

St. Gaspar's Letters

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3501

August 22, 1837
Fr. Luigi Mosconi
Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Luigi

I advise you on two matters.

First, I have sent an order to Fr. Orazio to remove the confessionals from the small room facing the preacher's platform. Three confessionals are enough, as is our usual practice. Once the men have finished, then the women can use them ...; two at the door of the church and the other in full view alongside the little chapel where the Pious Union is set up. (No offense meant to anyone), but for good reasons, no one is to hear confessions of women in that small room; furthermore, the Missionaries will take their regular turns in hearing the confessions of women, but they are not to make a specialty of it.

Second, that it is not permitted to take along clerics instead of a Brother when going to preach in a Monastery. By doing that we impose a burden on the Monastery and only afford a vacation for a nonmember of the Society. Using a Lay Brother is the practice that is observed by other Institutes and it does not give a wrong impression. I have already written that I shall look into this matter; but, you have already indicated to me that you have one available in the House. You know how highly I esteem you and how much I love you; but, when it comes to regulations pertaining to the Institute, I would like to see them remain intact.

Here, we are experiencing the visitation of God through the cholera. Prayers. Later, I shall write to you about the other matters. I am, etc.

Humble servant
G. C. del Bufalo
M. Ap.

Rome, August 22, 1837¹

P. S. I urge the observance of the rule, the day of personal recollection, the conferences, etc. You shall have the Ordinands there.

¹ The place from which this letter was sent and the date are derived from the postal markings. Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Cholera (Sanitary Measures Against)

3502

August 24, 1837
 Camillo Possenti
 Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Rome, August 24, 1837

Most esteemed Camillo

I had just prepared the package for mailing it to you; but, the fact is that, at the present time, money is not being accepted or in receiving it now, it is not useable. I am continuing to investigate this; so, if you have someone in Fabriano who can supply you with that sum, then here in Rome, I will consign that amount to whomever you indicate. Check also with the *Corporazioni Regolari*. Please excuse this double inconvenience.

I can tell you nothing about the new bishop; I am not acquainted with him nor do I have any information along that line. Prayers. I would like him to be like another Xavier. Prayers.

I am pleased that they are slowing down the printing. Do me the favor of holding on to this material.

If the young man, about whom you wrote to me, does not come *animo permanendi*,² then he will not fit in with the present system employed in our Institute. He has, however, a year *ad deliberandum*,³ and that is how it should be. With esteem and respect, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

P. S. The young man might say: I would like to try out, etc., etc.. Prayers.

3503

August 24, 1837
 Fr. Orazio Bracaglia
 Rimini

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Orazio⁴

1. You will be taken care of with regard to the six *scudi*, immediately. I will be awaiting them from Cardillo. It will be difficult for him to find a seat available to Nepi, but only as far as Fuligno. From there, on to Spoleto, then Terni, and finally to his place. He should have all of his

² With the intent of remaining permanent.

³ To weigh carefully.

⁴ This letter does not have a date, but one is derived from the postal markings (Rome, August 24, 1837).

papers in order. Urge him to hurry this and to be thrifty.

2. I will see about Palmieri.

3. I already told you that no one is to go to Cesena. The Mission has been suspended.

4. I give thanks to God for your recovery.

5. Tell the niece of the nowdeceased, very dear Father Paolo Venerucci that she should make 12 sashes for Brothers, namely, the type with which she is familiar. Have her inform me of the cost which she will receive from me immediately. In the meantime, I will not make use of the six that you have, since it is better, in any case, that Cardillo bring them. If you can hold on to them while we see what will be asked for the sashes, then hold on to them. You regulate yourself.

6. I expressly forbid any Brother to go to another House without my definite knowledge of it. The same holds true for the Missionaries, and, when the opportunity arises, you are to make this wellknown. Each one is to remain at his post. That is what experience has taught me.

7. A sacristan is needed here; one cannot be spared.

8. It is against the rule for a cleric to go to the nuns with Mosconi. Are we to supply a vacation for outsiders? The nuns would say that their own server is sufficient. I repeat, I do not like the idea, in fact, I forbid this procedure. You understand me; I have written this to Mosconi.

9. You will be getting some supplies from the collection soon and so we give thanks to God.

10. The Missionary who will be arriving, in due time, will be Brandimarte. Mosconi will be the President; Brandimarte will be the Superior and the Prefect of the church; and you, the Director of Retreats and Economist. Let me know whether this arrangement is satisfactory before I go ahead with it. Brandimarte's room could be one of the better ones in the large branch facing the garden.

11. Remember that I have you there as my helper and because I hold you very near to my heart. Burn my letters.

12. The cleric that you propose to me *lectum*.⁵ The sacristies are for our men who are growing old. If he had been a good, wellbehaved peasant, well then, the matter would have been treated differently. Camillo from Cesena is on probation and it has been only because of the many prayers of Father Vitale Corbucci, to whom the Institute is so deeply obliged.

13. With hope that it does not upset you, in another letter I will let you know what I judge must be brought to your attention.

14. I wrote to Father Mosconi (with all due respect) that the confessions of women are to be heard at the door of the church and in the nearby small chapel of the Pious Union. I add, for your information, that at an opportune time, speaking by way of fact, having closed the church, you, along with the help of a carpenter, are to do whatever is necessary for good order, to remove the two confessionals near that small room facing the preaching platform. They are to be placed symmetrically in the choirarea for hearing the confessions of men and, in particular, of children.

⁵ Selected.

To remain in that small room is the relic of the Sorrowful Mother; and the chairs, that are set up in the church when necessary, are to be kept. I am told that in the summertime that small room gets very hot and in the winter, gloomy; and that is it.

15. Do not fail to take your turn in the confessional; women are to be handled cautiously; inform Palmieri of this, even though he will be leaving.

16. Since there are those to be ordained, I have already written that the Retreat should be conducted by Father Mosconi.

17. Have I forgotten anything? Pray for me. I am etc.

G. C.

As of now, I confirm the news about the Province; but here in Rome, we have the cholera. Prayers.⁶

3504

August 26, 1837
Fr. Angelo Santangeli
Bassiano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Archpriest

I have already made arrangements in Sermoneta for the triduum to be conducted in Bassiano and I have given instructions to the President, Paoletti who is in Sermoneta. Therefore, I have set the time, for in these miserable days what more can we do than pray and offer souls to God? I thank you for your many, many acts of kindness. Take good care of yourself. When the opportunity arises, extend my very best wishes to anyone who has a remembrance of me. May the grace of Jesus Christ abound in our hearts. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. *del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, August 26, 1837

P. S. Pray for this truly desolate city.

3505

August 26, 1837
Fr. Tomasso Meloni
Cammerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Tomasso

I have nothing to say to your observations concerning Sig. Marini. Let Sig. Ceccarelli

⁶ This postscript is found on the fourth siding, near the address.

first seek a peaceful solution, and then, in his own name and in the name of the Mission House, let him issue a prohibition to cross our property. The case should be handled as economically as possible. You help especially by praying and getting others to pray.

As soon as I obtain some Masses, I shall send them on to you. At the present time I do not have a single one, but I hope to have some soon. Have no doubts about it, I shall not forget.

We have cholera here. S. Galla is one of the quarantine stations. Prayers, prayers. We truly are in desolation: but the holy Job will guide us.

I am in Jesus Christ

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, August 26, 1837

3506

August 28, 1837

Fr. Michele Calamita

Vallecorsa

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

Because of the circumstances in which we find ourselves, I am writing just a couple of lines to assure you of my full effort in behalf of the petition which you sent to me. In the meantime, check with the Delegation to find out, *pro informatione*,⁷ whether it will be remitted, that is, having no doubt about correct correspondence.

With all my esteem and affection, I remain, in Jesus Christ

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, August 28, 1837

3507

August 29, 1837

Pietro Barcaroli

Chiaravalle

Hail to the Divine Blood

Rome, August 29, 1837

Most illustrious sir

Here I am sending a reply to your letter. Already in another of my letters, I told you that I

⁷ For information.

had submitted both of your petitions; one, dealing with the reforms, the other with the closings at the time of the Mission. Prayers. I am hoping for a favorable reply.

I mentioned that the Missionaries would be coming with me from Rome. However, neither I nor they would be able to obtain open passage. I noted that in carrying out the ministry it is a good thing to leave the directions surrendered to providence. So, I have come to the following conclusion:

For the 7th, I would be able to send from the Houses in Romagna and the Marche, a select group. However, there is little available time for lettercorrespondence. Therefore, let us arrange for another time, namely, October 14th. Let us remain in agreement on that. You will learn who it is that God, *ab aeterno*,⁸ has selected. If you would like me to come, I say to you, in all candor, that by divine mercy my desire to come there is as strong as yours. Prayers. Let us allow God to regulate things, without appending any conditions relating to circumstances. Give me news about yourself; refer to this letter of mine. At the beginning of October, I will resume our lettercorrespondence, now that the substantial points are assured. The people, the Cardinal, to whom I shall not write, are all witnesses of the impediments that have arisen. With all my esteem, respect and gratitude, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

P. S. Tell Father Abate that the Missionary did not go to Iesi. He will understand. I am writing as things keep piling up.

3508

August 30, 1837
Girolamo Contedini
Rome

House, August 30, 1837

Most esteemed Girolamo

For a halfhour some night, entirely at your convenience, I would like to visit with you. Please excuse me if I hurry your concerns a bit.

Carefully, read over again the enclosed material for the sake of a more perfect exactness. With esteem and respect, I remain, in Jesus Christ

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

3509

⁸ From eternity.

August 1837
 Girolamo Contedini
 Rome

Here are the copies. You check the amendment. If you have any doubts, please ask.⁹

3510

August 31, 1837
 Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris
 Piperno

Hail to the Divine Blood

Very reverend Mother

The money given to the coachman is 16 *scudi* which, as you already assure me, have been received by Verili.

Here, God's visitation continues. Prayers. Prayers. We place our hopes on the feast of Mary most holy, September 8th. I am greatly delighted that your nephew¹⁰ is busy and is doing good work. For the triduum in honor of S. Filomena I am not at all able to send Father Biagio¹¹ without causing displeasure to the most reverend Delegate who has asked me, along with a letter from the Magistrature, not to move him at the present time. So, you must be persuaded that whenever I express a denial, it is due to a veritable impossibility. For now, I repeat, it just cannot be done. Still, I could send another Missionary, that is to say, in particular Father Gennaro,¹² someone actually new for Piperno. Let us do good work and let us do it in accordance with the will of God. You are in charge of readying the living arrangements for the Missionary and the Brother, in keeping with our rule, or, instead of a Brother, if you wish, a second Missionary. I am writing this in a somewhat confused manner. If you wish to have Father Biagio, he simply cannot come now and I cannot, at present, say exactly when.

Above all, let us place our trust in the merits of the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ. Oh! what a truly areat devotion this is!

Get word to Father Francesco¹³ that I will be writing to him on Saturday.

Has the SisterTreasurer any account in Rome? It would be helpful for me to know, so that, if necessary, I could make a trip, depending on the circumstances. In Jesu Christ, I remain

⁹ This message does not have a signature nor a date. It is doubtless, however, that it is related to the other notes sent to the printer Contedini in August of 1837. So, tentatively, we assigned the date: August 1837.

¹⁰ Enrico de Castris.

¹¹ Father Biagio Valentini.

¹² Father Gennaro Gamboa.

¹³ Father Francesco Verili.

Your humble servant
G. C. del Bufalo
 M. Ap.
 Rome, August 31, 1837

3511

August 31, 1837
 Fr. Orazio Bracaglia
 Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

I do not know whether in Sant'Arcangelo the visitation sermon was carried out according to our rule. The visitation sermon is delivered after the noonmeal since, in the morning, our Missionaries are never called away from our churches. The Missionary is supposed to go and return and always in the company of a Brother. When this is not verified, the Institute is responsible. These visitation sermons are within the faculties of the congressus. For the present time, no tridua at all. Again, since I have you as my helper in Romagna, I have no doubt at all that you will exert yourself so that everything is done with regularity. I trust in your effectiveness; continue to rectify the ideas of the others.

I am sorry to learn that you are ill again. Continue to give me news about yourself and keep me informed of everything. If a change of climate is required for you, write to me in all candor and we will do whatever is best for you. After the soul, the care of the body is a primary concern. So, let me know what climate the doctor suggests.

I heard from Cardillo, also about the six *scudi* which I have already sent on to Frosinone. As for spiritual matters, I will discuss them after you are feeling better.

Enclosed is the certification for Canon Father Zefferino. However, you must instruct him concerning the method of enrolling people correctly, so that no irregularities arise. Do you have this instruction? Otherwise, hold off giving him the certification and write to me. I think this is better. The Pious Union of the Divine Blood is supposed to be erected in Rimini, and I believe it is to be in S. Agnese. So, read the certificate and the archpriest can take care of it. To be noted is that Canon Gambetti will have to come to an agreement with whoever is in charge in S. Agnese. As far as I can recall, the one in charge of the Pious aggregation to the Archconfraternity, has the faculty *in loco*¹⁴ to make the selection of aggregators. Those who are enrolled, then, are entered into the archives, namely, of S. Agnese.

Have I forgotten anything? With all my affection and esteem, I remain, in Jesus Christ

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

¹⁴ In the place.

Rome, August 31, 1837

3512

August 1837
Fr. Francesco Verili
Sonnino

[...] ¹⁵ concerning economic matters, one must never lament, but always say: "it is a merciful act of God to make use of my services; an act of mercy to allow me a reason for doing his will and not my own; a merciful act of God to bring forth some fruit from the mystical tree of the Cross".

The boardingschool remains set in that small, closedoff corridor, very firmly closedoff. I am etc.

G. C. d. B.

3513

September 4, 1837
Fr Filippo Galli
Frosinone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Filippo,

I have on deposit only 3.30 Sc. for the Ciborium, and indeed I have agreed with Fr. Biagio that other benefactors are needed. There is no hurry. We do have the Ciborium. What you have advanced from the House Treasury should be taken up with your successor. Do not bother me further about the Ciborium. When you have recovered your rights and you still want to give something for the Ciborium, at that time you can forward it to me; I will appreciate it greatly. On this matter, no further correspondence is needed, for I would not be able to give another answer, since I do not have the time to spare; and nothing else can be done in any other way.

Thank you for your concern and for the prayers that you offer for me. *Dominus retribuet pro me in benedictionibus.* ¹⁶

As for your property at Pievetorina, write another letter to Fr. Beniamino, and tell him expressly that you need your money. I hope that Fr. Beniamino will settle the matter.

I pray to God that the cholera does not spread to Frosinone. Prayers. Oh, in what times we find ourselves!

¹⁵ This is a fragment of a letter written on a fragment of paper. The addressee (Father Francesco Verili) is doubtless. As for the date, the letter must be assigned to August/September of 1837. As a matter of fact, the tenure of Father Francesco Verili as economist in Sonnino in 1837 goes from August 1st to September 26th when he was succeeded by Father Nicola Maria Fontana. In the letter (n. 3513) of September 4, 1837, St. Gaspar promises him that he would relieve him of the job of economist. This occurred at the congressus of September 26, 1837. So, tentatively, we date this fragment to: August, 1837.

¹⁶ The Lord will repay on my behalf in sweet blessings.

Since God disposes things in such a way that apparently I do not understand the matters that pertain to you there, let us set up the following:

1) We will have Merlini handle everything.

2) I have never been either your Director or your counselor. Even though you wrote to me about your privileges and other such things, as Fr. Biagio also wrote to me, nevertheless I was silent. I was not going to instruct someone who did not ask me for advice.

3) This was the first time that I read the Rescript, and even from my statements, which you quote to me, you show that I have always been doubtful of your privileges.

4) It is required that you observe the solemn Vows *quoad substantialia*.¹⁷

5) It surprises me that you, being a Confessor, could read the Rescript and not have any doubts.

6) You will recall that you named several individuals, and quite frankly I wrote to you that they were mistaken, as the facts show. Even though the error may be involuntary, still they are to alter their judgment since your problem cannot be considered even a moral case. A case supposes doubt; but the decision on the Vows is very clear. *Satis*.¹⁸

I have no Masses at the present time. As soon as I do, have no doubts that I shall send some.

Let us repose in the Heart of Jesus Christ where I am and will constantly be

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

You will have the funds that you request in Frosinone at the first opportunity.

Rome, September 4, (1837)

3514

September 4, 1837

Fr. Francesco Verili

Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Rome, September 4, 1837

Most esteemed Francesco

1. The collection of corn should be quickly done as best as possible, if we are on time. And why should it not be done? I would not know the reasons for that. If we are not on time, patience. However, record that in the congressus for future reference.

2. Are not our peasant Brothers capable of clearing out the terrain? Have them do as

¹⁷ As to things substantial.

¹⁸ Enough.

much as they can and have them attend to the work. Wherever you see a precise need for it and a real urgency, call in some other peasant worker, but limit this as much as possible.

3. The people of Sonnino should give their thanks to God for the water that they have. You are not to listen to every single *et*,¹⁹ otherwise we would go crazy. One does only what he is capable of doing.

4. Until the time of visitation, let the preaching platform remain where it is. That area, I said, is to be used by the boardingstudents where they can be at liberty as they sing the Masses. As for the Vespers, I already told you that, *pro nunc*,²⁰ in the chapel.

5. The barber is to be called in only for Father Cristoforo.²¹ That will cut down on expenses. As soon as I have a Brother available, I will send him to you. *Utinam*²² there were, in the meantime, a boardingstudent who would be able to take care of this for Father Cristoforo.

6. As for your job as Economist, I shall try to relieve you of it as soon as possible in order to bring it to a conclusion.²³

7. At the present time, I have no Masses on hand. Write to one or the other friend of yours in Rome to procure some. When I manage to get some, I will send them to you.

8. It is very true that I made arrangements for the lady who does the laundry. What I signed in the recorded congressus minutes, you are to carry out. If you have further doubts, please write to me. Let us move along slowly. May I say to you that I do not want the laundrywoman to do any shopping and, in my name, advise the cook of this also. To settle the issue, I would assign Giuseppe Innocenti to do that shopping, supplying him with our little burro when it is available. When it is not available, then he should go out on foot during the fresh morning hours. If Giuseppe cannot handle this, then the cook can take over. Even though the laundrywoman is a good person, nevertheless she is to be kept distant from the entryway. If she should be unduly petulant about this directive, I shall dismiss her. See that the Brothers recognize that they are not the owners of a single *et*,²⁴ just like the Missionaries. We are only administrators of these pious places. Whoever is in charge is to act *juxta regulam*.²⁵

9. I am making every effort to find a way of getting the four *scudi* that you know about,

¹⁹ And.

²⁰ For now.

²¹ Father Cristoforo Frioli.

²² Would that ...

²³ The words "*per finirla*" were crossed out, probably by Verili himself.

²⁴ And.

²⁵ According to the rule.

belonging to you.

10. Stick to the daily schedule and do not lose sleep.

11. Wherever an expense is incurred, see that the bill is in writing; and then make the payment. At times, circumstances arise; or, sometimes a small loan is required, but on the condition that I am informed beforehand.

12. Also, write your letters during the proper timeperiods.

13. The quarantinstations will not allow Giovanni from Veroli²⁶ to visit his home. I will let him know; in the meanwhile, watch over that House.

[there is no signature]

3515

September 5, 1837
Fr. Orazio Bracaglia
Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

I would like to know just when our Brothers will be making the collection and when they will be free.

The making of the trip to Rimini is forbidden by the quarantinstations for the sacristan, whom I will be sending there as soon as possible, *Deo dante*.²⁷

Mosconi will be conducting the Retreat for those to be ordained.

May our House be like that of the Carthusians.

You have probably ordered the promised sashes.

With complete affection, I remain, in Jesus Christ

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 5, 1837

3516

September 5, 1837
Fr. Francesco Palmieri
Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco

²⁶ Giovanni Fontana.

²⁷ To God being the giver.

Our Institute, along with one or the other, has held and still holds to the system, which you laudably agree with, that the Society provide everything and that we surrender the offerings for Masses that are given, except for those that you inform me about. I can only express my approval of this procedure, pointing out that if, within the establishments of our Institute, this has not been applicable to all, then that must have been decided after worthy reflection, which is something, that one day, *Deo dante*,²⁸ we will discuss in person.

The small benefice that you have, I suppose, is not an adequate patrimony. Take care of your affairs.

I received the notification of Masses.

Let me definitely know whether you wish to have a change of climate and of what type, more or less. Pray for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 5, 1837

3517

September 5, 1837

Fr. Raffaele Brandimarte

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Raffaele

Indeed, you should go to Cesena for a little rest and take care of yourself. Whether you are to remain in Cesena or not, I will write to you; however, I think that you will stay there. What I do recommend is that you promote observance of the rule, study conferences, the monthly day of recollection, etc. As soon as you get to Cesena, write to me and we will continue our lettercorrespondence. Let me know: would you like to remain free for the entire winter? So, Advent *lectum*.²⁹ Nothing will be changed, even though you recover, since that is the main concern for me. Take your turn in hearing the confessions of women. Remember that the older members have a double responsibility. I am trusting in you. I sent the six *paoli* to your niece. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 5³⁰

²⁸ To God being the giver.

²⁹ Selected.

³⁰ The year is 1837, as noted by Merlini.

3818

September 10, 1837
Economist House of Frosinone

Testimonial

Rome, September 10, 1837

I, the undersigned, have received four *scudi* and fifty *bajocchi* from the legacy of Domenica Belardinelli, widow of Gradiri, that were sent to the general headquarters; the Masses that were requested have been celebrated. This legacy always matures on August 24th. Sworn to etc. on this September 10, 1837.

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

The sum mentioned above was received by Missionary Fr. Giovanni Chiodi, Economist of the House in Frosinone.

3519

September 12, 1837
Fr. Giovanni Chiodi
Frosinone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Rome, September 10, 1837

Most esteemed Father Giovanni

Here I am sending a reply to your two recent letters.

1. I advise you, as follows, that you do not take the liberty of doing anything without first getting my express permission. The money of de Victoriis, which is not at all to go to the Institute, should have been placed on deposit; and, in order to have observed correct procedure, you should first have questioned me since you are not fully acquainted with the dispositions written by the deceased person, two years before death occurred. So, now, we will do as follows: Frosinone is to receive it for its economy and as received from me on deposit. Once the sale is completed, a document is to be sent to me with full details about the sale, with your signature at the bottom of the document. So, speed up that sale and we will dispatch the business.

2. With regard to that silk covering, the answer is negative. Merlini has estimated its value as 20 *paoli*; I do not want old material, especially silk.

3. As for the two pairs of stockings, if they fit, you may give them to the Brothers; then, make a notification of this in the registry and then I will look into it.

4. Whatever useful thing was accomplished for the House in Frosinone by Francesco Antonio must be acknowledged by me with a receipt of deposit, since Frosinone has nothing to do with what is owed to Francesco Antonio. Perhaps, you may have done that.

5. However, since I fear that I may have omitted acknowledging some item or other,

regarding Francesco Antonio, it is not enough that you write to be about the last balance; rather, I would like to see the listing that Francesco Antonio prepared. After having checked everything well along with Fontana (I hear that he is absent), just tell me in so many words: You are not to give anything more in fulfillment to Francesco Antonio than, let us say for example, one *scudo*. For me, at this present time, that method would be more expeditious. Let us be in agreement.

6. For the record, I, here in Rome and with the assistance of the Doria household, have made provisions for you for Valmontone; everything has arrived on time. This means that God has wanted an increase of merits for you.

7. Just so I do not forget about this, you are already assigned for the Lenten series in Vallecorsa. But, first, the Missions. More, in the course of time.

8. The receipt that you sent could have been prepared with a single sum, without making two sheets, a balance sheet itself; two of them just make room for more difficulty.

9. You will conduct the Retreat called for by the rule. Father Gennaro³¹ conducted it last year. The receipt from Bragaglia was not necessary. However, I praise you for your diligence.

10. See if you can encourage in some way, if possible, the collection of the wine so that the matter can be laid to rest. Work out some sort of plan and write to me about it. I give thanks to God and to you for the small amount of grain received. Let me know whether they have removed the quarantinstations.

11. Here is another directive: let it be known that proportionately in Frosinone, one pays out in the highest degree. On occasion, prudently make known the expenses endured for the building project and the burdens that exist; furthermore, that we maintain the church, the house, the roomfurnishings, clothing, bills for the sick, unforeseen expenses. I do not cease inculcating the most exact and at the same time most just economy. I never intend that whatever is of necessity be lacking. Let us place our trust in God, and let us become saints. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 12, 1837³²

3520

September 12, 1837

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the Divine Blood

³¹ Father Gennaro Gamboa.

³² He repeats the date here, but it is not the same as that given at the beginning of this letter.

Very reverend Mother

I received your letter and I understand about the money. When the Mother Treasurer has the opportunity, she would do me a favor by dropping me a line or so in case I might have need of something. Indeed, assiduous prayers also for temporary matters; I simply do not know which way to turn my head. Prayers for everything.

I am deeply delighted with the selection of the great Xavier as a coprotector of the city of Sezze. However, it is necessary that this move be properly regulated, that is, that after the clergy, the magistrature and the bishop have given their approval, also to be had is the confirmation given by the Congregation of Rites. What I mean to say is that they probably will consider this or have already done so.

You are not to limit yourself in asking the Lord for such and such a death; rather say, for example: "*Fiat voluntas tua*".³³ What beautiful words! In the Heart of Jesus, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, September 12, 1837

3521

September 14, 1837

Fr. Francesco Palmieri

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

I give hearty thanks to you for your charity in indicating to me your concern that the Lord preserve me. *Dominus retribuet pro me*.³⁴ Up to now, the Lord has protected me. Prayers for anything beyond this.

At the earliest possible time, you are to move on to Macerata Feltria. I have already informed Father Domenico Silvestri. As for the means of travel, I have given the entire job to Father Orazio,³⁵ the Missionary economist in the House in Rimini. I am sending you to Macerata as an experiment. If, after a reasonable time, you experience good results from the climate there, write and let me know immediately. But, also, write and let me know whether it is not agreeable to you. With regard to faculties for hearing confessions, have Father Silvestri check into that. He will likewise instruct you in synodal directives and anything else that is needed. What I strongly

³³ Your will be done.

³⁴ The Lord will repay on my behalf.

³⁵ Father Orazio Bracaglia.

urge, indeed, is the observance of our rule; I presume that Father Lipparelli has already instructed you. In any doubtful matter, write to me. Upon entering our Institute, strictly speaking, you were not supposed to come immediately to Romagna but rather to a House of probation where our practices could be learned. However, the circumstance of drawing you close to Father Lipparelli set aside that usual procedure.

Now, we have to work out the best method possible. For the record, and with freedom and openness of heart, tell me whether you experience hardship, at times, when offering Mass at a later hour. In Macerata, there is Father Pontoni who says the last Mass on feastsdays; we have discovered this connection which, ordinarily, we do not find. But you need not worry about such things. Just see that you get well. This is for the record. In any way that I can be of help, you give the order. Work out the matters dealing with your canonry so that, at the earliest possibility, we can initiate the actions for a supplement; or, do what you consider best. I do not remember the terms of the rescript. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 14, 1837

3522

September 14, 1837

Mr. Pesciatelli

Poggio Mirteto

House, September 14, 1837

Most illustrious sir

Everything has its limitation. I have waited until now for the reimbursement for the clothing³⁶ for our glorious St. Francis Xavier. So, I ask you to consign to the person presenting this most humble letter of mine the three *scudi* that are owed to me. I have no doubts about your exactness. While renewing my sentiments of esteem and respect for you, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

³⁶ In Luigia del Bufalo's handwriting, along with additional remarks by St. Gaspar, here is the notification dealing with the clothing: "Notification for the habit to be made by the Pesciatelli woman of Poggio Mirteto, the niece of Msgr. Pesciatelli:

For the cloth		1,40
Crucifix, rosary and chain . . .	0,41	
Sash		0,60
Making and cost for the ribbon . .	0,57	
Coat of arms	0,10	
		3,08 " (V, 424)

On the back of the sheet, St. Gaspar notes: "I am supposed to have that money. I have written to Canon Savj. I will look into it. I have written again to Pesciatelli".

G. C. del Bufalo
Mis. Ap.

3523

September 14, 1837
Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

I hope that you are continuing to feel better.

At the advice of the doctors, Father Palmieri would like to try out Macerata Feltria where you will send him at the earliest possible opportunity. I have dropped a line to Father Domenico Silvestri to whom you also will write and will say:

1. That he should assign to him a good room, a clean bed and provide everything else that a Missionary may need.

2. That Father Palmieri, Father Domenico is to note, is not to preach at all at the present time.

3. That he is to observe the rule, which you will encourage him to do *pro viribus*.³⁷ That he watch over him carefully since everything is helpful for one who is sick and who is a new Missionary. Whether he is to have milk or not in the morning, the doctor will tell Father Palmieri. He should transport his baggage, if he so wishes. This is a finished matter. I am trusting in his vigilance and concern.

*Laus Deo*³⁸ that the visitation sermon in S. Arcangelo was carried out in accordance with our rule.

Everything is all right with regard to the confessionals. That is the way they were before. Where no response is needed, I move on forward.

The triduums are to be accepted after the Mission in Sogliano; but first, how can that be done? One must take on jobs *juxta vires*.³⁹ We have members who are ill and the Mission in Sogliano is important. It is the diocese of Rimini, so, etc.

Inform Father Mosconi, to whom I shall write later on, that he is one selected for the Mission in Sogliano; this does not in any way interfere with the Retreat to those to be ordained. The Mission will begin on the 14th of this month. The Missionaries will depart as soon as they have finished the noonmeal, as I will instruct in a future letterdelivery. As for the baggage, prepare the crucifix, St. Xavier, along with the usual etc. The Madonna, that is, the image used in

³⁷ In accord with one's strength.

³⁸ Praise God.

³⁹ According to one's strength.

Missions, is not necessary. They have one there in Sogliano and the pastor will present it privately as soon as the Missionaries arrive. They should get it (please inform Mosconi) along with the staffs and the mantle and that, in as far as possible, the pastor be informed about the ceremony when it takes place.

As a precaution, however, I would take along the staffs and the mantle that are in Rimini, but not the image. I think that they also have a bier for carrying the Dead Christ, but even this I would take along. I would like Viola to go as the Brother for that Mission. While you are there, you can supply whomever you see is more experienced. Furthermore, please note that perhaps Father Pietro Buffoni will be arriving there. For the sake of his health, he was ordered to get back to his native climate *ad tempus*.⁴⁰ Prepare a room for him where you judge best. Once Buffoni has gotten there, check with him to see how he wishes to make the trip to S. Agata, his home town. You could contact the House in regard to the use of our animals or, maybe, I can look into that. Allow him to make the decision. Also, write and let me know what expense, arranged economically, is involved. You, *ut ex se*,⁴¹ should encourage Father Buffoni to write home; but, at the same time, see that he is made aware of the arrangements which I have made. I am ready to be of help. Perhaps Coppola will arrive with Father Buffoni; if he comes, assign him to the sacristy and provide him with a room in the area of the court yard near the doorway and the church. If someone is occupying that room, he is to surrender it and, if he is a Brother, he should go to another room in the inhabited section in the upper corridor.

If you ever discover that any room, used one time for soldiers, was contaminated, you are to investigate that; perhaps, our men have already done that. I write this *ad cautelam*.⁴² I am also writing this since Buffoni is rather ill and Coppola is a relative of his. I also wrote to Father Camillo, President in Giano, about the days, more or less, involved in sending them. Write to me. Now this sheet has run out. So, anything further, *ad alias et etiam de spiritu*.⁴³ Be tranquil and happy.

G. C. d. B.

Rome, September 14⁴⁴

3524

September 14, 1837

⁴⁰ At the time.

⁴¹ As from itself.

⁴² As a precaution.

⁴³ For another time and also from the spirit.

⁴⁴ The year is 1837 as can be certainly derived from that characteristic stamp used during the time of cholera: "Clean inside and outside".

Camillo Possenti
Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

I have not seen any letters from you. The cloth that I ordered will come in time; however, I wrote, in regard to the reimbursement, that you should indicate some person here in Rome to whom to give the money, when he is making a trip, since during this period things are not being accepted at the postoffice. I have the money on hand. Pray a lot for me and for this city. In Jesus Christ, I remain

[there is no signature]

Rome, September 14, 1837

3525

September 1837
Pietro Barcaroli
Chiaravalle
Dear Pietro⁴⁵

A couple of lines to confirm for you the Mission to be conducted October 14th. I am running short of time. Everything else in the next ordinary maildelivery.

G. C. d. B.

3526

September 14, 1837
Pietro Barcaroli
Chiaravalle

Rome, September 14, 1837

Most illustrious sir

I am going over both of your recent most appreciated letters and I point out:

1. That the entrance for the Mission will take place after the noonmeal of October 14th.
2. I reserve all of September for myself to see whether the cholera will be ended and that the health documents can be obtained, since without them one is not permitted to travel! I shall quickly write to our companions that I am already making arrangements, *ad cautelam*.⁴⁶ So, the Mission is set. I can say nothing further than that you will be getting, generally speaking, our

⁴⁵ This letter has no date. One is derived from the postal markings showing departure (Rome 1837) and arrival (Ancona, September 13). Hence, this letter must have left Rome during the first part of September, before the other one written to the same person, dated September 14, 1837.

⁴⁶ As a precaution.

very best members. There will be someone addressing the clergy, etc.. With the blessing of God, everything will go well.

3. Enclosed is the printed material for the entrance. *Mutatis mutandis*,⁴⁷ depending on the local circumstances, things will be adapted. You should have someone watching for the arrival of the Missionaries; I will tell you which direction they are coming from, so that no one will be inconvenienced. This way, all will be done in an orderly fashion. See to the preparation of all that is necessary for giving the benediction of the most Blessed Sacrament at the conclusion of the ceremony.

4. The preaching platform should be ample, solid and conveniently placed.

It seems that I have nothing further to add. If you need help, question me. Finally, let us pray. With esteem, respect and gratitude, I am, in Jesus Christ,

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

P. S. I have not failed to offer suffrages for your beloved sister who has died.

3527

September 16, 1837

Fr. Luigi Mosconi

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Luigi

Tell Fr. Orazio to prepare a room, from among those that are vacant, for Santarelli who is arriving there around Saturday, to join you when you go for the Mission at Sogliano. Lipparelli is also coming, so prepare a room for him. He will direct that Mission for he already has all the instructions. You get yourself ready.

Let me know by mail whether you have ever given a Retreat in S. Agata Feltria, to the Nuns. I have already mentioned to you the Lenten series at the Cathedral in Penna. I have written to Lipparelli about the sharing of the ministry, as I told you.

Tell Fr. Orazio to get a room ready also for a Brother who is coming from Rimini to supply in the kitchen during the Mission in Sogliano, for Brother Viola is going to Sogliano. Inform him of this. I shall write to Fr. Orazio in the next mail delivery. Tell him this.

Excuse me for writing in such a hurry. Take care of the basic things. Pray for me, for I am with esteem, etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

⁴⁷ Having changed what needed changing.

Rome, September 16, 1837

P. S. When you see the Most Reverend Bishop, give him my regards, etc.

3528

September 16, 1937

Fr. Aantonio Gammarelli

S. Caterina dei Funari

Rome

House, September 16, 1837

Venerable Canon

The city of Sezze, with the advice of the public, has selected St. Francis Xavier as their coprotector. Now the Canon Penitentiary has written to me that I should contact the Secretariat of Rites to find out what is needed to have this act sanctioned.

Consequently, I ask you, at your convenience, to please give me that information on a sheet of paper, letting me know what has to be done and an approximation of the cost that is involved, so that I can send that paper to the aforementioned Canon Penitentiary.

The clergy would like to celebrate the feast of the saint, *in die*,⁴⁸ as a major double feast. Pray for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

P. S. You could, at your convenience, also send your reply to the Mother Superior of S. Catarina.

3529

September 18, 1837

Lawyer Arrighi

Rome

Rome, September 18, 1837

Most esteemed Lawyer

Father Giuseppe Mugnaj is awaiting the report dealing with the matters with which you were charged at the recent meeting. It would be necessary for you to do the favor of sending it to him, while reading over, if necessary, etc., etc., the recent meeting from Giuliani.

For the record, however, I say that it may be known that the church of S. Maria Egiziaca has been obtained; possibly, good work can be undertaken there, and, in particular, doctrine. We hope to go soon to S. Galla. Prayers.

⁴⁸ On the day.

Future meetings, I would say, should take place in the house of Gammarelli, as long as he is the treasurer, in order to bring something or other to a conclusion. You will receive great reward from God for the services [that you render]⁴⁹ for the Society. Because of the many responsibilities taken on in behalf of our Institute as well as the commitments to the ministry, I am able to do very, very little. Pray for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your [...]⁵⁰

G. C [...]⁵¹

3530

September 21, 1837

Luigi Baldi

Meldola

Hail to the Divine Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Luigi

I think that for this current year the visit will not take place.

How can I send Father Gamboa if he is not in Romagna but in the Province of Marittima and Campagna where he will, in time, be preaching the upcoming Advent and Lenten series? When he returns to Romagna, your request will be considered. I assure you that I will keep your concerns in mind with the true desire of fulfilling your wishes. In the meantime, other workers are not lacking.

With two Missionaries going, our rule is safeguarded and we can spare a Brother from going. So, I am trusting in your exactness and good systematization. May the Lord, indeed, always render you more vigorous with zeal for his glory. I note in the printed invitation that the Missionary will be proclaiming the glories of Xavier. So, I point out two things. First, when reference to us is made in print, the term *Compagnia* is not used, but rather a Missionary of the Institute of the most Precious Blood, or even, of the Congregation of Missionaries of the most Precious Blood, thus adhering to our usage. Second, that for March, two Missionaries will be coming, without a Brother. So, remind me of when you will be sending for them, so that I can make a note of it starting from now. However, for the 3rd of December, you will have to be content with only one Missionary, since it is a question of a smaller commitment, namely, that of the vigil and feast of the Saint. Send a reminder, the day immediately before the departure; the reason for this is that we will be having Vespers for the solemn feast in our churches; and I am not able to interfere with that. Only on this occasion will a Brother be coming since a Missionary is not permitted to go alone. Let us be in agreement.

⁴⁹ The page is defective: the text is presumed.

⁵⁰ Defective page.

⁵¹ Defective page.

Give my regards to anyone who has a remembrance of me and have them pray for me. In particular, give my warm greetings to the most reverend Vicar General.

Have I forgotten anything? In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, September 21, 1837

P. S. I am consoled that the most reverend Vicar supports so well the pious organizations. With people such as you operating as you indicate to me, all oppositions are defeated. At times, even good people, not out of malice, but because of a veil, shall we say, pulled over their intellects, show opposition. But, with industrious patience, all is overcome.

3531

September 1837

Fr. Francesco Verili

Sonnino

Dear Father [...]⁵²

I am sending you 20 Masses to be celebrated personally by you or by one or the other Missionary in residence.

This is not to go beyond the month of November, and I shall be awaiting the notification.

Tell Lampredi⁵³ that we are not expected to be compensated for a Retreat with Masses because of the poverty which we are experiencing; we would be depriving our own men. Likewise, it is forbidden to admit retreatants who do not have the means for making the payment immediately. In the meantime, Lampredi is to be compensated at least *in generi*.⁵⁴ The House is unable to cover that. And you, how can you allow such admissions? Pity us if we make this kind of progress. Indeed, this is your responsibility. Let us be in agreement [...].

God makes it known that he wishes that things depend [...]

Hold in hand what is just, to obey [...]

⁵² Only small pieces of this letter are preserved. Where the page is defective, we use dots enclosed by brackets.

⁵³ Mention is made of Canon Lampreda, who had conducted the Retreat for the House in Sonnino, in the letter to this same Verili, dated September 23, 1837. However, this letter must have come before that one especially because Verili, on September 26, 1837 ceased to be the economist in Sonnino. On the other hand, St. Gaspar says in this present letter that the 20 Masses that he is sending to be celebrated, are not to go beyond November. Finally, in the register of income for the administration of the House in Sonnino, the economist, Father Vincenzo Fontana records, under the date November 3, 1837: "From Canon Lampreda for victuals provided for 6 days, while conducting the holy Retreat, 1,20 *scudi*". Therefore, we assign this letter, tentatively, to September, 1837.

⁵⁴ In the genus.

It is not yet time for leaving *manus victas*⁵⁵ [...]and as far as I am concerned, I say very clearly [...]⁵⁶ more blind obedience and fewer rationalizations. I am etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

3532

September 1837

Fr. Francesco Verili

Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Francesco⁵⁷

Luigi from Sonnino,⁵⁸ because he is from Sonnino, does not care to remain in his home town.

With regard to the religious of St. Francis, if one should wish to have hospitality with us, here is the method to observe:

1. The boardingschool corridor is not to be disturbed. Since there is a room vacant, if I am not mistaken, only the President can take up residence there.

2. The large corridor is reserved for our men.

3. I would be able to provide him only with a room from those above the entryway. As for the kitchen, the room that comes next to the corridor; there, meals can be served. Since they are big rooms, two lay persons, in separate beds, could stay in one room; otherwise, one might stay in the reception room.

4. They are to bring along whatever they may need. For their belongings, the large dens contiguous to the entryway; however, I hope that this will not be necessary. They are to live according to their own ways, so that both they and we can have reciprocal freedom.

5. All this is to be kept between us. Indeed, as you point out, there is not much space available, except by way of sacrifice; there are many of us and that is true. Furthermore, quite soon, another Brother will be arriving along with another Missionary. In addition, I would like to come there when God so wills it. For me, it would be a source of anguish and embarrassment.

⁵⁵ Hands tied.

⁵⁶ Here, a few words are crossed out, but can still be read: "To Father Alessandro *et in primis* [and at the beginning] to Father Raffaele".

⁵⁷ This letter has no date and no addressee. The addressee, however, is easily identifiable: Father Francesco Verili who was located then in Sonnino. Comparing the contents of this letter, especially the reference to the offices for the Missionaries, with what is contained in the Congressus of September 26, 1837 for the House in Sonnino and their perfect agreement, one must assign this letter to the month of September, 1837, but after the one (n. 3514) written to this same person on September 4, 1837.

⁵⁸ Luigi Carocci.

Here in Rome, they have set up a part of the convent, namely, as a hospital, another part, completely isolated, for the brethren. I am hopeful that you will not have to go through all that, and that God will protect Sonnino.

6. For your preaching. Continue with fervor.

7. For the young men in the boarding school who are not obliged to recite the Divine Office, you are to use the second chapel even though it has not been blessed; concerning this, you might contact Father Biagio⁵⁹ who, I believe, can supply you with the faculty. However, I am not absolutely sure about that. Nevertheless, check with him, or, apply for it from the Vicar General of Piperno.

8. I repeat, the religious will cause inconvenience, because, as you know, even the rooms above the entryway are to be used by the President for future boarding students etc. If, in the second chapel, there is not a proper image, then you can place there the painting that I sent; you can bless the chapel and the painting *cum facultate obtinenda, et audito Blasio aut Vicario Generali*.⁶⁰ The empty wall space in that chapel should be filled in and be given a new paint job. Also, there should be some small statue there in that chapel that we are discussing. As for the confessional and the preaching platform, I have already told you that all is covered in the visitation called for by the rule. So, nothing should be changed, and sign [...].⁶¹

9. For anyone asking for a drink of wine, you are to say clearly: "Our Institute watches its expenses; and if the Houses are to be managed properly, it is necessary to use thrift". Do not occupy yourself with the gossip.

10. In reference to the barber, for the time being, continue as usual. It goes without saying that everything is to be kept locked. Abuses are to be removed. The House should be run like a Carthusian's place. Think about this, and, except for extraordinary cases, things should be done as in Albano and elsewhere. The people of Sonnino are accustomed to talking recreational walks and they might well look upon the Mission House as a sort of cafe. So, run things, I repeat, as though it were a Carthusian house or, if I might express myself thus, as though nuns were there in charge. In preparation for giving Missions, you are to ready yourself with examples, peptalks, and as a primary thing, catechetical instructions on the Ten Commandments. Have no doubt: God will assist you in a most wonderful way.

11. In regard to the cook Franci, he must be expressly obedient; tell him clearly, in my name, saying to him: look things over carefully, whatever you consider useful. Let us make efforts and let us pray.

12. Prepare, in the large corridor area, the room next to that big window and opposite the lavatories; supply it with whatever is necessary, for Father Fontana who will be coming there to

⁵⁹ Father Biagio Valentini.

⁶⁰ With the faculty obtained, and having heard Blase or the Vicar General.

⁶¹ A word difficult to decipher.

take up residence. Whoever may be occupying it should surrender it. The supports for the bed should be made of iron. The bed itself is to be adapted, making in the community any prudent and possible exchange. If, properly speaking, there is a lack of utensils, then get whatever is needed from my room or that of Bartolomeo⁶² whenever there is no alternative and whenever it is something adaptable. Check the windows and apply putty for the room wherever needed. Trusting in your sense of exactness, I know that you will have the room cleaned. As for my room and Bartolomeo's, get them ready and let me know if anything is needed before I come there. Father Fontana is presently in Prossedi because of the mortal sickness of his sister. Prayers. Get things ready quickly.

13. As soon as Fontana arrives, the congressus is to be held immediately. Father Cristoforo⁶³ is the President of the House and the boardingschool; Fontana, the Superior and the Economist, but assisted by you who will take charge of the linenroom, the writings, the laundress for clothing; but you will have the help of a Brother; he will be there with you and help you in everything, going down to the cellar etc. Let us be in agreement; you, be obedient to me. The Vicesuperior (*pro forma*,⁶⁴ just between us) Father Giuseppe,⁶⁵ but you will take care of the archives, the library and the congressusregisterbook, *ex commissione et in auxilium*.⁶⁶

You will be the Director of Retreats and the Prefect of the church and sacristy. Let us be in agreement. In that way you will have more time for preaching. You will stay on as the VicePresident for the boardingschool which, as you know well, is not considered a burden.

Coming along with Father Fontana is the Brother Vincenzo from Norcia⁶⁷ as the sacristan and the cleaning of the House (not however of the refectory to be prepared). He is not experienced as a sacristan; eventually he will be up to it; he will do the sweeping up etc. He could also serve as porter, but he must be instructed; he will also be able to accompany one or the other Missionary etc., supervise the collections and the labors of the workers such as Nicodemo etc.; certainly he will not be useless. For his lodging, if there should be none in the area set aside for Brothers near the lavatories, then as sacristan he should be placed at the end of the large corridor where the bells are located. You understand me; it is the last room. As for utensils, good ones as in the room of a Missionary. Let this be between us: Vincenzo is a fine, young man, but just a bit naive. Talk to Father Fontana who knows him well. If something needs

⁶² Bartolomeo Panzini.

⁶³ Father Cristoforo Frioli.

⁶⁴ According to form.

⁶⁵ Father Giuseppe Ricciardi.

⁶⁶ From the commission and in help.

⁶⁷ Vincenzo Marchetti.

to be loaned at this time, Martini or someone else can supply. In the boardingschool, the only Brother is to be Giuseppe from Rimini.

[there is no signature]

P. S. If there is a room in the area where the other Brothers are located, then Vincenzo is to be placed there. Otherwise, as I mentioned before. Get things ready.

3533

September 19, 1837

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the Divine Blood

Very reverend Mother

Canon La Penna has written to me already for instructions relative to the Congregation of Rites concerning the holy coprotector, the great Xavier, selected in Sezze. Now, you are to work in behalf of Piperno, Maenza, Roccagorga, Roccasecca and also write to Father Francesco Verili for Sonnino. La Penna should also encourage Bassiano. He will find a good reaction in Bassiano. Little by little, the rest.

I cannot figure out whether the sum which the Mother Treasurer is disposing of is ten *scudi* or 70. I cannot decipher the number you wrote in your letter. I shall be awaiting clarification.

S. Filomena can expect either myself or Father Biagio.⁶⁸ Try to find out whether the triduum would work out well for the 27th, 28th and 29th of October, if not possibly before that. Thus, the time will be definitely set.

With regard to the public chastisements, let us adore the divine dispositions, but we must also pray. A saintly and learned bishop has written to me that God wants the devotion to the Divine Blood and that a great soul has spoken thusly. So, spread it etc. I am, in Jesus Christ

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 19⁶⁹

3534

September 19, 1837

⁶⁸ Father Biagio Valentini.

⁶⁹ The year 1837 is derived once again from that stamping used during the cholera epidemic: "Clean inside and outside".

Fr. Camillo Rossi⁷⁰

Giano S. Felice⁷¹

Esteemed Fr. Camillo

In virtue of this letter, you will indeed accept the deposit and guard it carefully, despite the fact that I am on principle opposed to doing this, and I am writing to the Vicar General to let him know. Nevertheless, do so in order to promote good and satisfy both the Most Rev. Vicar General and the people. Just which location is the best one for the deposit, you will select on your own and send me the information as soon as you write to me again. I am in a hurry.

Humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 19, 1837

3535

September 19, 1837

Fr. Luigi Mosconi

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed D. Luigi

I have no information at all that the Mission in Sogliano has been postponed. To be very frank, it would upset me not to have notice in time. Therefore, I must take care of the Mission according to the scheduled dates which I have sent to you already. That is all that I know for certain about that Mission up to now.⁷²

When you go for the Mission, try to work in a Retreat for the Nuns, *meliori modo*;⁷³ it cannot be handled in any other way. If, as a matter of fact, the Mission should not be held, in that case you and Brother Viola should go on to the Nuns in Sogliano. Fulfill the ministry that the Most Reverend Bishop wishes, giving him my best regards, and then, dropping me a note, let me know when you will be free, since there are other ministries to cover, if they can be worked in.

⁷⁰ Cfr. biographical section.

⁷¹ Cf. Additonal Biographical Data: Innocenzi, Canon Francesco

⁷² The Mission in Sogliano was actually postponed at that time, and took place at the end of November. The Saint, however, did not receive notice of that in time, and up to September 28th, he was still uninformed, thinking that the Mission was underway. On September 30th he did find it out, and so he wrote to Mosconi (who, according to the arrangements mentioned in this letter, had gone to Sogliano for the Retreat to the Nuns) to forward to Lipparelli and Santarelli, who were assigned to that Mission, the correspondence which had arrived for them in Sogliano.

⁷³ In a better way.

Let us therefore understand each other.

In his spare time, see that Viola attends Mass, prays, reads the book of the Crucified, reminding himself that time is a gift of God. I have nothing more to add except that I am concerned with the good of my own soul as well as of every other member of the Institute. I have no doubt that everyone has that concern. Our discourses must be directed more and more toward preparing ourselves for Eternity: "*quod aeternum non est, nihil est*".⁷⁴

Permit me to remind you of the observance of our rules *in omnibus*,⁷⁵ and particularly with regard to food. As De Sales says, Nuns are always encouraging such things in a special way. Inspire all of them toward the tender devotion to the Divine Blood.

You have acted correctly in writing or speaking to the Bishop, informing him that he should contact me with regard to the aforementioned Retreat. Otherwise, there would be confusion. No organization is without a head; nor does our Institute restrict its services only to Rimini.

In the meantime, full of esteem, respect and gratitude for the zeal with which you dedicate yourself to the objectives of the glory of God, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, September 19, 1837

P. S. If the Mission should not be held, get in touch with the Nuns to determine the travel arrangements; check the faculties, etc. After this question of the Mission is cleared up, tell Fr. Orazio that he will not be short of a substitute cook, and that he will also have a Missionary companion.

I am writing to Fr. Orazio in this present⁷⁶ mail delivery.

3536

September 19, 1837

Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

My dearest in Jesus Christ

⁷⁴ What is not eternal, is nothing.

⁷⁵ In all things.

⁷⁶ At this point in the original, there is an abbreviated word which cannot be deciphered since the page has deteriorated. One can recognize only the final "t'e". We have interpreted it as the word "*presente*" because there is in existence a letter written by the Saint on the same day to Fr. Orazio Bracaglia which arrived in Rimini at the same time as this present one, as can be noticed in the postal marking "22 settembre".

In regard to the rooms for me and Bartolomeo,⁷⁷ retain the same ones. All I ask is that you take care of them and watch over them for me. I do not wish to make any changes. Set aside Gentilucci's room for a notable retreatant or for a Lenten preacher, for example, this year we have the Servi.

As I said, Camillo will be coming to supply in the kitchen. You direct him. Test him and keep me informed. I will see about Viola. All in time, in time.

Give the enclosed to Santarelli as soon as he gets there. Mosconi says that the Mission in Sogliano has been suspended. I still have letters indicating that there will be a Mission, so I am going ahead with things; nor have you people written any letters. Allow the arrival of those who are due to arrive, whether there is or is not to be a Mission. I am speaking of the Missionaries who have been assigned to it. If there should not be a Mission, then Mosconi, along with Viola, is to go to the nuns in Sogliano. If, for a very, very short time, that is until Camillo arrives, a collector or other is to be on hand, that will change nothing.

With this understanding, then, you should see to selecting for me from that area a Brother; a good, healthy, unattached young man who is of good appearance; but, primarily, he is to be of good habits and capable of handling farmwork and harvesting. In the meantime, you could use him for our harvesting and thus be testing him. His vesture, in the first place, is to be taken care of, and, using every possible discretion, you are to see that he has all of his papers in order. After the harvesting, we shall determine how and where to assign him. You are not to allow him to mingle with our men; he is to be kept busy; after another letter from you, I will tell you what has been granted by me.

In time, he will go to our House of probation in Giano. His first trip is to be at his own expense. That is what I keep thinking. See that he turns out well, and be sure that he is a good fellow, etc., etc.. I cannot supply you now with any of our other members; but, we still hold dear the good of the House in Rimini as we do of the others.

In a future mail-delivery, spiritual matters. The mail is about to leave. I am etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. d. B.

Rome, September 19⁷⁸

3537

September 20, 1837

Fr. Vitale Corbucci

Fossombrone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Father Vitale

⁷⁷ Bartolomeo Panzini.

⁷⁸ The year is 1837 (cfr. the letter to Mosconi, dated September 19, 1837 in which he refers to the Mission in Sogliano, as he does in this letter).

I have learned about the new tests of virtue to which the Lord is subjecting you; but, particularly through prayers, I am hopeful that you will rise to the occasion; you will be doing me the greatest favor if you continue sending news of yourself to me for I am truly pleased by that. In the meantime, while you are exercising your patience, do not cease to pray that I will be able to prepare myself well for the eternal years.

I thank you for the Masses that you were kind enough to celebrate. For your information, the offering was two *paoli* for each Mass. I thought I had better write this to you, for my own peace of mind.

Finally, do not cease propagating the great devotion to the Divine Blood, as I am sure you are doing. Consider me to be, unchangeably

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, September 20, 1837

3538

September 23, 1837

Fr. Francesco Verili

Sonnino

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Francesco

Please let me know how much Martini still owes. There is something unclear in the administration in Sonnino, that is, how the receipt of deposit, which I have precisely received, has been entered.

I have received nothing more for you from your dear father; nor can I, in any way whatsoever and for many reasons, question him about this.

You have probably taken care of the retreatant, Lampreda. Our rule has probably been observed.

Many winter coverlets should not be needed nor are too many required on the beds since the weather has been mild. The boardingstudents should provide their own. For the Brothers, the usual ones ought to be available. At any rate, let me know how many are needed and also give me a report on the condition of the others, so that there will be a certain uniformity observed and approximately the same size. As an approximation, write in detail. For Father Fontana, I already told you: an adapted bed and supports of iron. Be helpful to him in everything, especially in writing etc. etc.

For Ripi, pray, and that is it. Stay at the position where God has placed you. Your good intentions, indeed, will not be without a reward. Practice your preaching. I am

G. C. d. B.

Rome, September 23⁷⁹

You manage the closets, the dispensary etc., the cellar.

3539

September 26, 1837

Fr. Filippo Galli

Frosinone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Filippo

I repeat that, outside of this particular occasion in Rome, I have never read your Rescript. You may have supposed it; but, I was letting Fr. Biagio do everything, without paying too close attention. So, there must be a mistake on your part. The problems that have come before me over a long course of the ministry have not been few in number, I do see the matter clearly. However, not rarely does it happen that in my room there is a Missionary waiting for one thing, and I am busy looking after another. Do not become unduly upset; Merlini, and not I, will handle your case.

Still, one is not permitted to accept a Legacy which is not yet in existence. As soon as you present your acceptance, someone will ask: where is the Legacy? and what about us as we draw up our acceptance, while citing a document which still does not exist? Realize that the Congregations, in these matters, have done little; what can be done? So, since you are displeased with me, as though I had said something outside the ordinary, I repeat that Merlini will take care of all the matters that pertain to your case. For, should a certain Companion be involuntarily in error, what am I supposed to do? What would you advise someone else? All one can do is consult Canon Law. Thank God who is giving you an opportunity to do everything correctly. A little more or a little less does not change things. Meanwhile, prayers; and live in peace. Tell your Archpriest clearly that you are awaiting a certain Rescript and the circumstances delaying it. Let the Archpriest, then, take care of doing the good that he is supposed to do, and that is that. I have nothing more to say to you. Merlini has prepared all the petitions. We are in agreement.

With reference to the Masses, I am still not able to get them. The Clergy, in general I believe, are not wellsupplied with them. Perhaps I am mistaken. For those in Sermoneta there is no shortage.

In Vallecorsa, you were a visitor, and so Father Biagio did the preaching. Remain in Frosinone until you have cleared up all your affairs; then you must go outside the Province so that you can do much more good elsewhere.

Fr. Beniamino, to whom I recommended you, writes me that he has met your needs. *Laus*

⁷⁹ The year is 1837, evident from the context of the letter as compared with others addressed to Verili during this period of time.

*Deo.*⁸⁰

In the adorable heart of Jesus Christ I am and will constantly be

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 26, 1837

3540

September 28, 1837

Fr. Luigi Mosconi

Sogliano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed D. Luigi

I hope that you have been able to work in the Retreat to the Nuns along with the Holy Mission, *meliori modo*.⁸¹

I have written already to Msgr. Rubertini that you, immediately after Sogliano, will go to S. Agata Feltria for the Retreat to the Nuns. You will take along with you Brother Viola, adhering to our customary regulations. I am writing to Santarelli that he should work out with you the arrangements for the traveling, acquainted as he is with Monte Feltre. After S. Agata Feltria, where you will be occupied for 15 days in all, you shall return to your residence in Rimini.

You will have the Lenten series in the Cathedral of Penna, where, as you will learn from Santarelli, you will have in your audience some people who are quite learned.

With regard to S. Agata, write to Msgr. Rubertini and ask him also for faculties to cover the needs of the people of S. Agata, so that you can revive the Oratory, etc., as well as for all reserved cases, etc., etc..

As far as I know, you will preach the Advent series in Macerata Feltria, where you should go before the time of your Retreat called for by our rule. More about this in another of my letters. Am I forgetting anything? Pray for me who with esteem and respect am

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 28, 1837

Send me an answer.

3541

⁸⁰ Praise to God.

⁸¹ In a better way.

September 28, 1837
Fr. Giovanni Chiodi
Frosinone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Giovanni

I am looking over a couple of your letters and am now sending you a reply.

1. I have received the notification of the Masses.
2. I do not have the heart to ask Stampartini for Masses and much less Burlié. Offer prayers that God will send some from elsewhere.
3. With reference to the proper for bishops, so as not to be mistaken, and wishing to acquire it with the payment of money, it will be necessary to send the copy of the frontispiece.
4. The wood can be provided for with little cost at the markets and the sashes at the sales there, etc.. I do not know whether Francesco Antonio has any, always keeping in sight the means, more or less.
5. If you, as Superior, truly recognize the real need for the cassock to Fabrini, have the cloth come from Alatri; in my name, write to Canon Butti and check with the tailor to see how much will be needed. The cost is not to go beyond 24 *paoli* at the most per canna. I want the vesture to be properly made and that will be charged to your economy.
6. I must have, in time, an orderly notification covering the things belonging to de Victoriis; everything is to be noted there, including whatever has been sold already; he had the Institute in mind, but not Frosinone. Likewise, there are things dealing with pious causes that must be satisfied.
7. In regard to the two barrels of Torrici, I do not know what to say. You clear that matter. I think that a cassock for Fabrini is not required as yet. So, everything is left up to you *juxta dicta*.⁸² Make every effort to preserve the good barrels. I believe that only one of them is useless and not sought after, if I am not mistaken. The rest are to be conserved with good order. The cartdriver will tell you when he will be coming. It is already agreed that the kegs are to be conserved. As for the oil, discreetly make provisions for that for the time being and enter this into your accounts. The matters dealing with the church and the house have already been budgeted in the visitation; you are acquainted with our system.
8. As soon as he has completed things, Father Filippo Galli will be departing. He has already been assigned as the third Missionary. It appears that he does not care to go to Vallecorsa. Let us let things ride.
9. Your economy there is so greatly excessive that I do not know how to remedy the situation. There is no other House that has such expenses, not even where 12 or more are in residence. It is a true fact, taking everything into consideration, ever since you have gotten there. I say that the cook makes little effort to satisfy the community by seeking to be economical; this

⁸² According to what was said.

is clearly evidenced. Why is there provision of such an abundance of eggs! What is this having meat all the time! There is no shortage of healthy and safe greens. Perhaps, at the butchershop, a better bargain can be had for chicken rather than meat. Just what would anyone do if he were in his own home? I am surely not saying that what is necessary should be lacking. Be receptive to as many sparks of illumination that may be needed. Be watchful. In this way, we will make progress.

Soon, you will be receiving, from the nuns in Piperno, 58 *scudi*; I repeat, 58 *scudi*. From this amount, subtract the expenses of Quirino; then, also, send 26 to Brother Luigi Cretella in Ticchiena for two *rubbia* of grain of primary quality which I have agreed to. Send those 26 *scudi* when you send Francesco Antonio to load it, using four burros to do this. If this is not possible, or if he is unable to go, get four burros, which I hope you will obtain *gratis* (one from the Soduni woman) and Fabrini should go to load the grain, leaving after the noonmeal and returning. With Francesco Antonio going, he should indicate an estimate to whatever extant that he can; then, write to me saying: Francesco Antonio has to give only such and such an amount.

Furthermore, you are to enter that estimate under income and send me the receipt, also making a computation of the outgo. You understand me. If not, write to me. Whoever goes should go with your letter to the aforementioned Brother and bring the money. Then, await the return from Piperno. From those 58 *scudi*, after having subtracted the expenses for Quirino, that is, 2,25 *scudi*, if I am not mistaken, all the rest remains for the needs of your economy. Comprehensively, the sum for the grain is to be entered under the receipt of income. Fewer trips are to be made to the market; it is a good thing to note that the one in Ticchiena is more abundant. You realize, of course, that the Economist is to be trustful of all; but, he must also keep things locked, he must be active, he must be thoughtful, he must be concerned about things; and, he must be sharpwitted.

The rooms are not to be changed without first checking with me, that is to say, they are not to be assigned. I am etc.

G. C. d. B.

Rome, September 28⁸³

Be precise in your response; handle everything maturely and be watchful. I forbid, however, having just bread and water for breakfast. Contact the father, the uncle and the son of de Carolis and tell them expressly that I wish to be paid and that they should not oblige me to resort to citations. I have tolerated this long enough; the sum involved is not small. Be insistent.

The things belonging to de Victoriis, if not sold there, I would say are to be sent to Veroli, but first writing to Crescenzi without his having to pay postage.

3542

⁸³The year is 1837 (cfr. the letter (n. 3542) to De Castris, dated September 28, 1837 in which reference is made to the 58 *scudi* sent to Father Giovanni Chiodi.

September 28, 1837
 Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris
 Piperno

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Very reverend Mother

Here is the document for the *70 scudi* paid to Pisoni. It is necessary to send, at the earliest possibility, *58 scudi* to Father Giovanni Chiodi, the Missionary Superior in Frosinone. He has already been alerted by me. The remaining *12 scudi*, from the *70 scudi*, if I am not mistaken, are to go to Verili for economical matters in Sonnino. Let us be in agreement. But, from the *12 scudi*, you are to subtract the postal costs, which you are offering for us.

Let me know whether the monastery of S. Chiara has for sale to the House in Sonnino two *rubbia* of good grain; indicate the price to me.

One more thing: when the diocese of Piperno has extra Masses available which can be celebrated elsewhere without harm to anyone, they might send them to me for distribution to our men. When we are engaged in the ministry, we do not accept Masses from any individual. Anyone who has Masses available should send them to our Houses. Let that be as something for the record. You might also mention this, when the occasions arise to write to Canon La Penna.

My obligations to you are incapable of being numbered. I would like to have some opportunity or other to signify my gratitude to you. God will be the generous rewarder.

Always engaged in working evermore for the glory of God, let us yearn for that holy union in charity in the adorable Heart of Jesus Christ, the center of peace, the furnace of celestial fire, the haven of security. Pray a lot for me and my intentions. Give my greetings to your entire community. May the pious organizations in Piperno continue zealously.

Here the cholera epidemic has abated but has not ceased. May Jesus be our love. Be very, very tranquil. Enjoy that peace which God grants to you which is, for us, an anticipation of paradise. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare Can. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, September 28, 1837

3543

September 30, 1837
 Pietro Barcaroli
 Chiaravalle

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most illustrious sir

Behold how God is confirming the manifestation of his holy will. Here, the cholera epidemic, although it has abated a bit, nevertheless has not freed us as yet. In truth, documents

are not being granted for sanitary travel. Furthermore, since I would have to make a stop at the places of observation, I would not get to the Mission on time. May God be pleased with my good intentions. However, I am truly sorry that I cannot come. But, two other Missionaries will be coming, just as I indicated in another letter of mine.

You, along with Father Abate, to whom I send my greetings and to all the monks, are to convey my situation to his most reverend Eminence, assuring him at the same time that God is sending very capable members there. Also, that he should grant them the faculty of blessing the cross as well as the grant of 100 days indulgence both to the new cross that will be erected and to the one that was erected formerly. That indulgence of 100 days is to be applicable to anyone participating in any function of the ministry at the time of the Mission, and in regard to the crosses, that the indulgence can be acquired *toties quoties*.⁸⁴ These indulgences are to be explained in a memorandum. With reference to faculties, in addition to the one given, may his most reverend Eminence grant also any other, providing the Missionaries with a sealed copy. If they would have the time, they would speak to him when passing through Sinigaglia (but that would be somewhat difficult now). However, they will write from Chiaravalle so that they will not have to travel so much on this trip.

All of the Missionaries will be coming from Romagna. They will be passing through Sinigaglia, then on to Chiaravalle. Let us pray that they will not encounter impediments on this trip, as I place my hope in God. How could I send anyone from the Marche and from Umbria with the news that is extant now? So, they will be coming from Romagna. I am writing today, even though I have already sent information readying them. The Director of the Mission is one of our earliest companions and his name is Father Antonio Lipparelli. Tomorrow, September 24th, the Mission in Sogliano will begin. Here is their itinerary: Cesena Savignano to Sogliano. The Mission will end on the 8th so they will be, as you note, on time for the Mission in Chiaravalle. There are some days for rest. Then, too, this is a first Mission for Sogliano, but not of overwhelming work, so one will not get too tired. We might make the supposition, *quod absit*,⁸⁵ that the roads might become muddied because of the spread of cholera. You handle things, maintaining a lettercorrespondence with Father Lipparelli, as you judge best in God.

So everything is all set, as far as I am concerned. Now the only thing left to do is pray. I am, in Jesus Christ

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Rome, September 30, 1837

3544

September 30, 1837

⁸⁴ As often as.

⁸⁵ May it be absent.

Camillo Possenti
 Fabriano
 Dear Camillo

Hail to the Divine Blood

I received the printed material today. You were right in suggesting the *Lotti* to me and here is the mandate. If I am not mistaken, the 25 *baiocchi* could not be settled; I will try to send them with the coachman whom I am trying to contact. Then you can give me a full report. Here the cholera epidemic is calming down quite a bit. Let us pray for a complete liberation. With esteem, respect and gratitude, I am, in Jesus Christ

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 30, 1837

3545

September 30, 1837
 Fr. Luigi Mosconi
 Sogliano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Esteemed Fr. Luigi

There will be some letters addressed to our men in Sogliano. Since they are all letters of some urgency, please see that they are properly forwarded to these men: to Lipparelli in Cesena, to Santarelli in Pennabilli. Take note of the addresses. With respect to S. Agata Feltria, come to an agreement with Msgr. Rubertini.

I am in a hurry.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, September 30, 1837

3546

SeptemberOctober 1837
 Fr. Francesco Verili
 Sonnino
 [...] ⁸⁶

⁸⁶ Half of this sheet is torn away. The letter does not have a date. However, one is derived from the book of administration for the House in Sonnino. On the date, September 27, 1837, we read: "From a benefactor, F.V., Sc. 3". The handwriting is that of Verili; the letters "F.V." are the initials of his own name. So, this letter is assigned to the last part of September or the beginning of October 1837.

I would say that you should write to your father that the booklets are no longer needed by you. Why send them there? Your people could make pious and religious use of them.

I note from your letter that you have given (if I am not mistaken) 3 *scudi* for that House. I give you infinite thanks; indeed, you have done and still do so much that I cannot help but be most obliged to you. It is necessary, however, that you take care of your own personal needs, clothing etc.

Go forward courageously with your preaching. God is with you. But, accustom yourself to being brief.

I have understood about Milza. Is there an invitation for the octave of all Souls? I do not wish to find myself involved in an anguishing situation.

With esteem and affection, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

3547

1837

Fr. Rocco Sebastianelli

Sermoneta

⁸⁷ for the Hospice gives ...

2) I understood the part about the grain. Nothing else is needed. He was not supposed to send a sack from that Treasurer and House; definitely not that. He was supposed to write to me about his trip to Sezze, first, and then begin it.

3) The expense for Brother Leoni's shoes comes under current expenses. I understood everything you wrote about the rest of things; but please, for goodness sake, tell them to take care of things.

4) With regard to the eight *Scudi*, have Carpino make out a receipt for me, since it is money that is given by me, and do not even mention Carpini's name. If you have sent that receipt, then all is all right. Urge Carpini to pay up the rest.

5) Without making a big scene, privately call in the person who has damaged the harvest of the vineyard. Let him know very clearly what he owes. Also, inform him that you will have him summoned to appear before the Bishop.

No one at all has written to me of Savelloni.

It has been days since I sent the other money. Has it come to you yet? Write and let me know.

You must balance out our accounts as a help to the Treasurer and send me a receipt for the money deposited.

G. C. d. B.

⁸⁷ The upper part of this handwritten page is missing, and appears to have been torn. We are transcribing here what remains of the letter.

3548

October 3, 1837
Fr. Giacomo Righini
Forlimpopoli

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest Canon

With the greatest regret did I learn of the death of the good Count Giorgio Golfarelli. You can imagine how concerned I am to offer suffrages for a person for whom I, for such a long time, have had the most sincere and close affection in God. I ask that, in my name, you express my deep condolences to the relatives of the deceased. At your convenience, I would be pleased to know who remains of the relationship. In future Missions, which I believe will be held in 1840, they might be able to provide lodging for the Missionaries; I do not know. However, we have time to determine that, as I still have the desire, God willing, to come there in person, *pro ultima vice*,⁸⁹ to visit once again with the people who are so very dear to me. Give my best regards to the most reverend Vicar and anyone else who remembers me. May the pious organizations be your delight, as I have no doubt they are, and see whether you can find an opportunity for a bit of special encouragement, following the method that I suggested in another letter of mine. Please make an effort to discover who, in Faenza, is at the head of the Pious Union of St. Francis Xavier. Give my greetings to anyone who attends the holy Oratory. Let us be united in the Heart of Jesus Christ where, with all my affection, esteem and gratitude, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, October 3, 1837

3549

October 6, 1837
Fr. Orazio Bracaglia
Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

⁸⁸ This letter on whose address Sebastianelli is called "Missionario", is certainly dated later than Holy Saturday of 1836 (April 2), because on that day he was ordained a priest [cfr. Lett. n. 3099 (March 12, 1836) and Lett. n. 3113 (April 16, 1836)]. On the other hand, the title of Missionary could not be given except after at least one year beyond the priestly ordination. One concludes from this, therefore, that the letter should belong to the year 1837, and perhaps during the summer months, since there is reference to the harvesting of the vineyard. It was mailed from Rome or from Albano.

⁸⁹ For the last time.

Dear Father Orazio⁹⁰

Enclosed are 10 Masses for which I will be awaiting the notification. Inform me about the offerings.

In regard to the Brothers, you are to be discreet and be concerned, praiseworthy, not only of the economy in Rimini but, generally speaking, of all of the Houses. I have just received word of the unexpected departure of Camillo. This is a vacancy which I am now trying to remedy. You will be getting someone from Cesena to help out in the kitchen and, during his free time, in the church and house. Up to now, I have not moved any collector of yours! In Pennabilli, there is only Gallina. In Cesena, only two at the present time. Who is there who can be moved? In Macerata. However, if Antonio is moved, who will do the cooking? Alessandrino⁹¹ is not to be counted on. Possibly, when Viola returns, provided that he is not needed at the monastery of S. Agata where Mosconi probably will be going to conduct the Retreat, I do not wish to have outsiders involved. Our regulations require this more than anything else. I authorize you to send him to supply in Macerata. Then, in my name, write to Pontoni that Antonio from Vallecorsa⁹² will be sent. All of this is tentative.

In an extreme case, get hold of a layman who can substitute *pro hac vice*.⁹³ There is no other solution. Ultimately, collect whatever is possible and God will make compensation. The mail is about to leave. More in the next ordinary maildelivery.

G. C. d. B.

P. S. Some Missionaries will be passing through.

3550

October 7, 1837

Luigi Fuschi

Norma

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Luigi

Thank you for your recent, most appreciated letter. God has preserved me so far and the epidemic, in general, is abating. Prayers, prayers.

Continue looking after the pious organizations and, in particular, the holy Oratory and the devotion to the Divine Blood.

Masses will be had whenever God sends them; do not worry.

⁹⁰ This letter has no date. However, one is derived from the postal markings (Rome, October 6, 1837).

⁹¹ Alessandro Cecchini.

⁹² Antonio Di Girolamo.

⁹³ For this time.

With regard to the Lenten preacher the situation cannot be worked out with us. God knows that, if it were possible to do what I would hope to be able to do, I would like to be cooperative; but, it simply is not possible. So, make a selection of someone else whom God inspires you to choose. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap .

Rome, October 7⁹⁴

⁹⁴ The year is 1837. This is derived from a notation of the year 1837 a note made, perhaps, by Fuschi himself; also evident is that characteristic stamping made during the cholera epidemic: "Clean inside and outside".