

## St. Gaspar's Letters

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3701

Msgr. Stefano Bellini  
 Bishop of Loreto and Recanati  
 Most illustrious and reverend sir

The priest, Cesare Ghirardelli, Director of the Congregation of the most holy Name of Mary, humbly petitions your most illustrious and reverend lordship to deign to canonically erect and approve the Pious Union under the title of the most Precious Blood, *pro utruque sexu*<sup>1</sup>, to be later aggregated to the Archconfraternity in Rome, in accordance with the Apostolic Briefs, in the *Chiesa della Misericordia*;<sup>2</sup> that, etc..<sup>3</sup>

In behalf of the undersigned petitioner

3702

August 12, 1818  
 Msgr. Stefano Bellini  
 Bishop of Loreto and Recanati  
 Most illustrious and reverend sir

Canon Giovanni Ganelli, most humble petitioner to your most illustrious and reverend lordship, requests that you erect and canonically approve in the so-called *Chiesa del Crocifisso*,<sup>4</sup> and specifically at the main altar where the sacred image of Jesus Christ crucified is venerated, a Pious Union under the title of the most Precious Blood, in order, thus, to call souls back to the

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<sup>1</sup> For each sex.

<sup>2</sup> The town is Castelfidardo.

<sup>3</sup> On August 9, 1818, the bishop gave his approval for the erection of the Pious Union with these words: "*Cum devotio Pretiosissimi Sanguinis D.N.J.X. corda fidelium quam maxime ad amorem Crucis accendat, hinc libenter annuimus pro gratia in omnibus juxta petita*". On September 6, 1818, that Pious Union was aggregated to the Archconfraternity in Rome. [Translation: Since devotion of the Most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ very greatly inflames the hearts of the faithful for a love of the cross, we gladly approve as a favor the petition in its entirety.]

<sup>4</sup> The town is Montelupone.

contemplation of the Crucified Lord himself; that etc..<sup>5</sup>

## 3703

September 9, 1819  
 Msgr. Ottavio Zolio  
 Capitular Vicar General  
 Rimini  
 Most illustrious and reverend sir

The clergy and the people of S. Arcangelo petition your most illustrious and reverend lordship for the customary faculties for the erection of a Pious Union under the title of the most Precious Blood, *pro utroque sexu*,<sup>6</sup> which will remain fixed at the altar of the Crucified Lord in S. Francesco; that, etc..<sup>7</sup>

In behalf of the people of S. Arcangelo

## 3704

Msgr. Nicola Mattei  
 Archbishop of Camerino  
 Most reverend excellency

The clergy and the people of Belforte, with the desire that they nourish to see propagated more and more the devotion to the most Precious Blood, humbly petition your most reverend excellency to deign to erect in the *Chiesa del Santissimo Crocifisso* the Pious Union under the title of the most Precious Blood, so that later on it can be aggregated to the Archconfraternity in Rome; that, etc..<sup>8</sup>

In behalf of the clergy and people of Belforte

## 3705

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<sup>5</sup> On August 12, 1818, the bishop gave his approval with these words: "*Cum devotio Pretiosissimi Sanguinis D. N. J. X. corda fidelium quam maxime accendat ad amorem Crucis Salvatoris nostri, qui suo nos redemit Sanguine, hinc libenter annuimus pro gratia in omnibus juxta petita*". On September 6, 1818, it was aggregated to the Archconfraternity in Rome. [Translation: Since devotion of the Most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ very greatly inflames the hearts of the faithful for a love of the cross of the Savior, who redeemed us by his blood, we gladly approve as a favor the petition in its entirety.]

<sup>6</sup> For each sex.

<sup>7</sup> Msgrs. Zolio granted the faculty on September 9, 1819. That Pious Union was aggregated to the Archconfraternity in Rome on December 27, 1819.

<sup>8</sup> The bishop granted the faculty on October 8, 1819 during his sacred visit to Belforte. The Pious Union was then aggregated to the Archconfraternity in Rome on December 27, 1819.

January 11, 1822  
 Msgr. Giuseppe Lais  
 Bishop of Ippona and Adm. Ap. of Anagni  
 Anagni  
 Most illustrious and reverend sir

Canon Gaspare del Bufalo, Missionary Apostolic, petitions your most illustrious and reverend lordship to approve with the ordinary and usual faculties the Pious Union under the title of the most Precious Blood of O. L. J. C. so as to recall to the people the remembrance of the inestimable price of our redemption; that etc.

We ask that the erection be made at the altar of St. Francis Xavier since that Saint has been declared the Patron of those pious associations by the Holy Father; thus the men enrolled in it will be able to promote the work of the nightly Oratory; that, etc..<sup>9</sup>

In behalf of the clergy and people of Carpineto

3706

June 24, 1825  
 Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli  
 Rome

I, the undersigned, testify that, through correspondence that I have with the Vicar Forane of Guarcino;<sup>10</sup> for purposes of the ministry, the present sheet<sup>11</sup> is written entirely with his own hand and handwriting. Sworn to etc. This 24th of June, 1825.

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*  
 Mis. Ap.

3707

July 7, 1832  
 Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli  
 Rome  
 Dear Monsignor

See that you send me another document for the aggregation carried out in Spoleto in 1820

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<sup>9</sup> The erection of that Pious Union was approved by the bishop on January 11, 1822. It was joined to the Archconfraternity in Rome on September 14, 1823.

<sup>10</sup> Father Vincenzo Ceccacci.

<sup>11</sup> This is a request to Msgr. Muccioli, the President of the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood, "to designate (in Rome) a person whom he trusts to postulate the canonical erection of a Confraterntiy in the church and at the altar of the Holy Spirit, in the region of Guarcino, diocese of Alatri". The request is dated: "Guarcino, June 23, 1825".

or 1821 or at the latest, 1822.

For this single reason have I enclosed the present letter.<sup>12</sup>

It seems to me that one *scudo* is required which I enclose along with this letter of mine.

## 3708

March 30, 1821

Cardinal Pietro Galleffi

Bishop of Albano

The clergy and the people of Civita Lavinia petition your most reverend Eminence for the canonical approval of the Pious Union under the title of the most Precious Blood; that, etc..<sup>13</sup>

In behalf of the clergy and people of *Civita Lavinia*

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

## 3709

March 30, 1821

Cardinal Pietro Galleffi

Bishop of Albano

The clergy and the people of Porto d'Anzo petition your most reverend Eminence for the canonical approval of the Pious Union under the title of the most Precious Blood etc.; that, etc..<sup>14</sup>

In behalf of the clergy and people of Porto D'Anzo

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

## 3710

October 7, 1821

Cardinal Pietro Galleffi

Bishop of Albano

The pastors of Genzano and Castel Gandolfo petition your most reverend Eminence to deign to erect and approve the two Pious Unions under the title of the Blood of Jesus Christ, so as to recall to the minds of the people the inestimable price by which we were redeemed and to

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<sup>12</sup> This letter of St. Gaspar was written on the same sheet of paper containing a letter of Canon Giuseppe Venturini, dated: Spoleto, June 30, 1832 (the postal markings indicate "Albano, July 7th"; this is the source of our date). In his letter, Venturini asked St. Gaspar for a testimonial which would confirm the aggregation of the Pious Union in Spoleto to the one in Rome, in accordance with the request of the Archbishop of Spoleto.

<sup>13</sup> The Cardinal approved this petition on March 30, 1821 and on April 8, 1821 the request for aggregation to the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood in Rome was accepted.

<sup>14</sup> The Cardinal approved this petition on March 30, 1821 and on April 8, 1821 the request for aggregation to the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood in Rome was accepted.

instill in the souls of all a tender love for Jesus Crucified; that, etc..<sup>15</sup>

In behalf of the clergy and people of Genzano and Castel Gandolfo.

### 3711

Msgr. Giuseppe Maria Lais

Bishop of Ferentino and Apostolic Administrator of Anagni

Canon Gaspare del Bufalo, Missionary Apostolic, petitions your approval of the Pious Union under the title of the most Precious Blood, and the invocation to St. Francis Xavier, all in keeping with the norms of the other one established in Carpineto, so as to stimulate the pious institutions to the greater glory of God and for the welfare of souls, in particular, with the work of the holy Oratory.

In so far as the one in Carpineto as well as the one presently in Acuto are being aggregated to Rome, so also he requests that the priest assigned in Rome to handle the regulations of the aforementioned aggregations, may be one who is selected by the President of the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood, Monsignor Gregorio Muccioli, bishopelect of Agatopoli; that etc. <sup>16</sup>

The Pious Union of St. Francis Xavier in Acuto

### 3712

Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

Rome

Most illustrious and reverend sir

The brothers and sisters of the association of St. Francis Xavier, Protector of the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood, humbly petition your most illustrious and reverend lordship as well as the officials of the Archconfraternity for the favor to be declared bornbrothers and enrollees of the Archconfraternity at the time when they are admitted into the association; this, applicable to the present ones as well as future members; that etc.

In behalf of the brothers and sisters of the association of St. Francis Xavier

### 3713

Middle of June, 1823

Camillo Silvestri Celi

Montalto

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<sup>15</sup> The Cardinal approved this petition on October 7, 1821 and on November 11, 1821 the request for aggregation to the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood in Rome was accepted.

<sup>16</sup> The bishop approved this petition on February 6, 1822.

In an effort to promote the Congregation under the title of the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ in the church of Maria Santissima, Help of Christians, and of St. Francis Xavier, the people of Montalto are asked to submit their names.<sup>17</sup>

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

The signatures of the people of Montalto, who gave their names, follow.<sup>18</sup>

### 3614

December 31 , 1835

Cardinal Emanuele De Gregorio

Sacred Penitentiary

Rome

Your Eminence

Canon Gaspare del Bufalo, engaged in the ministry of conducting holy Missions and Retreats, petitions your most reverend Eminence for the faculty of being able to absolve anyone who took part in the recent revolts; this, at least, for the time when he is giving a Mission or Retreat, whether privately or publicly; that etc. <sup>19</sup>

### 3715

December 7, 1818

Pope Pius VII

Rome

Most blessed Father

Canon Gaspare del Bufalo, most humble petitioner of your Holiness, asks for the faculty of celebrating holy Mass one hour before dawn and one hour after noon; that, etc..<sup>20</sup>

### 3716

January 15, 1830

Pope Pius VIII

Rome

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<sup>17</sup> This writing is not dated nor is an addressee indicated. It is doubtless that it follows from a Mission that St. Gaspar preached in Montalto from June 15th to the 24th in 1823. Since it was found among the letters of Camillo Silvestri Celi, then the president of the confraternity, his name has been placed as the addressee involved.

<sup>18</sup> Cfr. the names as given in Volume X, 501.

<sup>19</sup> The petition was granted on December 31, 1835. The faculty was extended for a year on December 17, 1836 and then again on December 15, 1837.

<sup>20</sup> The faculty was granted the first time on December 7, 1818 through the cardinalvicar of Rome, Pietro Galleffi and was renewed on November 12, 1820 through the cardinalvicar, Annibale Della Genga.

Most blessed Father

Canon Gaspare del Bufalo, Missionary Apostolic and most humble petitioner of your Holiness, humbly requests the faculty of a personal, privileged altar for the number of times during the week that your Holiness wishes to grant to him; that etc..<sup>21</sup>

3717

July 7, 1830

Pope Pius VIII

Rome

Most blessed Father

The Missionaries of the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ obtained from the nowdeceased Pope Leo XII, of happy memory, the indulgence of pardon in the church of S. Agostino in Frosinone which, at that time, was being cared for by them. Now that the building of a new church is completed in that city, in honor of St. Francis Xavier, with the petitioning Missionaries applying themselves to officiating in this new church, while the other one of S. Agostino has been assigned to handle the pious programs of the schools for girls in that city, under the direction of the Maestre who are fit for that type of work, now request that the indulgence of pardon of Assisi be transferred and granted by your Holiness to anyone who visits the aforementioned church of St. Francis Xavier, observing the usual regulations. Please note that in this restricted area covering some three miles, there is no other association which enjoys this privilege. Finally, it is requested likewise that these indulgences be applicable to the Souls in Purgatory; that, etc..<sup>22</sup>

3718

FebruaryMarch, 1826

Mgrs. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Information which could be gotten concerning the S. Norberto locale

1. It is already three years since the Premonstratensian Father who was the administrator of that pious place passed on to eternity.

2. At the present time, the income is being administered by an agent who lives on Rasella street; it was not possible to discover his name.

3. These monks say that they are connected with and depend on monks in Flanders and it is said that actually on his way is the new Father administrator of the income for Rome.

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<sup>21</sup> On January 15, 1830, the faculty of enjoying a privileged altar on three weekdays of every week was granted to him for the duration of his natural life.

<sup>22</sup> The faculty was granted ad sentemnum on June 7, 1830 and confirmed again by Gregory XVI in 1836 until 1843.

This is all that etc. <sup>23</sup>

3719

Can. Fr. Francesco Albertini  
Rome

List of Pious Organizations<sup>24</sup>  
set up at the time of Missions  
all dedicated to the inestimable treasure of our redemption  
the Blood of Jesus Christ

1. For all clergy, the association of the apostles is formed and, where the clergy are very numerous, a certain number of them are selected to preside over the pious institutions, but also that any priest who wishes to do so can attend the monthly meetings.

2. Once each month they get together for a meeting. First, there is to be a brief meditation on the duties of priests; then, 12 verses from the Scriptures are explained; finally, the secretary of the association (the only established position) is to read the resolutions reached at the preceding meeting relative to the pious organizations.

3. Each priest is to assume an assignment and, while all work in the name of the association, harmony among the clergy is thus promoted and their stability is transmitted to the pious works.

4. The programs to be kept in sight for these organizations are: in the first place, the propagation of our devotion which is to be adopted by each of the pious institutions; 2. the Oratory is to be available for the men every evening; 3. the association of St. Aloysius is to be established; 4. a monthly day of recollection is set up for the girls and this group is to be known as the Daughters of Mary. In this way, the training of the youth is promoted. By working with the men through the Oratory, undesirable practices and idleness at night are removed and what is even more important

is the frequent reception of the holy sacraments. 5. Then, for all the people, there is the monthly

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<sup>23</sup> This writing to Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi probably belongs to February/March 1826. In fact, in the letter of February 23, 1826, St. Gaspar writes to Msgr. Cristaldi that his "uncle, the monk"...will be gathering all the information concerning S. Norberto etc. " (Cfr. *Epistolario* IV, n. 1338, p. 71). On March 3, 1826, writing to this same Cristaldi, he clearly states that Canon Nicolai is in possession of the locale of S. Norberto and that he is its administrator (Cfr. *ibid.*, nn. 1349/1350). In letter n. 3777 of March 31, 1826, St. Gaspar says that he absolutely needs to conclude the matter of S. Norberto.

<sup>24</sup> On the fourth siding, the following notation is found written in the handwriting of Fr. Camillo Rossi: "Letter of the very reverend Canon Fr. Gaspare del Bufalo in which he gives to the most worthy Monsignor Albertini a report of the pious organizations which he was accustomed to establish at the time of the holy Missions". However, to be noted is that in his address, St. Gaspar still writes: "Canon Fr. Francesco Albertini". Hence, this letter is previous to April 18, 1819, when Abertini was consecrated bishop of Terracina, Sezze and Priverno. Also, to be remembered is that in 1819 the "*Metodo delle Sante Missioni*" for the Missionaries of the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood was published; it also included the "*Opere di perseveranza*" as is alluded to in this letter. Tentatively, therefore, this letter is to be assigned to the beginning of 1819.

day of recollection in preparation for death. 6. For the men and for the women, but on two different mornings of the month, there is also to be a separate meeting at which they are to be reminded of the method of living a Christian life. Finally, one or two deputed members are to visit the prisons, others visit the sick in hospitals, and not to be overlooked is training in the divine word for the soldiers.

All this is the hedge that is to be constructed protecting the cultivated vineyard, as we keep in mind those words: "*fructus vester maneat*";<sup>25</sup> thus every group and class of people intended to.

Furthermore, the confraternities of the lay people and other pious institutions which are already in existence in the places where our Missions are conducted, are to be revived. Our devotion is to be recommended to all; and, finally, entrusted to one confraternity is the extirpation of blasphemy.

These are the principal objectives of these pious institutions. Wherever possible, hours of adoration of the most Blessed Sacrament are set up and morning meditation at the Mass at dawn after the "*offerta Eterno mio Dio*" etc. I am seeking, furthermore, as best I can, to incorporate the Chaplet of the most Precious Blood and the Seven Offerings in the various confraternities etc. as well as the Seven Offerings recited in public choirs, at least on Fridays. The Way of the Cross is also strongly urged. It seems I have nothing more to add.

3720

January 22, 1821  
Fr. Luigi Gonnelli  
Pievetorina  
Dearest Canon <sup>26</sup>

A couple of lines in a hurry. Absolutely negative to accepting the position of vicar of the Holy Office. 1. It is incompatible with the life of a Missionary. Also, it requires the burden of residence. 2. I do not wish audiences with women. Goodbye. As for other things, *ad alias*.<sup>27</sup> Goodbye.

*G. C. del Bufalo*

That priest that they call the Prior might be a fit one.

3721

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<sup>25</sup> May your fruits remain.

<sup>26</sup> This letter has no date, but one is derived from the postal markings (Rome, January 22) as well as from a notation, made by Fr. Giovanni Merlini: "January 22, 1821. Can. del Bufalo says that the job as Vicar of the Holy Office cannot be accepted since it is incompatible etc".

<sup>27</sup> For another time.

September, 1832  
Fr. Antonio Liparelli  
Sermoneta

Method for the day of recollection  
For the priests of Sermoneta

If it is a matter of making this good work adaptable for the junior and senior clergy, then it is necessary: 1. To select a separate, centrally located church in the region. 2. To set the schedule for the morning and for after the noon meal. 3. Twice that day the priests are to gather together. As soon as morning arrives and after a preceding, brief spiritual reading with the recitation of the *Veni Creator*, the Missionary will lead the meditation together with the usual acts; that meditation, adapted to the group, is concluded with a colloquium and the blessing with the crucifix. This takes care of the morning services. After the noon meal, a spiritual reading, a spiritual or reform conference which is ended with the protestations for a happy death and the blessing with the crucifix.

For anyone who wishes then to withdraw to our House, a room is assigned to him and the regulations covering Retreatants is in that case put into effect.

For the people

Once a month, on the occasion of the monthly day of recollection in preparation for death, I would adapt the method as follows. On the preceding evening: Oratory for the men with the customary peptalk urging them to the general communion in our church and informing them that anyone who is unable to be present for the service there should carry out their devotions elsewhere. After the noonmeal, at least three of the brethren of the St. Xavier association are selected (to carry the crucified and two lamps) and joining with our Brothers or our Boardingstudents should process as a community, singing hymns and making a brief stop at the collegiate church where the raised preachingplatform is set up. There, the sacred function for the day of recollection is done in accordance with our regulations. When the day of recollection ends that night, the customary Oratory is observed. For that reason, there is no processional return to our own church.

However, those of our community who do not participate in the Oratory, are to return to our place, reciting the rosary. The recitation of the rosary following our method is also to be promoted with the people. In order that everything should proceed in good order, it will be necessary to contact the clergy beforehand and on that occasion also to inculcate the other pious practices customarily observed in our church of S. Francesco. This is a complete picture of all that we can offer for the glory of God and the welfare of souls. If we had a hospice, another more fruitful program might be presented for a broader extension of this good work, but, up to now there is none. God will hear us, or to put it better, he will satisfy the desires of our hearts.

Finally, the fruit of everything said above should be the installation of the association of the apostles, to be carried out on another day of the month. By its establishment the other associations will be given a certain liveliness and permanence. Father Antonio Liparelli, if

necessary, should check with me to point out the practice, adaptable to that place and always without alteration from the basic principles of our Institute.

*De licentia*, visiting sermons in Bassiano, *item*<sup>28</sup> in Norma etc.

Let me know whether all of this is clear, if I am mistaken about something, if it clashes with the regulations, since I do not have time to reread them.<sup>29</sup>

### 3722

Pope Gregory XVI

Rome

Most blessed Father

The Missionaries enrolled in the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, prostrate at the throne of your Beatitude, petition that there be submitted to the Congregation of Bishops and Regulars the revision of their rules which, even though they follow from the canonical rules themselves and the knowledge of the Roman Pontiffs Pius VII and Leo XII, nevertheless, they would like to have this sign of beneficence and affection from your Holiness; that etc.<sup>30</sup>

### 3723

Fr. Giovanni Merlini

To complete the work well, the fundamental articles drawn up by Albertini, which must be situated in the Archives at least in copyform, are to be kept before our eyes. However, this is

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<sup>28</sup> The same.

<sup>29</sup> As is evident from the postal markings, this letter was sent from "Rome" in the month of "September". The day is uncertain. No mention of the year. However, there are two indications which lead us to a decision about the date: Liparelli, as the President of the House in Sermoneta, and the Hospice in Sermoneta, given that the Mission House in Sermoneta was situated outside the town. Indeed, from the *Libro dei Congressi* of the House in Sermoneta, it is clear that Liparelli was the President from March 18, 1832 to June 7, 1833. Since the letter has the postal marking of September, the year must be 1832. This date is confirmed also by the problem dealing with the Hospice. In the visitmeeting of November 6, 1832, Father Giovanni Merlini, after speaking in n. 2 of the Mission preached in Sermoneta in the first half of the month of September at which St. Gaspar was also present (the Mission began on September 2nd and on the 16th of September St. Gaspar was in Albano), in n. 6, he writes: "Discussion was had concerning the Hospice which is needed by us in Sermoneta in order to carry out the good work with greater energy and order. For the time being. Mr. Tuzi offers his house, where the Missionaries have been lodging at the time of the Mission and so they will make use of the apartment. Later, the Commune, which is charged with providing for a more stable arrangement, will take it under consideration." That annotation is in line with the thought expressed by St. Gaspar in his letter to Liparelli in which, giving directions for the adaptation of our method to the local situation, he expresses the desire of having a hospice in Sermoneta "for the broader extension of this good work" along with care for the works of perseverance instituted during the Mission. (Cfr. also the letter of December 14, 1832 to the Gonfalonier of Sermoneta, urging the hospice). As mentioned before, the letter (n. 2449) of St. Gaspar has the postal marking of "Rome" where he went on September 26. (cfr. *Epistolario*, VI, n. 2415). Hence, the doubtful date for the day in the postal markings could be read, in all probability, as September 28, 1832. Thus, we assign the date of this letter as "End of September, 1832".

<sup>30</sup> Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Rule of 1835

not for me to do.

With regard to vows, we must adhere to what he describes. Those fundamental articles are like the Rule. The enclosed pages will elucidate. However, it is necessary to study them very well and as far as the praxis is concerned (safeguarding whatever the fundamental articles prescribe) to summarize things according to our methods, since the spirit is the same. In view of the fact that we do not have vows, nevertheless, we still work virtuously, etc.. The provision of food is like ours; the rooms are like ours. In a few places, I have notated one or the other thing more clearly. In other places, I have let things stand, realizing that everything has to be restudied and reordered. The enclosed pages should be helpful, but they may not be completely detailed. The life style must be benign since our Institute is involved in the active life.<sup>31</sup>

3724

July 23, 1832

Fr. Beniamino Romani

Pieveterina

Dear Father Beniamino

Hail etc.

Here is the letter<sup>32</sup> for the Retreat in Mergo. You and Father Domenico Silvestri along with Aleseandrino<sup>33</sup> will be going there.

You take care of all the prearrangements. Since it is a matter of Retreats, I would say ten days in all; also for the expenses, etc.. Let us stand by this.

*G. C. d. B.*

M. Ap.

I have already alerted the Archbishop.

I am on time for getting back there for the ordinands. Check with the Archbishop to see whether he will send them, and how many there are, assuring him that everything will be done in an orderly fashion etc.

3725

End of November, 1835

Fr. Nicola Santarelli

Dear Father Nicola

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<sup>31</sup> Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Rule of Adorers

<sup>32</sup> The Archbishop's letter was dated "Camerino, July 12, 1832" On that same page, St. Gaspar wrote this short note to Romani. The postal markings indicate "Rome, July 23".

<sup>33</sup> Alessandrino Cecchini.

I have accepted the Retreat.<sup>34</sup> Father Brandimarte will be going with Brother Pietro from Prossedi. I sent a reply to the pastor. You will be going to the seminary in Camerino, I believe; if Father Meloni remains, it will be a short time. No Brother is needed in going to the seminary.

3726

Mr. Poggioli  
Rome

Please deliver to the person presenting this letter the following items:

1. 22 candles, the threepound size for the church;
2. Wind torches with four tar wicks, n. 40, at 121 /2 *baiocchi* each; or, at most, 15 *baiocchi*.

Please see that the package is well wrapped so that the 22 candles do not melt down.

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

3727

Fr. Giovanni Chiodi

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Giovanni<sup>35</sup>

You will be receiving the ostensorium. It costs 2 *scudi*.

If the church is unable to pay, supply with the method indicated and send the receipt to me.

The recently silverplated bucket that you will be receiving for the church costs 12 *paoli*. You will likewise be getting the rosaries of the Madonna for the image used in the Mission. There was one *scudo* on deposit, as you know. The other *scudo* (since they will cost two *scudi*) will be supplied by the economist [...].<sup>36</sup>

4. After the Mission in Gioia, tell Galli that he will be going to reside in Sonnino, where, in time, I will be writing to him. With Galli, Brother Pacifico will also be going. Tell him that after the Mission, he will be the cook in Sonnino. Whoever does not have any Mass intentions there should inform me. In the meantime, they should say the ones on hand by agreement and also that Father Biagio<sup>37</sup> should have some available.

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<sup>34</sup> These words are written on the letter from the Archpriest of Preci, Sante Pierleoni, dated November 18, 1835, in which he, in the name of the bishop of Norcia, is requesting a Retreat for his parish for the first part of December of that same year.

<sup>35</sup> Only the upper part of this letter is preserved, with writing on both sides.

<sup>36</sup> Here, the page is torn in half.

<sup>37</sup> Father Biagio Valentini.

5. Giuseppe from Longone, the cook in Benevento, will stay on as cook [...] with the burden of expenses [...].

3728

September 5, 1835

Fr. Camillo Rossi

Frosinone

Dear Father Camillo

You are to write to the Archpriest of Arce who asked for the Mission that our Institute is always ready to supply as long as a letter comes from the bishop and the timeschedule is worked out with me. Enclose that letter for the person who has written this one<sup>38</sup> to be forwarded to Canon Gaspari.

[there is no signature]

Greetings to the one writing in my behalf.<sup>39</sup>

3729

May 13, 1835

Biagio Antonelli

Sonnino

I, the undersigned, attest that fortyfour Masses were celebrated in accordance with the pious intentions of Biagio Antonelli. This day, May 13, 1835.

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Check the inserted document.

3730

August 18

Fr. Pietro Spina

Sermoneta

Dear Father Pietro

Read this. Get the information and then inform me well in detail, after checking with the companions etc.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> It is a letter written by Giovanni Frima and is dated: Arce, August 29, 1835. St. Gaspar is sending it to Rossi, adding his own words thereon. The postal markings indicate September 5.

<sup>39</sup> This postscript is near the address.

<sup>40</sup> These words are written on a page of a letter that got to St. Gaspar and bears the postal markings: Terracina and August 18. A notation by Father Giovanni Merlini says: "The hospice of the Capuchins is requested for the Mission and Retreat House".

## 3731

Beginning of December, 1831  
 Fr. Pietro Spina  
 Sermoneta  
 Dear Father Pietro

Hail etc.

According to my recent letter by mail, I said that, in all, eight lean pigs are to be gotten.<sup>41</sup> However, you decide as you see best, to either cut down on the number or, if you judge otherwise, to take on the eight in all etc. More, by mail. I am sending an additional ten *scudi* for which a receipt etc.

*G. C. d. B.*

M. Ap.

I am sending the offerings for the five Masses which you are saying and which I intend you to use for your own needs etc.

## 3732

November 29, 1823  
 Msgr. Giovan Battista Gaspari  
 Santuario Madonna del Piano (Rimini)

In virtue of the authorization granted by the nowdeceased Holy Father Pope Pius VII, the Missionaries of the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood of O. L. J. C. , willingly support the edifying concerns of Monsignor Marchetti, Archbishop of Ancira and Vicar Apostolic of Rimini, totally in keeping with the matter clearly presented;<sup>42</sup> may it so please the Supreme Pontiff Leo XII, happily reigning.

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

Missionary Apostolic

and Director of the Missions of the Arch.

This, on November 29, 1823

## 3733

Beginning of April, 1828  
 Antonio Arlotti Rimini

Mr. Arlotti, please consign to the presenter of this letter of mine, four pounds of candles

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<sup>41</sup> Mention of the pigs is made in the letters to Spina, dated November 1831/January 1832 (Cfr. *Epistolario*, VI, nn. 2256, 2260, 2267, 2276), as also in the *Libro dei Congressi della Casa di Serrnoneta* p. 89 in the meeting of December 18 , 1831, posterior to the letter of November 30, 1831 to Spina. This date is confirmed by the letter (n. 2254) to Spina of November 25, 1831 in which St. Gaspar gives him the order to celebrate immediately five Masses for which he, in this letter, sends the offerings.

<sup>42</sup>Cf. Gasparian History and Triva: Mission House - Madonna del Piano

of the two ounce size; send the bill along with the aforementioned candles.

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

The account is 1.36 scudi for that wax.<sup>43</sup>

3734

June 27, 1829

Fr. Camillo Rossi

Rimini

Dear Father Camillo Rossi

The Mission is set for November 8th so that you will be in residence for the Retreat called for by our Rule.

Faenza by way of Fusignano.

At your convenience and [...] <sup>44</sup> for the customary information, [...] meetings, and for everything to work out well etc. <sup>45</sup>

3735

Fr. Luigi Mosconi

Albano

Dear Father Luigi <sup>46</sup>

At the first part of July, Father Pietro Pellegrini will be returning to be the Director of Retreats. Let this be for your information. You will, however, continue to supply as the

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<sup>43</sup>After these words, written in St. Gaspar's handwriting, there is the settlement written by Mr. Arlotti: "Settled for Antonio Arlotti, Peter his son". All of this took place around Holy Week of 1828 (March 30/April 6). In fact, in XIV, 413, there is the notification of the income and the expenses incurred "for the Sacred Sepulcher and for the Hours in honor of the Sorrowful Mother" in Rimini. Among those expenses, 1.36 *scudi* are registered for wax "as in the receipt". Since the devotion of the Sacred Sepulcher and the Sorrowful Mother were observed respectively on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, which in 1828 fell on the 3rd and 4th of April, we have tentatively set the date as: "Beginning of April, 1828".

<sup>44</sup> Illegible words due to the condition of the page, here as well as a bit later, indicated by the use of brackets surrounding dots.

<sup>45</sup> St. Gaspar writes this message to Father Camillo on the same page of a letter sent to him in Rome by the Vicar Forane of Fusignano (Ravenna) dated May 15, 1829. The letter, getting to Rome on May 23rd, was forwarded by St. Gaspar to Father Camillo in Rimini where it arrived on June 27, 1829 as the postal markings testify.

<sup>46</sup> The letter is canceled out, but can still be read. At the bottom of the final page, we read what St. Gaspar wrote: "*In omnibus divites facti estis in illo.*"[you have become rich in all things in this] in which contains outlines of sermons for the month of the most Precious Blood. In someone else's handwriting, at the top of page 455, there is written: "Albano 1822". This date is confirmed by the fact that in the Congressus of September 25, 1822 of the House in Albano, the offices are listed just as mentioned in this letter: Mosconi the Director of Missions, as indicated in the address of this letter, and Economist; Pellegrini, Director of Retreats.

Economist in place of Father Giovanni<sup>47</sup> notwithstanding the return of Pellegrini. You are to assign him to the room on the first floor, equipped for his office for retreatants. Then, since Pellegrini will not alter the duties of the organizations, tell him that until Father Giovanni returns, nothing is to be moved. I repeat, the arrival of Father Pietro will be, in general, in July.

[there is no signature]

Tell me what you have ordered for me in Bevagna. I need this reminder to see whether I have said everything.

3736

February 9

Luigi Fuschi

Norma

Dear Luigi<sup>48</sup>

In a hurry. I received a letter from the Cardinal. Everything is fine. We are in agreement. Let this serve you as information.

*G. C. d. Bufalo*

3737

October 31, 1826

Diocese of Penne and Atri

Penne

I, whose name appears below, testify that R. D. Psascal de Nardis lived among us in our houses for some period of time, namely, for about two years, exhibiting an example of his uprightness, virtue and zeal; and since this depends on the truth, I freely and gladly leave this evidence of the truth. For this priest left for reasons of health. In witness of which etc. on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 1826.

Gaspar del Bufalo, Apostolic Missionary and Director of the Missions of the Archconfraternity under the title of the Most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>49</sup>

3738

Middle of September, 1818

Mother Maria Cherubina

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<sup>47</sup> Father Giovanni Merlini.

<sup>48</sup> From the postal marking, the day and the month are indicated (February 9), but not the year.

<sup>49</sup> The original letter was written in Latin, not Italian: *Testor ego infrascriptus R. D. Paschal de Nardis apud nos in aedibus nostris vitam desisse per aliquod temporis spatium, nempe per annos circiter duos, specimen exhibens suae probitatis, virtutis, et zeli, et cum id veritati sit innixum, hoc veritatis documentum ultro libenterque relinquo. Discedit enim hic Sacerdos sanitatis causa. In quorum fide etc. hac die 31 Octobris 1826. Gaspar del Bufalo Mis. Ap. et Director Missionum Arch. sub titulo Pretiosissimi Sanguinis D. N. J. C*

Porfiri Monache del Buon Gesu  
Serra S. Quirico

Jesus Mary Joseph

The lack of time impedes me from appearing, as I would like to do, in order to console you. You should consult with your confessor about this matter and also with one of my companion<sup>50</sup> who are remaining here next week. But, as for me, I simply am lacking the time at present. Pray for me. With particular esteem, I remain

Your humble servant  
*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

3739

Fr. Pietro Butti  
Alatri

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

Yesterday, because of the hurry, I did not send the money. Now, I am giving it to the courier in order not to inconvenience your uncle. The sum that I am remitting to you is 5,6 *scudi*. Pray for me. For the sake of regularity, please send me word of its receipt, even though I have no doubt about the trustworthiness of people. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble servant  
*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Give my thanks to the merchant; let us pray etc.

3740

End of May, 1824  
Msgr. Giuseppe Maria Pezzella  
Bishop of Teramo  
Teramo

I received your very kind letter of the 22nd of this month and in reply I have the honor of telling you that I have made the pertinent arrangements in order that the preaching of the divine word, of which bishops alone are the trustees and guardians, and the other ecclesiastical functions will be carried out in accordance with the canons of the Church as well as the laws of

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<sup>50</sup> This letter probably belongs to September of 1818 when St. Gaspar preached the Mission in Serra San Quirico (Cfr. *Epistolario*, I, n. 177, p. 313314).

the Kingdom.<sup>51</sup>

3741

March 21, 1826  
 Msgr. Giuseppe Lais  
 Bishop of Ferentino  
 Ferentino

Jesus Mary Joseph

Venerable Monsignor

I inconvenience you with this letter of mine in order to engage your zeal in behalf of the poor Milizia in S. Felice in Giano. For this young man to be able to get ahead without even a pin from his household is impossible. Our Society is not in a position to meet so many expenses! Great situation! His relatives cannot even take care of supplying clothing! Finally, if God is calling him to the ministry, they ought to give thanks, for this merciful attention, to the Lord *a quo bona cuncta procedunt*.<sup>52</sup> I pardon everyone's intentions. But, what can we do? I am writing in a hurry. Recommend me to God. Send me news about yourself. In Jesus Christ Crucified, venerable Monsignor, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 21, 1836<sup>53</sup>

3742

August 28, 1820  
 Camillo Possenti  
 Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Camillo

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<sup>51</sup> From the postal markings it is evident that the letter was sent from Fondi where St. Gaspar, obvious from other letters, was present on May 31, 1824. Probably this writing has reference to the institution of the nightly oratory in Teramo to which St. Gaspar refers again in the letters (n. 949 and n. 1199) to this same individual on August 22, 1824 and July 8, 1825. Hence, tentatively we can assign its date as: end of May, 1824.

<sup>52</sup> From whom all good things come.

<sup>53</sup> This is how it appears in the copy, but the letter cannot be of March 21, 1836 because Msgr. Lais died on January 18, 1836. Furthermore, Giuseppe Milizia from Veroli entered as a boardingstudent in the Congregation in 1824. In July of 1826, St. Gaspar, in writing (Cfr. *Epistolario*, IV, letter 1645) to Msgr. Lais says that the young Milizia had returned to his family and that he did not know whether he would return to the community. In the registry of membership in the Congregation, it is evident that he "had departed". Consequently, this letter must be dated March 21, 1826.

Fuligno per Giano, August 28, 1820

The notification of the money received is already in my hands and I cannot find the words to express to you my gratitude. Continue always more and more to be the soul behind those pious organizations and pray a lot to the Lord for one who, with the usual esteem, renews himself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant<sup>54</sup>

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

3743

June 28, 1821

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Pardon me if before now I did not send a reply to your most appreciated letter, due to the many cares which did not permit me to do so.

The Retreat in Pievetorina will take place in July. Since I am unable to say precisely whether it will be conducted first for the priests or for the laity, you can check for the exact day by contacting President Canon Gonnelli.

Give my warm regards to the most reverend bishop, to the governor and anyone else who has a remembrance of me. Pray for me. I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant<sup>55</sup>

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Offida, June 28, 1821

P. S. Then, I will be going to Sansaverino for the Retreat to the clergy and the people.

3744

Middle of January, 1825

A priest

Roccagorga

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

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<sup>54</sup> In this letter, only these words and the signature are those of St. Gaspar.

<sup>55</sup> In this letter, only these words, the signature and the postscript are in St. Gaspar's handwriting.

Dear Canon<sup>56</sup>

Enclosed are the sheets for listing the members who will be working to remove blasphemies on feastdays. Those who are capable of this work are to be selected from any one of the confraternities and with any uniform until the members of the St. Xavier group have worked out their sacred identifications. At the first opportunity, you, yourself are to give them their instructions of how things are to be done even though I will be instructing them today from the preachingplatform. Urging you to stress neatness and order with regard to the sacred things in the church and sacristy, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

The confraternities that are presently in existence should take turns for the procession of the Crucifix. Be very insistent about the work of the Oratory.

3745

End of April, 1822

Fr. Antonio Fini

Bassiano<sup>57</sup>

The Congregation of the most Precious Blood, erected in S. Maria della Piazza, are to go, on the afternoon of the feastday after the completion of the services, to the shrine of the *Madonna delle Grazie*, while reciting prayers, so as to prevent gettogethers, games, drinking sprees, etc.. After that ceremony, all are to gather together for a meeting.

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Director of the Missions

If that Congregation wishes to adopt a uniform, they should get in contact with the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood in S. Nicola in Carcere. They can get information about this from the most illustrious and reverend Monsignor Muccioli, the President of that Archconfraternity.

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<sup>56</sup> This letter was submitted by Giovan Battista Palombi of Roccagorga who asserted that he found it among the papers of his soninlaw, Gerardo Bevilacqua. But, to whom that letter is addressed is unknown. It is certain that it has reference to a Canon, probably of Roccagorga. Since, from the text, it is evident that the letter was written during a Mission, which in Roccagorga was held from the 7th to the 20th of 1825, the date of this letter should be assigned to: the middle of January, 1825.

<sup>57</sup> According to the testimony of Giacinto Mastropietro from Bassiano this note or St. Gaspar was addressed to Father Antonio Fini of Bassiano and concerns the Confraternity of the most Precious Blood erected in Bassiano during the Mission preached there by St. Gaspar during the second half of the month of April in 1822. This is the source of the dating of this letter.

3746

June 9, 1826

Pope Leo XII

Rome

Most blessed Father

The Missionaries of the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, presently remodeling the church of *Maria Santissima delle Canne* in the region of Sonnino, request the faculty of being able to erect the *Via Crucis* so as to impress upon the souls of the faithful the remembrance of the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ; and, since the adjoining locale, once the monastery of the Cistercian nuns and now a Mission and Retreat House, is likewise in need of the erection of the *Via Crucis* as a convenience to retreatants as well as the inhabitants of our community, they likewise petition your Holiness to extend this favor also for that interior chapel; that etc.<sup>58</sup>

In behalf of the most Precious Blood in Sonnino

Vincenzo Severini<sup>59</sup>

3647

Fr. Luigi Graziani

Cottignola

Dear Father Luigi

Here is an attestation of my obligations to you. You are to deliver three of the images to Father Paolo Venerucci. A pledge of the Mission House; so speak to the abovementioned Father Paolo as well as to others. Forward this carefully and safely wrapped. With a very special esteem,<sup>60</sup> I remain

Your humble servant

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

3748

February 16, 1833

Fr. Giuseppe Marchetti

Frusinone

Hail to the Divine Blood

Very reverend Father Giuseppe

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<sup>58</sup> On June 5, 1826 this petition was submitted through Cardinali C. Guerrieri Gonzaga to the Minister General of the Friars Minor who then gave his approval on the following 18th.

<sup>59</sup> St. Gaspar had Severini affix (or did he do it himself?) his signature to the petition, though he himself had written the petition.

<sup>60</sup> On a small sheet, there is a statement made by Missionary Fr. Gennaro Gamboa according to whom this letter was written in St. Gaspar's own handwriting; however, in truth, it does not appear to be his handwriting.

I must inconvenience you because of the following, but first you probably have learned that I did not forget about the triduum for the Sacconi which was later postponed. Now, I am asking you to take under consideration what follows and by this I am supplying for an oversight on my part. Last year, I promised a Retreat to the orphan children as well as to their Canon Protector. Then, the Cardinal Vicar came and wanted me for a Retreat in S. Apollinare with my promise to conduct these exercises this year. That occurred before our meeting; presently, with the Father Rector of the orphans coming to see me, I was unable to recall what I had arranged nor can I fulfill it. *Prior in tempore potior in iure.*<sup>61</sup> You are wise enough to be able to understand all of this.

Nevertheless, such a good work there is not to be abandoned; I would have available one of our capable men who could substitute for me. Please accept him. Send your reply immediately, please. For that time, we surrendered the *Tre Ore* services to Canon Tomei and it appeared to me that all was settled. If you absolutely wish me to come, I will travel on Holy Thursday; before that, I cannot. Send me a reply quickly. But, if I can be excused from the *Tre Ore*, we will see each other when I go to Veroli for the Mission. It seems to me that Tomei would be deserving of this attention and I myself would be deeply grateful since a good work is being done elsewhere, having thus been previously arranged. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, February 16, 1833

P. S. The one who conducts the Retreat to the employees could also take care of the *Tre Ore*, if necessary. Try to adhere to what I have explained. I simply cannot be there for the Retreat for the reasons I have expressed; I do not feel up to conducting the *Tre Ore* and I would decidedly like to have Tomei handle that. Please be kind enough to exempt me.

3749

December 29, 1830

Benedetto Fratarcangeli

Bauco

I, the undersigned, attest to the receipt of twenty *scudi* as above<sup>62</sup> to be passed on to Canon Locatelli who has already written to have this amount withdrawn.

Sworn to on December 29, 1830.

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<sup>61</sup> Prior in time, preferable in law.

<sup>62</sup> This attestation of receipt is the reply to the following note from Fratarcangeli: "Rocco Astolfi of Bauco consigns the sum of twenty *scudi*, through the services of Benedetto Fratarcangeli of Bavco, into the hands of Canon del Bufalo or to his sisterinlaw or niece, and that sum is to be withdrawn at the pleasure and request of Canon Luigi Locatelli; please do the favor of sending an acknowledgment of receipt".

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*  
Mis. Ap.

3750

July 20, 1831

Benedetto Fratarcangeli  
Bauco

On July 20, 1831, I, the undersigned, received twenty *scudi* which I am passing on to Canon Locatelli as belonging to him in keeping with this letter.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>63</sup> This attestation of receipt is the reply to the following note from Fratarcangeli, addressed to St. Gaspar: "Canon Locatelli charges me to deliver into your hands the sum of twenty *scudi*; I await a receipt for the amount paid, so that to the conveyer of this letter, Francesco Silvestri, the aforementioned sum will be consigned, as relative to my account. I beg you to excuse the inconvenience that I cause. Full of esteem and respect, I declare that ... Bauco, July 18, 1831... Benedetto Fratarcangeli".