..<sup>46</sup>

3329

January 26, 1837

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<sup>45</sup> After the fashion.

<sup>46</sup> This postscript is found on the fourth siding, near the address.

Ignazio Lesinelli  
Rome

House, 26th of 1837

Most esteemed Ignazio

I am returning the enclosed since I, too, have gotten one. However, the shortness of time, because of a Retreat that I am to give to the nuns in Albano, an appointment that was made before the citation that we are dealing with, prevents me from being present and visiting with you as I would have desired.

Today, Severini is going to see de Cupis and at 22 hours sharp will be in Campitelli where they will be awaiting him to get together with you and supply them with the historical truth of the situation. The superiors will decide anything more.

With distinct esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

If, at 22 hours, you should not be able to go to Campitelli, it would be a real act of charity for you to leave word in that church for Severini.<sup>47</sup>

3330

January 27, 1837  
Ignazio Lesinelli  
Rome

House, 27th of 1837

Most esteemed Ignazio

1. The citation has recently gotten to me just as it did to you, as well as to the others.

2. Severini, both for me and for himself, manifested the simple history of the situation, wellknown to de Cupis, and nothing more, leaving every decision to the superiors. So, note that there is no need for a meeting or advisement on the matter, since the decision is not dependent on us.

3. If I had had a moment of time available, I would have come to see you, and with pleasure. But, you must realize that I have been prevented from doing so because of the time of my departure tomorrow morning (Saturday) for Albano. In all things, may the will of God be done. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

3331

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<sup>47</sup> This postscript is found on the fourth siding, near the address.

February 4, 1837  
Fr. Orazio Bracaglia  
Cesena

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Orazio<sup>48</sup>

In reference to all the Masses and the offerings, it appears that we are all even, except for the recent ones for which I am still awaiting your notification.

In regard to the rest of the ministry, tell Mosconi that in the meantime he should handle the military at the beginning of Lent. More in another letter of mine. Address your letters to Rome. Lipparelli, as the older member, will supply any further information when he comes there in my name. I am etc.

*G. C. d. B.*

M. Ap.

P. S. I point out that if you are not close to me it is because I have noticed that you do not care to stay in some of our Houses, and after a certain indication, I noticed that only by way of virtue (a praiseworthy thing) would you stay. Let nothing be done in Cesena without my direction; learn how to set squarely straight the mind of anyone who needs it.

3332

February 5, 1837  
Fr. Tomasso Meloni  
Roma per Nepi

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Tomasso

In answer to your letter, I say that you conducted yourself prudently in returning to Nepi. With regard to Orte, we shall think about it in due time, that is, after the instructions of the Bishop.

In the meantime, I will be needing you for assistance in the ministry. It will be necessary for you to come to Rome for next Friday *post Cineres*.<sup>49</sup> Bring along only what you will need for 20 days, thereabouts, and nothing more, for you shall return directly to Nepi. You will be reimbursed for your expenses. Tell Fr. Spina that he will have an auxiliary companion from Giano, and that I shall write to him. Lent is a time when we have to adjust the use of our manpower.

You come to my place here in Rome where arrangements will be made for you for one night; I am in a hurry

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<sup>48</sup> This letter has no date. In part, one was obtained from the postal markings (Albano, February 4). The year is 1837 (cfr. the letter (n. 3310) to this same person dated January 3, and the one (n. 3339) of February 18, 1837).

<sup>49</sup> After Ash Wednesday.

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Albano February 5, 1837

You will conduct the Three Hours of Agony in Nepi.

3333

February 7, 1837

Fr. Angelo Santangeli

Bassiano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Archpriest

I understand what you tell me. In time I will inform you about the Mission. Meanwhile, let us predispose things through prayer.

Give my best regards to Vicar Giorgi, to the Prior and the elderly of the commune, and first of all to the clergy.

In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem, respect and gratitude

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

February 7, 1837

3334

February 8, 1837

Mother Maddalena Costante

Superiora delle Barberine

Rome

Mother Superior

I am most obliged for your charity. Enclosed is the new information concerning the copper casting. After unwrapping the parcel, you can read about it. Generally speaking, if the artisan does not apply a very special diligence, we will end up with a bit poorer product. Encourage him as much as you can, for that copper casting could bring him some providential work in the future. All this, of course, with all due respect to the artisan. Pay special attention to the ear of most holy Mary. Tell him that the faces should arouse devotion. Once again, please, excuse so many inconveniences that I cause. I am relying on you. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your. humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

House, February 8,<sup>50</sup> shortly after arriving

3335

February 8, 1837  
Fr. Luigi Turchi  
Camerino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Luigi

I received your most appreciated letter which also provided me with news about yourself. You will be receiving 12,50 *scudi* in the mails, and, I told your correspondent at times meetings with the Missionaries do occur or other money is to be paid etc. etc. But in order to take advantage of this, it is necessary to await those encounters, as you pointed out. For this time, since I am a bit fearful, you will receive, I repeat, that money in the mail. Please do me the favor of dropping me a word as soon as you have received it. In the future, in regard to this procedure, always get in touch with me. For the cost of postage, the 25 *bajocchi* which I paid out, you can do me the favor, if possible, of applying one Mass for the deceased of my family. If this is not possible, pray for me and that will be sufficient. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, February 8, 1837

3336

February 10, 1837  
Fr. Luigi Ambrosini  
Pennabilli

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

The enclosed papers are meant to obtain, with a dispensation from the interstices, the dimissorials for *Sitientes* Saturday,<sup>51</sup> so that your brother<sup>52</sup> can be advanced to the diaconate. You take care of this and return them to me as soon as possible.

Pray for me. Though in a hurry, I remain, with esteem

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

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<sup>50</sup> The year is 1837 (cfr. the letter (n. 3325) to this same person dated January 23 and also the one (n. 3338) of February 14, 1837).

<sup>51</sup> Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent.

<sup>52</sup> Father Ubaldo Ambrosini.

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, February 10, 1837

P. S. Please extend my regards to the most reverend bishop and to the Vicar General. You are to return the enclosed, dealing with the subdiaconate.

3337

February 14, 1837

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Camillo

Return the document and please have, according to regulations, a memorandum made of it with the testimony included on that memorandum so that, in this way, everything will be in good order.

In the mails, you have probably received the balance of 30 *bajocchi*, if I am not mistaken, for that small entry. Please drop me a word about this. If there should be something left over, then balance out the cost of this letter.

Send me news about yourself. Pray for me. Though in a hurry, I remain, with esteem

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, February 14, 1837

3338

February 14, 1837

Mother Maddalena Costante

Superiora delle Barberine

Rome

Most esteemed Superior

While conducting the Retreat in S. Croce, I am writing a couple of lines in order to give you my deep felt thanks for your kindness in taking care of the copper casting. I am filled with embarrassment when I realize the many, many inconveniences that I cause you.

You hold on to the receipt. You will be doing me a favor. When the work is completed, I will take the receipt back.

When the 50 *scudi* are paid, you will be reimbursed at any word from you, once the work is completed.

Not for myself, a plainer type, but for the sake of my companions, whenever you meet with him, ask Copparoni to exert the highest degree of diligence; he is not to hurry and he is to

see that the work is perfect and in accordance with the precise rules of art. In addition, let us offer prayers to most holy Mary. This is the best approach to have. You should alert him about the inscription, indicated on the first design. You must not cease praying and have others pray for me and for our Institute. Miserable thing that I am, especially in gratitude, I will do the same for you and for whatever you need, since I simply do not know how I could ever properly fulfill my obligations to you.

In the adorable Heart of Jesus Christ, the only center of every true and good thing, I repeat that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

February 14, 1837

3339

February 18, 1837

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Cesena

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio<sup>53</sup>

With reference to the Masses in Lipsarelli's notification sent by him, repeat the offerings, since I have already taken care of them.

As for the other notification for the ten Masses, let me know whether you wish to have me send the offerings to Cesena or am I to send them to your father, noting that this fulfillment is very urgent. With holy impatience, I shall be awaiting that notification; if necessary, have someone help you with this.

With regard to the ministry, since I have given instructions, *pro hac vice*,<sup>54</sup> to Lipparelli, I say to you that, until the completion of Easter time, you are to adhere to the directions that he gives you. Consideration has already been given to the ordinands.

As for the procession in honor of the Sorrowful Mother, you must: 1. Check with the bishop; 2. have the means available.

With reference to Father Luigi,<sup>55</sup> everything will be set in order after Easter. With Lipparelli's arrival, he will take upon himself every responsibility up to Easter. So, it would be

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<sup>53</sup> This letter does not have a date. From the postal markings, the day and the month (February 18) are derived. The year is 1837 (cfr. the letter (n. 3347) to Silvestri dated March 4, 1837 in which he speaks of Meldola and of Father Luigi Mosconi as the ProPresident, just as he does here in this letter. Cfr. also the letter (n. 3342) to this same Bracaglia, dated February 25, 1837 and the reference to the "*paoli*" sent on to his father).

<sup>54</sup> For this time.

<sup>55</sup> Father Luigi Mosconi

something superfluous. I am not opposed to his being considered ProPresident, but, I repeat, until Easter.

How are the sick Brothers doing?

As for the hired people, I repeat, nothing at all is to be done. We shall try to work out some sort of a shift with Lipparelli after Meldola. The prisons and the military do not ordinarily send requests; but we, with prudence, have to question them.

In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

3340

February 20, 1837

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Rome, February 20<sup>56</sup>

I have received your letter and in everything may the will of God be done. Prayers.

I confirm the regulation given in regard to holy Communion and I extend it, relatively, to holy Confession.

Ask God for tranquility of spirit and more trust. Make your appeal for all this during the month of March, dedicated to St. Joseph to whom, I, too, recommend myself. You acted very correctly in reconciling yourself with Father Biagio,<sup>57</sup> a man according to the heart of God.

Father Francesco Verili, up to now, has been in Frosinone. Perhaps, only for Lent will he return to Sonnino. (I add that he will not be going to Sonnino).

I have conveyed the message concerning the oil and my niece will write to you. A thousand thanks for your concerns.

With regard to Enrico,<sup>58</sup> prayers, so that he will come to know the will of God, the only center of peace and of true tranquility. I do not believe that he is one for our Institute.

De Angelis, whom I have not met, tells me that he, too, is not one for our Institute. Not

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<sup>56</sup> This letter should be assigned to 1837. In fact, in it mention is made that the recipient of the letter has acted correctly in reconciling herself with Father Biagio Valentini who had been in Priverno at the beginning of February (cfr. the letter [n. 3326] to her dated January 24, 1837). Furthermore, mention is made of the vocation of Enrico de Castris, nephew of the addressee, who entered the Congregation in 1836 (cfr. the letter [ n. 3050] to her in 1836); in this one St. Gaspar says that he thinks that he is not one for the Institute, whereas in the letters of 1836, he is more or less optimistic about him.

<sup>57</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

<sup>58</sup> Enrico de Castris.

every good plant is good for every type of soil. He will apply to some other Institute.

I do not recall who Marcelli is. Give him greetings.

*G. C. d. B.*

## 3341

February 20, 1837

Cardinal Ignazio Giovanni Cadolini

Bishop of Spoleto

Spoleto<sup>59</sup>

The House in S. Felice in Giano where [...] <sup>60</sup> the Institute for Missions and Retreats under the most august title of the Divine Blood was supposed to receive, from the first part of January past, the order of payment of the pension instalment assigned to that sanctuary. Up to now it has been delayed and God knows what urgency there is for it. I add nothing further for I trust in your intervention and authority. Most reverend Eminence, I kiss your hands and with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, February 20, 1837

## 3342

February 25, 1837

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Cesena

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Orazio

I shall send the 15 *paoli* to your good father. We are all even in our accounts. While you are in Cesena, you will not be needing Masses.

You would be doing a very good thing in keeping me informed of the affairs in that House.

The death of the good de Victoriis<sup>61</sup> calls for us to make new arrangements.

I have written to Father Luigi.<sup>62</sup> I hope that he has gotten better.

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<sup>59</sup> The address is missing.

<sup>60</sup> The upper part of this sheet is torn and deficient.

<sup>61</sup> Father Pietro de Victoriis died in S. Felice in Giano on February 14, 1837.

<sup>62</sup> Fr. Luigi Mosconi.

Assure the pastor of Ranchio, diocese of Sarsena, about the Mission. He will be getting precise information during Holy Week. In the meantime, let me know how far it is from Cesena and how many miles etc. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, February 25, 1837

3343

February 26, 1837

Fr. Carlo Lattanzi

Civita Lavinia

Hail to the Divine Blood of Jesus Christ

Rome, February 26, 1837

Most esteemed Canon

I received your letter and now send a reply.

1. I know of everything that has occurred; It would be useful for you to have a meeting with the Vicar General or with the bishop.

2. In reference to our Institute and Congregation, I am in contact with his most reverend Eminence who would like to have a petition from your people since he is willing to be of help for you. So, let me know what I am to do.

3. With regard to your decision, relative to both your nephew and the boarder from Canfora, I have no doubt that in order to proceed with regularity, contact with his most reverend Eminence is called for; but first, the young boarder should be interrogated.

4. As far as I am concerned, I am very, very happy about your decision; however, since you have been living with your family up to now, I do not know whether you would be capable of living and adapting to community life. At any rate, it would be necessary, first, to test this, in order to come to a better decision. It would seem to me that you would be better able to adapt, first, by renting a pious place in Rome since I am not at all sure that you are able to abandon Civita Lavinia. I will keep this matter to myself. I will make it known only after you keep tell me to do so. Pray for me. Be courageous. From everything, God draws forth his glory. With esteem, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

3344

February 28, 1837

Msgr. Guglielmo Aretini Sillani  
 Bishop of Terracina, Sezze and Priverno  
 Terracina

*Sanguis Jesu Christi emundat nos ab omni peccato*<sup>63</sup>

Venerable Monsignor

For the sake of economy of expenses, I have thought about the feast of the Ascension for the entrance to the Mission in Terracina. After Terracina, two of the Missionaries along with a Brother would move on to S. Felice and have ready both the baggage for the ministry and anything else that is needed. I would like to have your approval; indeed, you will be served just as you wish.

In regard to Sezze, I have already written to Father Biagio.<sup>64</sup> I am waiting for the time to be set which I shall immediately make known to him. As for Maenza and Roccasecca, everything has already been arranged and entrusted to Father Biagio's direction. The same is true for Bassiano, after Easter.

I kiss your hands. Most venerable Monsignor, pray for me. With esteem, respect and a very special affection, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, February 28, 1837

3345

February 28, 1837

Rachele Vanni  
 estignano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most illustrious lady

Everyone has felt deeply grieved with the death of the good de Victoriis.

It is very well known how devoted the deceased was to our Institute. However, God selects some who will serve at the beginnings of things and others to carry them on. Really, I do not know what more I can say. God will make known his will; any sentiment that I may express is entirely my own reflection; in all things, indeed, may the will of God be done.

Our Institute has always had an appreciation for the deceased as it does for all its other individuals. Starting with the spring of 1836, he no longer engaged in preaching Missions, but in that spring season, he took care only of Todi. He lived in one of our Mission Houses. The deceased's Lenten preaching in Giano was, may I express it so, almost nothing. It seems that

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<sup>63</sup> The Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from every sin.

<sup>64</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

preaching is done twice a week. But, he did like to move about; so, there is really nothing more to say than: "God willed to have him back".

With regard to Quirino's room and board, I shall wait until May; you will determine when advance is to be made, informing your agent who does the collecting.

Why was Quirino not allowed to receive minor orders? Continue cultivating the pious organizations and let us do good works. Let us live surrendering ourselves to God. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, February 28, 1837

3346

March 4, 1837

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

I am waiting for a reply to my recent letter. Right now, the following things are needed: 1. A bolt of material for making towels and napkins. See that the bolt is of sufficient measurement, but at the same time, not too scanty. 2. A small quantity of cloth for bedsheets and shirts. 3. 12 reams of *palomba* stationery, a halfream of imperial paper for making holy cards, and one ream, like the *palomba* type, but not cut and not absorbent. Please excuse my inconveniencing you. Recommend me a lot to God. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 4, 1837

3347

March 4, 1837

Fr. Domenico Silvestri

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Domenico

I have already mailed the six *scudi*, having subtracted the postal costs, thus 12 *bajocchi* short, if I am not mistaken. This is the anticipated offering for the 40 Masses for which you, in due time, will send me the notification.

At the seminary, Virgilj will handle the meditations, covering, in general, the basic principles and Cardillo the reform materials. Then, after Meldola, Mosconi will be on hand and be able to serve, as it were, as ProPresident while you will be the ProSuperior and Economist as well as caretaker of the church. I will explain better. He, in Cesena, is the President; and, it is enough for me that advanced age alone should be valued etc.

I have learned of the good work that God is promoting through your efforts and so let us give thanks to the Lord. I pray that everything *in omnibus*<sup>65</sup> is in keeping with our regulations.

You will supply Mosconi with one of the vacant rooms.

Have I forgotten anything? Send me a notice of the money that is mailed. In Jesus Christ, I remain, with total affection and esteem

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, March 4, 1837

P. S. Viola has been assigned by me as the cook in Rimini and Antonio of Vallecorsa<sup>66</sup> will be supplying for now in Macerata. I authorize you to handle this change and give the usual room which, I suppose, is still set aside for the Brothers. I am speaking of the room there for Viola. Write to me etc. If you run into a good peasant who reveres our Institute, write and let me know. He should not be too young.

3348

March 7, 1837

Pietro Barcaroli

Chiaravalle

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Pietro

I owe a reply to two of your most appreciated letters. Please realize that the delay has been caused by the setting of a date for the Mission in Cagli where I am expressly expected to go. The bishop has scheduled this good work for the beginning of September. For the sake of economy, I would like to include Chiaravalle also, that is, first take care of Chiaravalle and then Cagli. In that case, it would be necessary to begin the Mission there around the feast of the Assumption, then I could move on to Cagli. Otherwise, I would have to make a trip now and then repeat another one.

You, with your fine manners, could bring this reasoning to his Eminence Testaferrata to whom I have sent, already, the usual letter and the proper recognition, telling him that I would be

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<sup>65</sup> In all things.

<sup>66</sup> Antonio Di Girolamo, admitted into the Congregation in 1831.

writing to Chiaravalle to get a more precise time. Through the services of Father Abate, to whom I give my greetings, an investigation of the matter can be made and also, through your assistance, I would be able to get further information. I realize that you might be displeased with what is occurring, but, I do not know what else I could do.

In your good judgment, you are aware of the many responsibilities that one has who is at the head of an Institute. Other commitments also call for me to make traveling arrangements for the first part of August. Still, I am fully willing to go along with you, if you and Father Abate do not agree to defer this good work. I, too, would like to hurry things along then by sending a select company of our learned and zealous workers that I have in Romagna, in the Marche as well as in Pievetorina, as long as that will please you to have the Mission around the feast of the Ascension. At that time, I will have companions in movement throughout the Marche on other assignments. All this results from efforts to facilitate things, including temporal matters.

In my own wretchedness, I wish only that in all things the will of God be done for it is to him that I surrender myself. I beg you to send a prompt reply and may it be *juxta cor Dei*.<sup>67</sup> Have no consideration for me, but only for the glory of God. If Chiaravalle had been within the area, the whole procedure would have been different. Let us hope that one of our Mission and Retreat Houses might be set up in that area.

Recommend me to God. With the Cardinal, try, on your part, to handle this matter well, as I have no doubt you will. With esteem, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, March 7, 1837

3349

March 8, 1837

Guidobaldo Mattei Gentili

Torricella

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*<sup>68</sup>

Most illustrious sir

Here I am sending a response to your very kind letter. I must, however, confess that I feel that I will be incapable of being successful, as I would like to be, in the matter about which you write in your letter. Nevertheless, please forward to me the request to which I will join a copy of the requisites and then I will try to have it presented and recommended. You, who are more experienced in these proceedings, should examine to see whether it is necessary to have recourse

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<sup>67</sup> According to the heart of God.

<sup>68</sup> Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

to Rome or to the Cardinal delegate. Even with sending me the petition, I would try to find means through his assistance. With this understanding, then, and recommending myself to your prayers, I remain with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 8, 1837

### 3350

March 9, 1837

Fr. Tomasso Meloni

Nepi

Hail to the Divine Blood

Fr. Tomasso

I thank you for your charity in handling the labors of Fiano and Torrita.<sup>69</sup> If you wish to give me a report of the expenses that you encountered, write to me. If you wish to forget about them for the glory of God, "*Dominus retribuet pro me*".<sup>70</sup>

Orte is available for you. However, arrange things so that you can be back in time for the Three Hours of Agony in Nepi and for the Holy Week services. Should you not want to have so much to do for the Three Hours, Fr. Spina could do the readings. You arrange things; but do good work, limiting yourself to simple talks. God will assist you.

When you need Masses, say so. In the meantime, I am sending you ten, to be said as soon as possible. This is a different list than the others sent previously.

With esteem, I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, March 9, 1837

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<sup>69</sup> Cf. Geographical Data:Fiano Romano and Torrita Tiberina

<sup>70</sup> The Lord will repay on my behalf.