

# St. Gaspar's Letters

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July 24, 1821  
 Mrs. Caterina Ranghiasi  
 Sanseverino

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most illustrious and revered friend

I am sending you a reply to your letter. You are to be courageous and answer the devil with your disdain for him. Do not be fearful of becoming a saint and belonging entirely to God. If I should return to Sanseverino, I will willingly visit you. If the glory of God requires it, write whenever you wish and address your letter to Pievetorina. Remember that no one is able to chain your will as long as you discard all the vain fears suggested by the tempter. Think of God and how lovable he is. Jesus has redeemed you with his Blood, so, why be fearful? Do not be surprised if the devil tempts you; even the saints endured temptations. In those circumstances, think of heaven, think of the grave, of Mary, and thus in a very gentle way you will distract your mind.

As for the selection of a confessor, pray and choose the one that God inspires you to select. I shall not fail to recommend you to God, so, be at ease. May the Lord fill you with his holy love and make you fearless in doing good works. May Jesus be in your mind, Jesus in your heart, Jesus on your lips, Jesus in all your works, and one day, may he lead you into his most blessed kingdom. Amen. With esteem, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Pievetorina, July 24, 1821

Read the works of de Sales.

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August 8, 1821  
 Fr. Adriano M. Tarulli  
 Pievetorina

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

Your companion, whom God is assigning to you, is Fr. Francesco Pierantonj who has shed himself of all timidity, is prepared for giving catechetical instructions and will do a great deal of good work. He will present the catechism instructions in the morning and you will give the talk on the Madonna; after the noon meal, I will point out that there has been sufficient doctrinal instruction and I will give the principal sermon, thus allowing time for the country people to return to their homes etc. After he has finished giving the catechetical instructions, he will be able to go out for the sermons of visitation. All of this, of course, is adjustable depending on what you feel is best for the greater glory of God. He is a man enjoying good health, endowed with the qualities that the country-folk have and is experienced in conducting services. You will indicate to him the day on which he is to arrive. The meeting place will be Colfiorito. See that the pastor arranges to have the mounts available, as though both were leaving Pievetorina, even though in reality, leaving with you will be Canon Mariotti, who will be coming to Giano to take charge of the observance. He will be

arriving in Colfiorito on the mount from Rignano, then will take the one used by Pierantonj and proceed on to S. Felice. When the ministry is completed, Canon Mariotti will once again return to Colfiorito and will go back with you to Pievetorina, and Pierantoni will use the mount that Canon Mariotti had from S. Felice in order to return to S. Felice. After this, there will be no need for further arrangements since the new companions will have arrived.

As for the Madonna, I have nothing precise to report; I am awaiting the painter. Please send, as quickly as possible your proposed Brother for Campagna who should be something like our Silvestro<sup>1</sup> and who should fulfill the requirements of our rule. The first trip will be at the expense of the one who is coming. It seems to me that he is of the proper age.

May the Lord fill you with his love. With greetings to all the community, I am  
Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

S. Felice in Giano, August 8, 1821

If the new companions arrive and Canon Mariotti will no longer be needed, I will advise you. If you do not receive that message, adhere to what I have indicated to you. As for the rest, *ad alias*.<sup>2</sup>

What I have written to you concerning Canon Mariotti, you are not, for the time being, to speak of it with respect to Canon Moscatelli. You will do so in good time *instanter*<sup>3</sup> in my name.<sup>4</sup>

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August 10, 1821

Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci

Offida

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Giovanni Francesco

Oh how consoled I am with the zealous activity of the people of Offida in behalf of the Mission House. You will have a great reward if you continuously recommend this good work to the most benign God. I have not failed to recommend the collegiate church. I hope that their representative goes often to the Treasurer and let him know that in Offida there is the precious relic, etc. which is something that will produce good results. He himself is very devoted to the Blood of Jesus Christ. Once the house is opened, we shall have a copy of my Madonna made. I will come for the opening certainly since it is dear to me, and we shall organize everything. With joy do I approve the gathering of objects made by the women, members of the sisters of charity. The women who make the collections should, however, do so privately and prudently. Let me know what I can do for aggregating in Offida. I must, therefore, keep in abeyance the one for Ascoli. Inform Fr. Giovanelli for his peace of mind. Asking you for your prayers, dear Giovanni Francesco, with particular esteem, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

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<sup>1</sup> At this point, the words "so to speak" appear, but they were canceled out.

<sup>2</sup> For another time.

<sup>3</sup> Urgently.

<sup>4</sup> This paragraph was written on the outside cover, near the address.

Spoletto per Giano, August 10, 1821

I shall be leaving for the Mission in Albano towards the end of August. Send me the memoranda of your collections. A fund for the Mission House could be sought during the Lenten preaching which is acceptable only in the place where the House is situated, and, it should be made from the platform for the use of Missions, etc.

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August 10, 1821  
Fr. Giovanni Mimmi  
Acquasparta

Jesus Mary Joseph

Venerable Prior

Under the circumstances, here I am inconveniencing you. On the 23rd of this month, I shall be in Acquasparta, and I would like to stay over night in some religious house (unless there is bad weather) or in some house where I will not be a disturbance. I beg you for your kind assistance. I will have a companion with me. On the morning of the 24th, I shall depart for S. Gemini, and I would like you to inform some community there that I shall stop off for some refreshment so as to be able to be in Narni in the evening. Furthermore, I request that you have ready for me in Acquasparta a couple of mounts in view of the fact that I shall have to send back the ones on which we came. I am writing in a hurry. More, when we see each other. Dear Prior, asking you for your prayers, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

S. Felice in Giano, August 10, 1821

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August 10, 1821  
Fr. Luigi Gonnelli  
Pievetorina

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

S. Felice, August 10

Dearest Canon

If any word should come from Sanginesio concerning the retreat, you and Fr. Pietro Pellegrini will go, and, since you will be two missionaries, it will not be necessary to take along a brother in service. The matter is that the Augustinians will soon be going there. The rule is completed. I am now checking over Fr. Pietro's meditations and I will send them back in time. You will direct everything following the system for retreats, and you will take notice of the pious organizations that are there, especially reviving those that were established during the last Missions. The inescapable Mission in Albano has caused me to make this arrangement. Fr. Raffaele Brandimarte will be supplying as the economist. I am concerned that the three men required for seeing to the observance will not be lacking. If you do not receive word from Sanginesio, let things be. Urge the Archbishop with regard to the allotment of goods, but not under the title of a chaplaincy. It is not difficult for me to return around October to the Marca. Prayers. A thousand

greetings to each one individually. I shall be in Giano for another shift of retreats for the laity, until the time arrives for me to make the trip to Albano. You will handle the catechetical instructions, and Fr. Pietro the meditations. Continue making preparations *ad cautelam*.<sup>5</sup> In the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, I remain

Your humble servant  
*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*  
 Mis. Ap.

Even though it may not be a good practice to have you and Canon Tarulli away at the same time, nevertheless, I am addressing these words by way of anticipation, for it is indeed only a question of a few days, and *pro hac vice nihil obstat*.<sup>6</sup> However, leave precise and clear directions with regard to the observance.

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August 12, 1821  
 Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci  
 Offida

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Giovanni Francesco

I am supplying here for an oversight. Try to find out whether the de Sales nuns will take on a companion, as has been said. This lady will be able to fit in; instead of a dowry, she has the ability for weaving things etc. She is around 41 years old, in good health and is ready to lend a hand to the community. She is the sister of one of our missionaries. With esteem, I am

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

S. Felice in Giano, August 12, 1821

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August 14, 1821  
 Mr. Camillo Possenti  
 Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Camillo

I am consoled by the plans offered by the most reverend bishop. But first I would like to hear the observations of the most reverend Treasurer, and then we will work things out. I do not think that I should anticipate difficulties. However, it will be difficult that an allotment should be made to new individuals; he will not do that with respect to other corporations. Since I have already said that 50 *scudi* will be enough, I do not wish to retract that. His authority is sufficient; otherwise, it would be impossible to make our livelihood without activating collections with the deputies. I resign myself to your good judgment. I would be pleased if the sum would be set up as things proceed, but surely there must be a certain basic sum. I shall continue to follow your advice. God's works are born in

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<sup>5</sup> As a precaution.

<sup>6</sup> For this office[time] nothing stands in the way.

thorny situations, and we cannot avoid them, but God himself disposes things *fortiter et suaviter*.<sup>7</sup> More about this as things mature. Depending on the area, the cost of living is more or less. I know very little about such things. Dear Camillo, pray for me who wholeheartedly look forward to your letters.

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Spoleto per S. Felice in Giano, August 14, 1821

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August 18, 1821

Fr. Luigi Locatelli

Rome

I am enclosing the recent memorandum sent to me by the excellent Canon Gonnelli. I recommend to your zeal the ideas expressed therein. One always writes in a hurry because of the rigid shortness of time. I have not heard anything further from the bishop of Terracina. He wrote to me that the Vicar General was having the Passionist Fathers conduct the Missions in Sezze. But it was some time ago that I received that letter. Give my best regards to Monsignor Caprano. In the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, I am

S. Felice in Giano, August 18, 1821

As for other things, in time and when we see each other in person; or, in writing, when convenient.

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August 19, 1821

Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci

Offida

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Giovanni Francesco

Your observations concerning the aggregation merit the following comments: 1) the erection of a pious union has nothing to do with the privileges for an altar; 2) even though the indulgences are gained, there is only the responsibility of sending a notification of the ones enrolled outside of Offida, and, right now, I do not know if they could be sent, for example, to Ascoli where there is a canonical erection; 3) I would be unhappy if the solemnity of an aggregation would not take place, as it has been done in other cities and towns, there where the devotion to the Blood of Christ is so outstandingly resplendent; 4) in that case, at least a rough draft could be made for the rescripts. Despite these observations, which I willingly submit to the wise judgment of others, if they do not wish to do what will be done for Ascoli, they are the bosses.

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<sup>7</sup> Firmly and sweetly.

As for the brothers of the Sacrament, let me know just how things stand. If they do not have any aggregation, I myself will take care of aggregating them. Inform them that it would be good that I know in detail what they will wear so that a uniform vesture can be sought after as best as possible. A priest expert to whom I have written already tells me that it is a good thing for them to adapt to the habit of the Archconfraternity to which they will be aggregated, otherwise, on the occasion of the Holy Year, they will not be recognized, because of their dissimilar uniform, as belonging to the Archconfraternity whose rules they follow. I hope that, little by little, everything can be worked out. I give thanks to God for the progress of the pious organizations. They should go to visit those in prison at least when the possibility arises.

With regard to the indulgence for the Way of the Cross, let them check to see whether the documents are in order, and what they say, and then they should draw up a concise and well-prepared petition to the Pope and I will then handle it from there, hoping to work out this good deed also. As for the report of the Mission, it is sufficient that it be registered in my favor in heaven. I have sent a reply to Fr. Antonio, and if it was not immediately, that was due only to a very real impossibility. The blessing that he gives to religious objects, according to his certification as an aggregator for the devotion to the Blood of Jesus Christ, is not *in articulo mortis*,<sup>8</sup> but whoever has those religious objects does gain those indulgences which would be had if the Pope himself had blessed them. Those indulgences can be found printed in the booklet or leaflet; however, to gain them it is sufficient to have the intention. In time you will be able to locate them and I believe that they are filed in every chancery. That faculty, moreover, can be exercised only with regard to the brothers and sisters, and only in the place where one has the faculty to enrol people. Let us become saints. Send me your prayer and, if you will, the collections. Pray for me, and I continue exhorting you to follow through with the idea of a new foundation. You will gain great merits...and it will be a notable assistance to the Kingdom also. Asking you, dear Giovanni Francesco, for your prayers, with esteem I wholeheartedly remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

S. Felice in Giano, August 19, 1821

On another sheet I shall be writing to the Mother Superior.

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August 19, 1821

Mr. Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Camillo

The Congregation of the Ladies of the Caravita does not aggregate; however, the one erected in the Madallena Church of the Fathers of St. Camillo de Lellis does aggregate. It is believed that the Congregation of Fabriano may be aggregated to another Congregation, otherwise it could not exist. Please advise me about this. It would be a good idea for Mrs. Possenti, with this new apparatus, to

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<sup>8</sup> At the moment of death.

bring them together and decide *quid magis sit exequendum pro gloria Dei*.<sup>9</sup> Always beseeching you for your prayers, dear Camillo, with particular esteem for you, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

S. Felice in Giano, August 19, 1821

I am leaving for the Mission in Albano.

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August 22, 1821

Fr. Adriano M. Tarulli

Pievettorina

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

Today I read your first letter and here is my reaction. I am pleased to go along with the concerns that my beloved companions nourish for order in the House in Pievetoria with respect to the Mission in Rignano. What else is to be admitted? If I made a decision, it was only with Sanginesio in mind and my concern for the required observance. I had nothing else in mind in making my decision. So, now, let all remain in full liberty and, having convened the *Congressus*, let them decide what is the best procedure in the eyes of God, but always in keeping with the rules. If there should be a squeeze, have only one man go to Sanginesio. Perhaps Sanginesio will be free. I am very content with whoever goes to Rignano. Only Canon Mariotti will be needed to maintain the required observance in Giano; he is provided with all that is needed. Fr. Francesco Pierantonj will be away doing other good work where God is summoning him, and thus the Lord will bring forth his glory from everything.

The artist in Bevagna will have the Madonna ready at the end of the month. You men will go to get it. The cost will be five scudi. In the mails, you will be receiving another letter from me dealing with the faculties and I shall also treat some other points. I cannot now delay the express delivery. Do not depart from what I have stated in this letter since Giano is not able to spare anyone at the present time. With particular esteem and very special affection toward all, I remain

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

S. Felice, August 22, 1821

I must write to other companions; I will do just that. Tonight I must clear up my correspondence.

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August 23, 1821

Fr. Adriano M. Tarulli

Pievettorina

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

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<sup>9</sup> What should be carefully followed for the glory of God.

Dear Canon

You will be receiving instructions concerning the faculties, etc., etc., etc. from Canon Betti. I pray wholeheartedly to the Lord that he bless your efforts in favor of his pure glory, and along with this we say: *servi inutiles sumus*.<sup>10</sup> May the beloved Lord give all of you who are his fishermen for souls *voce[m] virtutis*,<sup>11</sup> and may our very dear St. Francis Xavier obtain for you that generosity of heart which is necessary to carry out a ministry sown with thorns.

Still, God is with us *in auxilio opportuno*.<sup>12</sup> I urge the greatest insistence on looking after the temporal matters of that House which have a connection with those that are spiritual. It would be good to have other Communes go along with our ideas. But, the Lord is with us, and we are not afraid. Canon Mariotti will be taken care of, also with regard to the Crucifix. As for the frame for your Madonna, for the time being either loan one or supply with an ornamental draping.

Indeed, I do read in your heart the trials that the Lord is giving you. Do not allow them to disturb you. They are divine invitations for you to train yourself to fight the battle so that you, too, can experience the *tentatus per omnia*.<sup>13</sup> How would it be possible to confront external challenges if we were not first accustomed to overcome the internal ones? Is not the habit of virtue, as you yourself show me, generated in ourselves through the repetition of acts? You must straighten out two things in yourself: 1) the excessive fear that you show externally, a thing that I must again urge, as a most important factor, to be corrected; 2) the ineffective method that perhaps you use in putting up resistance. So, together with that feeling of fear, join a bit more trust, and as for your method of resistance, let it not be a direct opposition, but an indirect one, such as thinking of the Madonna, of heaven, etc. Treat the devil as a madman to whom no one pays attention, while continuing to deal with others. Pray ceaselessly for me and may Jesus one day join us together in his most blessed kingdom just as he has united us here in the unity of the ministry and in our vocation. Amen. I am etc.

Affectionately yours in J. C.

G. C. d. B.

Acquasparta, August 23

What have you to say to me concerning the one to become a nun in Fermo? I praise you for the firmness you show in maintaining the required observance. May the Lord strengthen you etc.

As for the trip of Canon Mariotti, it cannot be refused. Come to an understanding, as long as the observance is not disturbed, and be aware that these months are dangerous because of unexpected requests. It is not contrary to the rule to come to an agreement with the brother in service, in fact, it is very much in order. But, perhaps the Congressus would not want to have him removed. It is always a judgment to be made by you men, but see to it that there is the least amount of disturbance, even indirectly, to the community with regard to temporalities.

August 29, 1821

Monsignor Nicola Mattei

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<sup>10</sup> We are useless servants.

<sup>11</sup> The voice of virtue.

<sup>12</sup> In opportune help.

<sup>13</sup> Tested through everything.

Archbishop of Camerino  
Camerino

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I believe that my companions in Pievetorina will be going to Sanginesio, and therefore in this way the desires of the one who laudably wished for the promotion of retreats will be satisfied, and I hope that they will be accompanied by special blessings. With regard to Treja, I understand well that the time in October is not the most suitable for the purpose, and hence this year it will be necessary to defer it. The Lord will enlighten you opportunely so that you can arrange for such a great good to the benefit of the people of Treja. In Camerino, referring to the ideas proposed by Fr. Felici, it would be a good idea to revive the organization for the priests, upon which everything is dependent. I shall not fail to have prayers said for fruitful perseverance in the divine word. Asking you for your prayers, most venerable Monsignor, and with distinct esteem and very special affection in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Albano, August 29, 1821

P. S. I urge you to do all you possibly can for the settlement of the affairs of the Mission House.

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August 30, 1821

Cardinal Ercole Consalvi

Secretary of State

Your Eminence

May your Eminence excuse me for inconveniencing you with this letter of mine. Its purpose is to efficaciously recommend to you the petition which I humbly submit to you.<sup>14</sup> In the current Missions being conducted in Albano, oh what a consolation it would be to restore the yearned-for grace. Along the pleasant paths down which the sacred ministry calls us, so particularly blessed by God, we are certain of bringing souls back together again and thus restoring peace in so many families. I do not doubt that your Eminence, in the wisdom of your thoughts, is willing to cooperate in this effort. Asking you for your prayers, most reverend Eminence, and kissing the sacred purple, with full respect and veneration, I remain

Your most humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare Canonico del Bufalo*

Missionario Apostolico

Albano, August 30, 1821

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<sup>14</sup> The Cardinal's reply, dated September 7, 1821, is as follows: "I have received your letter, dated the 30th of the past month, along with the request pertaining to Luigi Ianni, Substitute in the Chancery there. While acknowledging praiseworthy your zeal, I am regretful in having to inform you that, because of just reasons, it is not possible to approve it. I am etc. "

September 3, 1821  
 Monsignor Bellisario Cristaldi  
 Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I am enclosing a letter from Monsignor Lucchesi regarding the taking of the veil by Canon Betti's two sisters. Once again he has written to me that if the temporalities are figured out, something that should be done by the end of September, and when his sisters have been situated, then he could peacefully devote himself to the sole pursuit of the apostolic ministry. I thought it would be good to inform you of this matter, adding my own most humble recommendations. Asking you to pray to God for me, most reverend excellency, with particular esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Albano, September 3, 1821

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September 3, 1821  
 Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci  
 Santanatoglia

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Giovanni Francesco

Tell Canon Tarulli that he should send me the rules, since I am in need of them, otherwise they should remain in Pievetorina so that I can see to their printing. I am eager to hear that the bishop of Ascoli will grant the desired title to the sisters of De Sales, and I hope that they do not stop urging the matter. I would like to have them accept the one that I am proposing. She is Canon Betti's sister and her unique ability for weaving along with her other talents could afford that pious place a great assistance. As for the nun to whom the position was offered, why does she not apply to some monastery where she is wanted and thus solve both problems? I thank you for the kindness that you show toward me, and I ask that you pray for me and have others recommend me frequently to God.

In time you will be receiving an answer concerning the collections. With reference to the Mission House, do you not know what St. Teresa used to say concerning the founding of monasteries? One must not demand the best immediately. Since there is a certain income, to which the one from Lent can be added according to what I directed in another of my letters, which I hope you received, why not begin the foundation? For the time being, instead of a public church, we would be content with a small chapel like the one the De Sales nuns have. All that would be needed would be a house adaptable as a House for Missions and Retreats. I do not know whether the old collegiate church has any room adjacent to it, but it could be just the spot for carrying out our design. So, do not be discouraged; pray, and God will send his enlightenment. Offida is very dear to my heart because of the great relic that has such a close relationship to our Society.

With particular esteem and respect, I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Send to me, at your convenience and by mail, the 6 *scudi*. In the meantime, I shall present the

request to the primary Congregation. Inform Fr. Giovanelli that the one in Ascoli is alined with Rome. I will return everything to him and I would like to find a sure means of doing so. I am etc. Send your answer to Rome.

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September 5, 1821  
Missionary Fr. Adriano Maria Tarulli  
Pievetorina

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Canon

The<sup>15</sup> idea of a foundation is a holy one, and to my fullest satisfaction in God. I presume that the pious person will be able to dispose of the estate. The foundation could be started whenever one wishes. The bishop of Camerino is fully behind such an institution in general, since we have discussed setting up one in Camerino. I would begin it on a small scale, and, when things begin to develop, I would have two of those selected according to the spirit of the organization to come from Rome. The mother can remain with her daughter, and in this there would be no obstacle. Let me know with greater precision how many could be supported on the present endowment. Later on, God will provide. I would begin the organization with the two from Rome, but with the principle foundress from that area. I would check out the articles in the first section. They will have furniture.

So, nothing more remains to be done except for you to have a meeting with the Archbishop, whom I will inform beforehand, and then more details *ad alias*.<sup>16</sup> Perhaps it will be necessary to support the two from Rome since they will be taken from another community. Let us develop everything by the use of prayer. In matters such as these, *bonum est praestolari in silentio*.<sup>17</sup> Include in your calculations also the support of relatives concerning whom I have no clear information. May Jesus be with us and may his grace abound in our hearts. Amen. Dear Canon, with esteem and with cordial greetings *ad omnes nominatim*,<sup>18</sup> I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Albano, September 5, 1821

Send your reply to Rome.<sup>19</sup>

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September 5, 1821  
Fr. Vincenzo Giovannelli  
Fabriano

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father Giovannelli<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> The saint had written the word "holy" at this point, then canceled it.

<sup>16</sup> For another time.

<sup>17</sup> It is good to wait in silence.

<sup>18</sup> To all by name.

<sup>19</sup> Here, he first wrote "Albano" then canceled it.

With regard to the pious institutions, *laus Deo*.<sup>21</sup> Little by little those tender plants will be firmly rooted, and oh, with what merits will you be enriched for blessed eternity. *Erit tempus cum sanam doctrinam non sustinebunt etc.*,<sup>22</sup> *tu vero vigila, in omnibus labora etc.*<sup>23</sup> It would be a good idea to have the women read the life of Bl. Catherine of Genoa; they would learn some great points with respect to hospital work. Do not allow the organization of the apostles to be overlooked, not even in October. *Ubi sunt duo vel tres etc. etc.*<sup>24</sup> and, I say the same thing for the other pious groups *sub omni respectu*.<sup>25</sup> Please tell a certain Father Ciannavei, whose first name I cannot recall, to go to the postal department where he will find a letter from me. I thank you for your good efforts in behalf of Rossi. Be assured that in the Mission House he will mature, for only in his own home would he be only half-priest. Let me know to whom I should direct the letters pertaining to the aggregation to our Archconfraternity in S. Onofrio, as you are well informed about.

I have sent a reply to the excellent Mr. Palmucci concerning the plan for a foundation in Offida where I would love to have our society present because of the relic they have there of the most prodigious Blood of Jesus Christ. It would also be a place of service for the Kingdom of Naples, retreats for the diocese, the ordinands, etc. etc. I send my best regards to the most reverend bishop and to all who still remember me, and especially to you Fr. Vincenzo. As for the Filippini Fathers in Matelica, there is nothing to report up to now. Encourage the plan for Offida. Ordinarily I am always able to be present for the opening. At that time, *os ad os loquemur*;<sup>26</sup> and we shall be able to close the Missions in that region. *Ora, jube, vale*.<sup>27</sup> While kissing your hands, reverend Father, and with a very special affection and esteem, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Albano, September 5, 1821

You can send your reply to Rome, for after another Mission, I shall be back there.

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September 19, 1821

Fr. Luigi Locatelli

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Father Luigi<sup>28</sup>

I give thanks to God for the procession. In the House in Albano, at present, there are no extra

<sup>20</sup> In the address, St. Gaspar had written "Ascoli" but then crossed it out and substituted "Fabriano".

<sup>21</sup> Praise be to God.

<sup>22</sup> There will be a time when they will not endure sound teaching, etc.

<sup>23</sup> Indeed be watchful, work in all things, etc.

<sup>24</sup> Where two or three are gathered, etc., etc.

<sup>25</sup> Under [in] every respect.

<sup>26</sup> We will speak face to face.

<sup>27</sup> Pray, entreat, be steadfast.

<sup>28</sup> The letter does not bear an address. The context, however, suggests that it should be to Fr. Luigi Locatelli, a close friend of Monsignor Manassi, bishop of Terracina, Sezze and Priverno.

beds, for it is being born among thorns. However, within a matter of days, you will be able to have a bed that was being used by one of the brothers in service, who, for a few days will be returning to visit with his mother. That is what you will be able to do so that you can have it as your own. Also, the House is not capable of supporting new subjects at the present time, so, it will be necessary for you to provide for food. Monsignor Manassi has written to me concerning your return. See to it that you suggest to him spiritual assistance for his dioceses. I am in a hurry, and I ask you for your prayers.

On Monday morning, I shall be in Rome.

Affectionately yours,

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Genzano, September 19, 1821

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September 29, 1821

Missionary Fr. Luigi Gonnelli

Pievetorina

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Canon

Here is some amazing news concerning our society. It is the mind of his Holiness that we should open, if I am not mistaken, five Mission Houses (it seems to me that there are six in the plan) for straightening out the Province of Campagna. The opening will be a solemn one since a company of our men will be assigned to each Mission House, namely, three men in each company. Assisting in this project are the most reverend bishop of Terracina, Monsignor Strachini, and the most reverend bishop of Nocera, so that the distribution of the ministry will be provided for in a better fashion. These men are of our *gremio*.

The most reverend Treasurer says that during the winter, in the Houses that have already been opened, three members are to remain on duty in each House, and the Missions in the provinces of the Marca and Umbria are to be postponed until after Easter. In case of an urgent request, if they cannot be given help *in subsidium*,<sup>29</sup> recourse should be had to Rome or to me, who will then look into it. Each bishop is going to have to acknowledge the reasonableness of this procedure. Meanwhile, the positions that have to be filled in the old Houses will be supplied for by the new men.

As the society moves ahead rapidly, in addition to the three that remain, new ones will be added soon. The new ones, however, are not to be rushed into the ministry. So, secretly question your companions there and with holy indifference, find out who would be willing to come. Three would be able to come and two remain, for the third one will be the new man. In this way, no one will be hurt. Furthermore, anyone who would like to go to the Indies, will be even more pleased to come to the Province of Campagna where contact with the Kingdom and the daily ups and downs

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<sup>29</sup> For support.

have produced turmoil. The people, however, are docile and you can even find one or the other good person.

With respect to you people there in Pievetorina, I am quite aware of your needs! It will be necessary for the brother in service, Alessandro, to go around recruiting new men. When everything has been concluded, we can then draw clearer plans. In the meantime, add an Our Father and a Hail Mary in honor of St. Francis Xavier for this extraordinary need, to be said right after the morning Angelus, until these new foundations have been completed. What will Tarulli decide? Several companies of men have to be formed; he would be good for giving main sermons. *Voluntas Dei in omnibus*.<sup>30</sup> Send your reply with the next mail.

It is not prudent at present to ask for an exemption from the mails. The government will endow the new Houses. The commune should submit a new request and, in general, ask the Treasurer for funds whenever the request is not honored. I would consider Lawyer Bonaccioli willing to help. Send me your request to the Treasurer.<sup>31</sup>

I have no objection to having people go to Sanseverino for a collection; but, there should be a personal contact with the bishop beforehand, and without mentioning my name. It will be sufficient to speak in a general way. Repeat this direction of mine, without naming me, or, better yet, you yourself should write a letter to him concerning the procedure.

If you yourself would like to come, confide to me whatever simply occurs to your mind; let me know your thoughts and we will discuss it together later, etc. In place of Alessandro, I would have a cleric, if you would so wish. As for the visitation collection, leave that to my care. Goodbye.

Affectionately yours

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Rome, September 29, 1821

I shall send the Nuccini memorandum; see, then, that he urges it; I surely will not be able to do so.

Write to the pastor directly, at your convenience, and have him send you a reply so that you can better explain things to him.

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September 29, 1821

Archpriest Santoni Genzano

In making a review concerning the Mission in Genzano, the following are the things that remain to be done:

1) I said nothing in the Rotondi household of what you indicated to me; so, see that you supply in the best way possible.

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<sup>30</sup> The will of God in all things.

<sup>31</sup> Four lines were canceled out here.

- 2) I have learned from the Pacieri family that no reconciliation has yet been effected.
- 3) It will be necessary to have the implanted cross varnished, otherwise the weather will devastate it.
- 4) Please tell Mr. Cartucci that when he has the 6 *scudi* he should send them to me so that the canonical erection can be worked out. In the meantime, with your signature and that of the Vicar Forane, a letter of proxy should be sent to me, authorizing me or whomever I select as a deputy, to request the canonical erection according to the usual regulations. That letter need not be stamped or registered; it is sufficient simply to have affixed the parochial seal or that of the Vicar Forane, in keeping with your practice.
- 5) Have the holy league of confessors provide for the men the sacrament of penance in the Oratory, *iudicio et prudentiae etc.*<sup>32</sup> Insist on the proper dress for the women. On the occasion of conducting services, I would advise that, at times, you yourself should make the rounds through Genzano, for you would do a great deal of good. Also, at times, you could have someone else offer the Mass.
- 6) There are certain business places where green plants that have been sown at irregular times can be purchased. I did not have time to discuss details with you, so all I can do is make suggestions. It would be a good idea for the Daughters of Charity to promote the collection of funds to be used to feed the poor women. Promiscuity in the males and females in the country folk, besides being the cause for the absence of good morals, it is also the cause for notable scandals. Keep the men engaged in work. In those areas, the men are lazy and they should put in more time; get them to trust in God. I am very firm in holding to the words: *si oculus, si pes, si manus etc. abscide et projice.*<sup>33</sup>
- 7) With regard to the outsiders from the Marche, as the bishops of that province recommend, it would be necessary to persuade them, in particular the married men, to remain in their own homes; have the young fellows and the widowers come to do the work. St. Paul would like us to meditate on these words when referring to married people: "*nisi ad breve tempus, ut orationi vacent.*"<sup>34</sup> The men waste their time in the taverns, and for this reason they suffer hunger.
- 8) Be insistent likewise about the dress of the young girls in school, and let all the pious organizations be close to your heart. Even the men have taken on unacceptable modes of dress. Oh God, when will it be that we see the yearned-for reform! Finally, pray for me, a miserable one. While kissing your hands, dear Archpriest, and with particular greetings to all the clergy and laity, I remain

Your most humble and obliged servant

*Gaspere C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

To maintain uniformity with the others, and in keeping with what was announced from the pulpit, the few donations given during the Mission could be placed in safekeeping, as you see best, with the inscription: "Gifts donated by the people of Genzano on the occasion of the holy Mission".

Be very exact about that, as I have no doubt that you will be, otherwise the intention of the donor will be defrauded. The destruction of weapons could, with a small addition, be converted into

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<sup>32</sup> By judgment and of prudence.

<sup>33</sup> If the eye, of the foot, if the hand, etc. ... cut it off and throw it away.

<sup>34</sup> Except for a short time, so that they be free for prayer.

a small silver heart to be added to, etc., etc.

We shall select the altar of the most holy Mother, *Auxilium Christianorum*,<sup>35</sup> as the altar for the canonical erection, since I suppose that there is no other available.

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September 29, 1821

Fr. Luigi Cocci

Grutti

Jesus Mary Joseph

By sovereign order, six Mission Houses will be opened in the Province of Campagna by December 3rd. What will you decide? God wants to have you in our group. Be courageous. I am in a hurry, dear Father, and I will be awaiting your letter.

Your humble devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Rome, September 29, 1821

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September 29, 1821

Monsignor Nicola Mattei

Archbishop of Camerino

Camerino

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

September 29, 1821

Venerable Monsignor

With this letter I am revealing to you the desires of our Lord, of his eminence the Secretary of State, and of the most reverend Treasurer concerning the foundation of some Mission and Retreat Houses for the purpose of straightening out the Province of Campagna through these sacred establishments. In the name of the most reverend Treasurer, who keeps me up to date for everything that I write, I humbly request that you be willing to grant me *ad tempus*<sup>36</sup> Fr. Giovanni Scipioni, Fr. Serafino Maccari, Fr. Ugo Borgiani, who do not have the binding requirement of residence, so that I can form several companies of men called for by the plan, and thus give that Province a holy boost, but leaving at least three men in each House already established. In the Province, we have priests, but there is a need to form them to a large extent so that much good can be done for the church of Jesus Christ; while restoring life to anyone requiring it. Likewise assisting in these Missions are the bishops of the Province, Monsignor Stracchini and Monsignor Manassi. We will offer prayers for your diocese, and if you have any further suggestions pertinent to this project, I am most eager to hear them. Asking you for your prayers and awaiting your kind response, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

I have not written to anyone without first obtaining your permission.

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<sup>35</sup> Help of Christians.

<sup>36</sup> At the time.

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October 6, 1821  
Fr. Andrea Butirroni  
Rome

Jesus Mary Joseph

Dear Father Andrea

This is the retreatant concerning whom I spoke to you and whom I recommend to your zeal.

With appreciation, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged

*G. C. del Bufalo*

House, October 6, 1821

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October 9, 1821  
Fr. Andrea Butirroni  
Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

My dearest Father Andrea

I did not understand the verbal message you sent. At any rate, here is my opinion. Let us handle the matter according to the divine dispositions. Have the sick woman make her last testament and dispose of things as she sees fit. It is not necessary for me to be present as long as the precaution is taken that in the absence of the person named, he will have the faculty to subdelegate anyone he chooses for the case. These are *pro forma*<sup>37</sup> words. Believe me, I simply am impeded from going to the hospital. If it should be necessary and we are in time, we could go together tomorrow, and let me know the time. In an extreme case, we could also go today after the noon meal, but, if you can, please try to spare me for today. We should go together in order to make the trip more fruitful. So, have the Leonardi woman name me, for I am content. I believe that I did not make myself clear yesterday. My dearest in Jesus Christ, pray for me and believe me to be

Affectionately yours

*G. C. del Bufalo*

October 9, 1821

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October 10, 1821  
Fr. Luigi Gonnelli  
Pievetorina

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Canon

I was truly concerned about you. Praise be to God for the news that you communicated to me about your health and that of the good Rampini. You will find your possessions with Risca; so, recover them from him. As for Fr. Rafaele Brandimarte in Specchio, where a new cross was set up, he has been named superior in one of the new Houses which will be established. As for other

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<sup>37</sup> According to form.

matters, *ad alias*.<sup>38</sup> With regard to the retreat in S. Anatolia during the octave of all Souls Day (*et non ultra*<sup>39</sup>) you can go ahead and have them scheduled. The change in our situation and the regulation pertinent to the circumstances will follow later, but always in keeping with the rules. I thank all of you for your generous dispositions toward the society. In another ordinary mail-delivery, we will come to an agreement about other things, as soon as I have received a reply from Tarulli. Tell Mariotti that I shall be awaiting the order of 25 *scudi*. I have understood everything that you told me about yourself; send me more precise news concerning your health as well as news about Pellegrini. Let me know what abilities the two brothers in service have; and, once they have offered themselves to the society, see that they are made aware of the rule covering both the spiritual and the temporal. It should be an easy matter for them to have a conference with you, and then we will make a decision.

The letter that you sent me from Magliano does not have a signature, that is, it is anonymous. Tell Fr. Rafaele to trust in God and not be fearful, for all will go very well, and also tell him not to make the devil rejoice by not preaching. I am happy about the shift of retreats for the clergy in October. The requests from the bishop of Nocera, who asked to have a missionary, will be turned over to Canon Betti to whom I shall write. Tell Canon Mariotti that I wrote to Vizzeri in that last ordinary mail-delivery; also, that his return to his home is a temptation, and that he should not think about leaving Pievetorina. He has great things to do for God. More *ad alias*.<sup>40</sup> A House has been set up in Malta, and is now being aggregated etc.

*G. C. del Bufalo*

In regard to Nuccini, write to Cristaldi, for within a short time he will be passing through Fuligno. Have the letter addressed to Risca. I have entrusted the matter to Fr. Girolamo Segretario; but it is better etc. etc.

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October 10, 1821  
Monsignor Nicola Mattei  
Archbishop of Camerino  
Camerino

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I am convinced by the reasons that you suggest to me, acknowledging full well the desire that you nourish for the greater glory of God, along with the principles enunciated by the excellent Father Felici, *cujus memoria in benedictione*.<sup>41</sup> In particular, I am pleased by the selection of the good Scipione to take care of Advent in Sanginesio. He will surely do a great deal of good work. Do you suppose that Fr. Gregorio Lucarelli of Sarnano could come? What do you say about that? It seems to me that this priest would not, perhaps, produce a vacuity, and it would be better for him to perfect himself in the ministry. I will stand by your suggestions. I know your heart and the favorable dispositions you show toward our society. If you did not have such a busy diocese, you would have

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<sup>38</sup> For another time.

<sup>39</sup> And not further.

<sup>40</sup> For another time.

<sup>41</sup> Whose memory will forever be in blessing.

been able to join the bishop of Nocera for the first Missions, in keeping with the dispensation from residence that I have obtained for this purpose in behalf of those bishops who might want to offer their services to bring about peace and quiet.

Pray a lot to God for me and for the society upon whose growth the desired reform is so dependent. I would like to see a revival there of the organization for the clergy which, I hear, has in fact declined. May Jesus and Mary be with us. Most reverend excellency, asking you for your prayers, with esteem and respect, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, October 10, 1821

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October 10, 1821

Fr. Guglielmo Sillani

Nocera

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Father Guglielmo

You have probably heard about the imminent opening of six Mission Houses. If the Diocese of Gubbio or elsewhere should have knowledge of this, see that you encourage one or the other priest to offer himself to the society, and later we will look into this. Whoever is a Canon will have a year *ad deliberandum*.<sup>42</sup> To take care of anyone who does not have a patrimony, because of the renouncement of the residential benefices in joining the society, they can remain without a patrimony for three years in virtue of a Papal rescript, and then the matter will be decided etc. And, what about yourself? I do not know what to say. Cooperate by offering your prayers and your activities etc.. If those priests are not well-informed, we will send them to Giano to be under the direction of Canon Betti, one of the finest men in our society. They should, at least, be able to hear the confessions of men. Little by little, they will grow to love the ministry. Prayers. With esteem and respect, dear Canon (I am told that now you are a Canon), I am

Your humble servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, October 10, 1821

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October 10, 1821

Fr. Francesco M. Pierantoni

S. Felice in Giano

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<sup>42</sup> To weigh carefully.

## Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father Francesco

I would like to ask you whether you would want to come to help out with the new foundations. I will, however, indicate the time in another letter. In the plan laid out by the most reverend Treasurer, you would be at the head of one of the new Houses to be founded. What do you say about that? I intend only to continue praying. Recommend me often to God, and, with particular affection and esteem, consider me as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

If you know of any priest who is fit, urge him to join our society.

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October 10, 1821

Fr. Luigi Cocci

Grutti

## Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father

I notice that you yourself figure that your plans cannot be carried out. I would think that after you have prayed, you would open up your heart to the bishop's secretary, who, I hear, is the one who handles everything in the diocese. You might suggest to him someone else for the position. With regard to patrimony, the Holy Father permits those priests who join the society to remain without a patrimonial title for three years, living, however, in a Mission House. If God has you see things otherwise, we shall adore his divine dispositions. Father, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, October 10, 1821

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October 13, 1821

Fr. Adriano M. Tarulli

Matelica

## Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

It was not my intention to appoint you elsewhere; I only wanted to have your assistance for the Missions in the Province. But, taking into consideration the Lenten preaching in Pievetorina, I see that this cannot be worked out, besides interfering with the month. So, we will do as follows: you shall remain in Pievetorina, and, in another letter of mine you will receive further clarifications concerning the procedure you are to observe as well as what you will have to do in order to supply better for the fulfillment of the plan in its basic principles. In the meantime, I wish to thank you for your excellent dispositions, working together as we must to hold to our goals.

I have written to Canon Gonnelli concerning other matters. Only provisional changes will be made until the next visitation, and, with the help of God, we shall attempt to take care of each item. As for the novice from Fermo, you are to indicate her age, her status, what she possesses or will

possess etc. and then we can take it from there. With regard to the other one from Santanatolia, see that she is situated in the Marca, but do not arrange the trip unless you can see success in the attempt. I rejoice in the good work that is being done there, and may God be praised. Likewise, I am happy in the Lord because of the fruitful results of the recent Mission.

I would like to have, in the next mail-delivery, the hymn in honor of St. Xavier. In regard to the month that you are to conduct, here is my reply: you will use the month of the Blood of Jesus Christ, the one printed in Rome; then, at the opening, have them recite the Chaplet; after that, you go to the pulpit and present your discourse pertinent to what is found in the book, but do not read from the book. Finally, make the practical application along with the ejaculatory prayer found in the book, and conclude all with a fervorino and the blessing with the Crucifix. I hope that you will bring about a great good.

Then, in regard to the Community's retreat, you are to prepare yourself to conduct it during the Novena of St. Xavier. I pray that both the schedule and the selected topics, in as far as possible, will be such that the brothers in service will also be able to participate, in addition to what is particular for the companions who will be present.

Pray a great deal for me. May the grace of Jesus Christ always abound in our hearts. If you should have in view one or the other priest, one who is fit, propose him to me. With distinction, dear Canon, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Rome, October 13, 1821

Look after the beginning of the foundation in Pievetorina, by adhering to the articles now as though in school. In Offida, they have obtained the longed-for title. *Ora, iube, vale.*<sup>43</sup>

Tell me what I should do with the novice's documents.

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October 13, 1821

Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci

Offida

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Giovanni Francesco

I owe you a reply. I am happy to hear that your son is with you to receive the milk of Christian upbringing. May the Lord fill you with his holy spirit and make you a saint.

As for the location, that will depend on verifying 1) the situation; 2) the union of clergy and people, and having prepared the petition to the Treasurer, to send it then to me to carry out the plan. A thousand greetings to the Adorers of the Blood of Jesus Christ. Oh what a grand title! Oh what a beautiful boast for Offida! In order that the organizations do not grow cold, every month there should be a meeting of the ones enrolled. Insist upon this. I have received the six *scudi*. By the beginning of November, the aggregation will follow and you must let me know to whom I am to send the documents. You will be getting a reply concerning the collections in another ordinary

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<sup>43</sup> Pray, entreat, be steadfast.

mail-delivery. Greet Mr. Castellacci for me, and I will be writing to him in another mail-delivery. Pray a great deal for me and especially now that we will be seeing six more Mission Houses erected by order of the Holy Father in the Province of Campagna. In the hearts of Jesus and Mary, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

M. Ap.

Rome, October 13, 1821

P. S. If you are acquainted with some priest interested in our society, please propose him to me so that it can continue to grow.

### 483

October 20, 1821

Cardinal Giulio Della Somaglia

Bishop of Velletri

Just as Pope Benedict XIV instituted formerly the Archconfraternity of Christian Doctrine in order to animate the clergy and the people with a spirit of fervor as well as a zeal for the Christian institution, so also did the Roman Pontiff Pius VII formerly establish the Archconfraternity under the title of the Most Precious Blood in order to recall souls to a study of the Crucified Lord; for though the devil would like to conquer all, the victim of justice came to give life to the people through the efficacy of the Precious Blood of the immaculate Lamb, providing hope for mercy and pardon. But, how can that be accomplished if not through the two great means of reform, namely, Retreats and Missions? So, to achieve that most important objective, the founding members of the aforementioned Archconfraternity, joined together in Mission and Retreat Houses, afford the facilities for the application of these very same means to the greater glory of God and the welfare of souls.

Hence, the life of these evangelical workers is directed to no other purpose than that of sustaining the primary objectives of the ministry, by contacting the various groups and classes of people in a way proportionate to their status, and providing those salutary incitements through which the heart is led to compunction and souls return penitently into the arms of the Divine Savior. That is why they cultivate the practice of the nightly Oratory for men, the organizations for young people in observing feastsdays, the visits to the hospitals and prisons, and many other devout pious practices whereby they fulfill not only the principle aim of the Society for Missions and Retreats, but also their own particular aspirations.

Within the House itself, assiduous study is made of the basic ecclesiastical subjects, and, in the communication of ideas, one cannot sufficiently describe what advantages accrue to the Society which nowadays, in a special way, is being promoted. Everything is in conformity with the Sacred Canons, the practices of the saints, and is, indeed, the support of the episcopal ministry during these difficult times in which we are living.

Therefore, not only do they seek to train (by setting up pious organizations) the people where the Mission House is located, but by traveling about to neighboring towns, they try to stabilize and make perfect in them the fruits of a holy Mission. This is the great good that these evangelical ministers supply in various ways. As cannot be denied, if these are the bases that will bring about the desired reform, is there anyone who would not, through prayer and good works and with the most solicitous care, not wish to cooperate in the designs of Divine Providence, manifested by the Roman

Pontiff who ardently seeks the cleansing of souls through the application of the means of redemption?

This is only a brief outline of our Society concerning which we have spoken. You can get an even clearer concept of its nature by reading our regulations that have been printed, which ...

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October 30, 1821

Fr. Adriano M. Tarulli

Matelica

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Canon

Here I am sending a reply to your letter. I am very happy to go along with your desires concerning the Missions, so it is all dependent on your choice, whether to come or to remain there. If you come, I will assign the Lenten preaching to others, since it will be impossible for you to be able to be back in time and since the new foundations will be engaged in great projects. You need not mention all of this in your house. You can speak of it in general, namely, that you will be going out on the Missions. Then, in time, you will be back making use of the opportunities, which are usually not lacking, for the necessary economy in making trips. However, you will be spending the month of June in Rome because of the selection which the Congregation has made in your behalf.

I point out that by July you should be able to return to visit your people. Because of that, you will retain your quarters in Pievetorina. Your absence, because of the foundations and of the month, will not alter the basic requirement of residence in Pievetorina nor of making trips to your own home. After the octave of all Soul's Day, you will return directly to Pievetorina and be ready for any call. If you were to learn of something, let me know. As a matter of principle, I seek only the contentment of my most beloved companions, so what I am saying, you can be certain, is what lies in the sincerity of my heart. As for the Retreat in Santanatoglia, you will begin it on the octave of all Souls, and quickly thereafter return to the Mission House. For my own use, send me your reply; your last response written on the 26th to my letter of the 13th was entirely too long delayed, and presently we cannot delay our correspondence. The House will open on November 21, as far as I can tell, but more *ad alias*.<sup>44</sup>

Since the novice from S. Anatolia possesses so very little, what can be done to get her placed? A good part of what she does have will be consumed in making the trip. There are nuns of De Sales in Ossagna. You might initiate a correspondence with Mother Cristianopoli, or, write to Father Bernardino. You might also contact the bishop of Narni, a place where it could be easier to arrange a placement.

I would like to have your reply concerning the foundation, after a congressus is had, and then we shall see what is expedient. In the meantime, prayers. *In lumine tuo videbimus lumen*.<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> For another time.

<sup>45</sup> In your light we see light.

Your affection for Xavier required a greater care in the little hymn. (We chuckle to the glory of God). Finally, I would like you to tell me with the greatest sincerity if you would direct a company of men for our Missions, or even if you would decidedly wish to come along with me. You know what affection I nourish for you, but, I would like to go along with your wishes. Speak to me with frankness and send your reply quickly, quickly.

I shall be writing directly to Canon Piersanti. Since he is a missionary *in subsidium*<sup>46</sup> we will have him help out in Pievetorina. Let us become saints, *quoniam dies nostri breves sunt*<sup>47</sup> In the event that you decide to direct a Mission, I will assign you with the bishop of Nocera or with one of our more experienced companions. Be happy in the Lord. Pray a lot for me and, dear Canon, *in corde Jesu Christi crucifixi qui nos redemit sanguine*,<sup>48</sup> believe me to be

Your most humble devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

Miss. Ap.

Since the novice from Ascoli is of particular nobility, to avoid everything that she is involved with going up in smoke, it will be necessary, at least, to have the lease, the expenses, the trip. Who knows, perhaps at least a large part of the dowry can be spared. What am I to do with her documents? I shall hold on to them until I get your advice.

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November 3, 1821

Fr. Francisco Pierantonj

Spoletto per Giano

Hail to the Blood of J.C.

Fr. Francisco

What will you say of my tardiness in answering your letters? You can be certain that the occupations of the ministry have delayed for me the pleasure of answering you. We shall have time to speak in person about all the things that you wrote to me. In the meantime, I assure you of my gratitude for the kind acts that you have performed for the Society.

Tell Canon Betti that the last Masses sent to him are to be said at a Privileged altar. Likewise, that Fr. Antonio Caccia will not be long in coming to S. Felice, bringing along a Companion for whom he will vouch, and both of them should be hospitably received. I shall write to the

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<sup>46</sup> For support.

<sup>47</sup> Because our days are short.

<sup>48</sup> In the heart of Jesus Christ Crucified who redeemed us in his blood.

aforementioned Canon next Wednesday, as well as to Fr. Torribio and Fr. Camillo. I do not see how it is possible for you to get back your reimbursement for this quarter. So, I ask you to add this also to your merits, namely, of not insisting on it at the present time; rather, in the next quarter, we shall see what can be done.

On Wednesday, you shall find out the day of your departure. It would be a good idea to take along your belongings, since at the present time God is calling you to the apostolate in the province of Campagna. From there, you will proceed to the Kingdom of Naples. Have no doubts, however, for I shall make you an associate worker with the wonderful Fr. Vitale Corbucci, from Romagna, or to another of our original members. More and more will you become a saint and you shall do great work. I could have made use of the new men for the foundations; but you know that it is a good policy to have the oldtimers communicate the spirit of the Society to the others. The decorum of the Institute likewise calls for this. Nor does this deprive you of the possibility, should the opportunity arise, of returning to S. Felice.

God knows the future. God will manifest his Will. In the meantime, it is fitting that the oldtimers should volunteer and the other Houses should have the new men with only one of the oldtimers there.

You are named by the Congregation as the Superior and Economist of the Mission House at Sermoneta. In this new House, in addition to the beauty of the house and the church, there is an image of the Crucified which tears my heart out.<sup>49</sup> The management of this new foundation should not give you trouble. Sustenance will not be lacking. It is located just a short distance from the town and on the top of a mountain which lies next to Sermoneta, from which you will have a beautiful view. It will seem that you are still in S. Felice. Near Sermoneta is Velletri, where another Mission House will be set up soon. In God, I hope that you will be happy. Start from this moment to pray for the people there as well as those in the surrounding area who will be entrusted to your care. Come prepared to do great things for God.

Kissing your hands, I am with esteem and attachment in J.C. Crucified

Fr. Francesco, your

Humble, devoted, obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, November 3, 1821

P. S. I urge you to be of happy spirit. I add that if it should please you not to come, no one will do violence to your spirit, for this is an unshakeable principle with us, and you shall remain at S. Felice. However, from your letters, I notice the affection you have for the Society and the goodness you show in giving of yourself for its advancement. Inform Canon Betti of all these plans. On Wednesday, you will get all the details concerning the trip. Right now I would like to inform you that at Merlini's house, you will find a bundle that is to be brought to Fr. Giovanni. Tell Fr. Camillo that I have received his letter.

November 3, 1821

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<sup>49</sup> Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Crucifix (Sermoneta).

Mrs. Caterina Ranghiasi  
Sanseverino

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most illustrious lady

I do not remember ever being late in sending a reply, at least for urgent matters. Whatever was the misunderstanding, here I am now sending you an answer to your letter. I give thanks to God for the good sentiments that he has rooted deeply in your heart. Never cease to cultivate them and you will see marvelous effects. The one most important business that we have to take care of here is that of our eternal salvation. So, it is for that reason that *optimam partem elegisti*<sup>50</sup> in your decision to enter the religious state. I fully approve your decision, and I am pleased to see the care with which you are nourishing it. The means that you have at hand are a continuous study of the exercises of Rodriguez on perfection treating holy humility and the frequent use of prayer, in addition to reading ascetical books at due times during the day, while balancing the burden in keeping with your own strength. Throughout the day, be very much aware of the presence of God; become familiar with the devotion to the Most Precious Blood, the Blood that cleanses us through the Sacraments and is offered daily in the unbloody Sacrifice and is the well-spring of every good work of ours. With these solid principles established, we can then take up the matter of temporalities. Make out an outline for me.

As for the seven Dolors, at present I do not know what can be arranged to have the qualifications that the Sassolini woman obtained. Notwithstanding that, do not be discouraged. 1) I imagine that you are from the primary nobility of Gubbio; 2) that you can obtain a certain level. With these two conditions assured, let me know what you have at your disposal. You will become a religious; trust in God and you will become a saint. Pray for me and, entrusting your soul in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, November 3, 1821

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November 3, 1821  
Fr. Giacomo Giorgi  
Bassiano

Jesus Mary Joseph

Most illustrious Father

Here is the call of God. Are you willing to make your decision in favor of the Society? In that case, you could select one of the Houses in the new foundations in the Province. The bishop is content. Prayer and courage. Do you recall our previous discussions? Asking you for your prayers, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

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<sup>50</sup> You have chosen the best part.

Rome, November 3, 1821

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November 7, 1821  
Fr. Andrea Butirroni  
Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

My dearest Father Andrea

With regard to the sisters of charity in Vincis, you might write a note to them that another grant of indulgences is not needed: 1) difficulties that usually arise concerning this matter can be avoided, based on the principle that such concessions are not to be multiplied; 2) ordinarily it is only a matter of the repetition of the same ones which, substantially, are included already in those granted to the Archconfraternity. During our Missions, we establish the pious organization under the title of the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ. From among the women, a few may be selected who will form the organization of the sisters of charity *et satis provisum*.<sup>51</sup> I shall not give you a response concerning the Rampini, brothers in service, since I notice that you have a certain reluctance concerning them, and my dearest Fr. Andrea merits every consideration. However, I cannot leave Agostino with you, and here are the reasons. In the new foundations, you know what a pile of matters is presented to one's attention; furthermore, the individual priests there are, in part, themselves new men; the selection of the brothers in service, in general, *est opus maximum*,<sup>52</sup> and they are, ordinarily, the trumpets of the Society. If all of them were new people, we would be producing a Babylon; you notice, too, that even the Houses outside are supportive.

Believe me, it is only necessity that stimulates me to make these pleas, to which I hope that you will be condescending. Then, for the *Buon Consiglio*, keep an eye open for anyone that you think is good, and, have him trained by Agostino. You could also make use of Monsignor Marchetti's man, since we are dealing here with new men, and I am not in a position to contact him. The only interest I have is to allocate the older members and place them with the new men. Agostino has been serving now for one year.

Within a short time I shall be sending you the summary of the regulations according to which the new man will be on probation for three months, and hence must come sufficiently provided with clothing. Agostino, in time, will be assigned to the House in Velletri, since it is not as yet opened. The first one will be the one in Terracina. When I pass through that city, I will check to see how things are going. Pray a lot for me, and remember our pacts. I hope to have found another contributor of five *scudi*. Yesterday, I had a successful talk with Storace so that he might, in the meantime, obtain from the Treasurer, help to meet the rent. When you see him, encourage him in his efforts. I keep being insistent with Falzacappa. If you should come across a worthy priest, one with spirit, *pietas cum sufficientia*,<sup>53</sup> send your suggestion to me. If I have forgotten something, please remind me, and pray for me who am and will always be,

Affectionately yours  
G. C. del Bufalo

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<sup>51</sup> And provided enough.

<sup>52</sup> It is a very great work.

<sup>53</sup> Piety with sufficiency.

Mis. Ap.

November 7, 1821

I noticed also that Storace took care to have a meeting with Pincelletti. We shall see. Little by little, everything is being worked out. I add that if God inspires you not to release Agostino to me, rather than getting upset about it, write to me and do not worry about it. That's that.

Whenever you can, seek out a hospice when traveling etc. In my opinion, four will be sufficient, since not all will be together and the stay will be a short one. Moscatelli can leave for Albano, where he has been assigned. The bishop of Nocera will come etc. See that the food is arranged for etc. and that the Bishop etc. Otherwise, we shall speak of Terracina *in perpetuas aeternitas*,<sup>54</sup> and with these changes, the affairs will lie at rest.

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November 7, 1821

Monsignor Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

If we wish to summarize briefly the discourses, already based on the topics that we have agreed upon; we could meet tomorrow night, if it is convenient for you. I will then give you the six *scudi* from Offida. Pray for me and consider me as

Your devoted, obliged and affectionate friend

*G. C. del Bufalo*

House, November 7, 1821

P. S. Tomorrow night, I shall return the briefs etc.

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Beginning of November, 1821

Fr. Luigi Locatelli

Terracina

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

My dearest in the Lord

I have understood everything that you mentioned in your letter and I shall do all that I can. But, realize well that I shall be in Rome only a short time, so it will be necessary for you to be insistent by means of letters. Already before the *Buon Governo* are the petitions from Sonnino and Sermoneta. The locale of Sermoneta should be in order by the 15th of November. The letter that those public representatives have addressed to me could not have been more touching. I am led to tears of consolation in observing the definite concern that the people show; they think of nothing, speak of nothing and exert themselves for nothing other than the Mission House. Although I thought that Terracina would be first in presenting their petition to the *Buon Governo*, I have seen nothing as yet.

Today, I shall write to the chief magistrate. At any rate, the Mission will begin there after the

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<sup>54</sup> [This is how it appears in the original.] In perpetual eternity.

noon meal on the 20th of the current month, the vigil of the Presentation. For the duration of the Mission, we shall reside in the episcopal quarters, as a convenience for the ministry, in the rooms of the bishop with whom I have made the arrangements. After that we shall move to our own locale. Be cooperative by seeing that three beds are provided, as well as to rent one for our brother in service (who will do the cooking for us etc.) and take care to see that everything necessary will be on hand. Examine everything yourself for the decorum of the clergy and the people of Terracina.

I myself will come for this Mission since the memory of Albertini is so very dear to me. Likewise, since it will be a very difficult Mission, because of the economics and the amount of work, it would not be good to have the bishop of Nocera come. The place that we will inhabit will have to be the ever beloved retreat of the Venerable Father Paolo. This is already our possession and I do not wish to make any changes. Neither should you give thought to yielding the locale, for in that event the ever provident God knows how the problem would be drawn out endlessly. Get the community to set things in motion and have the retreat restored. Be trusting; this is the will of God. In person, we shall discuss the other matters.

Inform Mestrilli and anyone else about this, and realize that once a procedure has been set, one does not veer from it. All of this is in keeping (a most important consideration) with the mind of Albertini. This must be done. If they do not prepare it, after the Mission we shall go there, and, after seeing to the opening of the other Houses, we will look into the one for Terracina; but this is something that would be a disappointment for me. For in that place everything exudes the devotion to the most Precious Blood. Those gates are tinted with the Blood, so to speak, and consequently there is nothing to be feared.

If it should be necessary, the Delegate may have to set up a soldiers' station there, but I think that not even that will come about. Oh what great work we will accomplish, my beloved in Jesus Christ. Oh souls, come and cleanse yourselves in the Blood of the Lamb! I myself shall always hold on to the government of the House in Terracina in memory of Albertini. There will, of course, be those who will assist me when I am absent, something that presently is inescapable. But, I will maintain my quarters in Terracina. Are you content? You yourself, along with other good men, should go to clean up that holy place and prepare it well. It is the house of God; make ...<sup>55</sup>

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November 9, 1821  
Fr. Luigi Gonnelli  
Pievetorina

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Canon

With this letter I am advising you that Fr. Vitale Corbucci, our missionary, is one of the individuals assigned for that House in Pievetorina. He will be the Lenten preacher for the upcoming Lent. I can sum up the description of his qualifications in just a four words: *est vir sanctus, doctus, peritissimus in ministerio, et omni exceptione maior*.<sup>56</sup> His eyesight is weakened, so do not appoint him for the services that take place at night, and also, spare him from places of high humidity. I recommend him to you as St. Paul recommended Onesimus. Treat him as you would treat me. He is

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<sup>55</sup> The second page of this letter is missing.

<sup>56</sup> He is a holy man, learned, very skilled in ministry, and greater by every exception.

deserving of everything. Wholeheartedly, I remain  
 Affectionately yours  
*G. C. del Bufalo*  
 Mis. Apostolico  
 Rome, November 9, 1821

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November 10, 1821  
 Gonfalonier of Anagni

Jesus Mary Joseph

Sir Chief Magistrate

By commission of the most reverend Treasurer, I ask you to please submit your request to the *Buon Governo*. Lawyer Angeli has already contacted the Canon, and he will be approved. God's work demands a greater degree of solicitude than temporal matters, even though they, too, may relate to the Lord's work. Therefore, please act with haste, and whenever there is opposition to the Foundation, something that one should scarcely consider, advise them properly. In that way it will be made available for the other people who do request it. I pray to God that he will pour out upon you his holy inspiration. With the fullest esteem, I am honored to sign myself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

Rome, November 10, 1821

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November 10, 1821  
 Mr. Camillo Possenti  
 Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Camillo

Thank you for your efforts. The Lord does not fail to assist the Society, *miro modo*.<sup>57</sup> Prayers. Fr. Gentilucci would not be able to stay except as a renter in a house, from which, then, he could frequent the public schools. But, will he be able to handle the rent? Will the situation of not being able to get along on the income from the House convince him, when he serves only as a confessor? I would have him become a Jesuit, or have him join some other institute. God knows how much I would like to do something good for him. Send me an answer. Give my best regards to Monsignor and tell him that he is also to write to his brother so that, when I am away from Rome, he could keep in touch with me by letter, and together keep urging etc. You look after whatever has to be done. With esteem and affection, Camillo, I am wholeheartedly

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

Mis. Ap.

What have you managed with regard to the fellow suffering from ringworm, the lady aspiring

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<sup>57</sup> In a wonderful manner.

to become a nun and the association for the women?

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November 11, 1821  
Monsignor Bellisario Cristaldi  
Rome

Jesus Mary Joseph

Dear Monsignor

I am sending you the memorandum in behalf of the hospice,<sup>58</sup> which I recommend to you *fusus precibus*.<sup>59</sup> I continue to direct the work as best as I can, considering also the delay in payments to the house. I am always fearful that they are going to tell me to close it, and I hope that such a thing will never happen. The reason why I have always continued to show the most decisive concern for this institution is that it is of very great interest to me because it is a question of a cause for the poor. The Odescalchi house has become deteriorated, etc.

I thank you for the rescript in favor of the House in Albano. Mr. Ratti himself wished to present it to His Eminence, in addition to what I myself would have liked to say to him. He is presently awaiting his summons in accordance with the information already submitted, and he will be ready to appear at any time at all.

With regard to the memorandum dealing with the case of the confessor, I have learned nothing more. In person, we shall discuss it further. So, I will send you an answer with respect to the confessor's petition in the mail-delivery on Wednesday.

Finally, I would like you to do me the kindness of speaking to the Marquis del Bufalo concerning the matter that you know about, and try to get him to provide the monthly allotment as he used to do formerly. The Datary is already in arrears in its monthly allotments, even at present. I leave all to your charity, and I simply cannot tell you how much I owe to you. *Dominus autem retribuet pro me*.<sup>60</sup>

Saturday evening, I shall depart, since I must be in Albano on Sunday. On Monday, I shall move on to Velletri where I will stay over night for a Congressus which I must direct concerning the new foundation. On Tuesday, I shall proceed to Terracina, for on that day we will have the beginning of the holy Mission.

If you are firmly convinced that I should present myself before the Holy Father, all you have to do is tell me how I am to conduct myself. I am at your beck and call. Most reverend excellency, I kiss your hands, and with esteem and respect, I renew myself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

*G. C. del Bufalo*

November 11

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November 11, 1821  
Monsignor Bellisario Cristaldi

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<sup>58</sup> Cfr. the following two instalments.

<sup>59</sup> With prayers poured out.

<sup>60</sup> The Lord, however, lifted me up.

Rome

Memorandum to his excellency the most reverend Monsignor Treasurer,  
in behalf of the Hospice of S. Galla, for the poor.

Canon Gaspare del Bufalo reports that from the time that the Datary suspended the charitable allotments given at Christmas, Easter and in August, the Hospice for the poor has been deprived each time of twelve *scudi*. This has caused difficulty in the economy of this poor, pious institution that takes in the poor and even those infected with sicknesses. It is true that the Odescalchi household provides at least what is substantially needed for this pious institution, but because of the laic law that exists and the conditions laid down for the Hospice, it could be closed.

With that in mind and for that reason, the princely house has always hurried at every period to assist the organization, so that so many poor people would not remain derelict out on the streets. Those allotments from the Datary arise from a money fund, whereas previously they were given by the almoner's office. Monsignor Treasurer, who is completely charitable, can scarcely not acknowledge the equity of what is being requested. One cannot sufficiently describe the miseries that are confronted by this pious place in meeting the debts contracted during the recent public upheavals, brought on by the multitude of poor people who sought recourse here. Mr. Vizzeri, the Datary's treasurer, has also been brought up to date with what is being proposed here.

During wintertime, this Hospice used to get fuel from the Solara in order to warm a bit the unfortunate inmates, who, ordinarily found deprived of even the necessary clothing, present a pitiful picture to anyone who might witness their misery.

From the moment when your most reverend excellency was named the general Treasurer, only twice did it receive in compensation some salt, which the Hospice then sold for the above-mentioned reason, but I do not recall now the quantity provided. Taking both items of concern into consideration, if one were to establish a proportionate annual allotment, the voices of the poor, which penetrate in a special way to the very merciful heart of God, could do nothing other than to implore upon your most reverend excellency those blessings which are appropriate to your endless charity, which is, etc., etc.

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November 11, 1821

Monsignor Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Jesus Mary Joseph

Memorandum in behalf of the Hospice of S. Galla

The Hospice of S. Galla used to receive from the Datary twelve *scudi* three times a year. Now, since last year, that charitable allotment has not been granted. The petition has already been submitted to Fr. Sala, and Mr. Vizzeri is also informed of the urgent needs of this pious place.

Cardinal Mattei, as a prelate, has also been an administrator of the aforementioned Hospice and recognizes well those very important institutions looking after the good of souls.

We beseech you, most reverend Auditor, to provide your powerful mediation for this objective, etc.

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November 13, 1821

Monsignor Francesco Bonomo  
Bishop of Gaeta  
Gaeta

Most illustrious and reverend lord

Please pardon the inconvenience of this letter of mine. The purpose of it is to inform you of the following matter. The Holy Father is presently providing throughout the Province of Campagna and Marittima the establishment of six Mission and Retreat Houses under the title of the most Precious Blood and the patronage St. Francis Xavier. I am not presenting here a detailed description of all of the aims of the apostolate under the care of this pious institution. If you would like to have more precise details, I will be able to supply them at another time.

In the meantime, what is of interest is to know that with this organization His Holiness wishes to have holy Missions conducted throughout the Province in order to recall the faithful to the love of Jesus Crucified. To achieve that aim, the devotion to the most Precious Blood will be propagated so that they will acknowledge the price by which we are redeemed. Vallecorsa is a part of the area under the care of your most illustrious and reverend lordship *in spiritualibus*.<sup>61</sup> So, I request that you grant me, as Director of the Missions that I have referred to, all the faculties that lie within your power and that are needed for the fulfillment of our ministry, giving me the permission to carry on a letter-correspondence with your Vicar in Vallecorsa with regard to our desired purpose. I likewise request that you be pleased to supply me with the permission to call in outside confessors as helpers, since you know very well that the faithful like to go to outside confessors.

In short, since one of our Mission Houses will be erected in Sonnino, it is required that you authorize our Society to dedicate itself for the future handling of the souls committed to your care. Furthermore, to avoid the occurrence of anguish of conscience, your reply should be worded in the most detailed terms. Recommend me warmly to the Lord, and keep me present in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Most illustrious and reverend lord, while kissing your hands and with particular esteem and respect, I remain

Your most humble, devoted and obliged servant

*Gaspare Can. del Bufalo*

Missionario Apostolico

Rome, November 13, 1821

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November 13, 1821  
Fr. Giacomo Giorgi  
Bassiano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father Giorgi

I wrote you a letter previously, but not receiving a reply, I thought that I should write another in which I am inviting you to become a part of our Society, if you are pleased to do so. If you can, come to Terracina and where we will speak in person. Perhaps you are acquainted with some family there, or I can find one where you will be able to stay; you will also be able to help with confessions there. Everything will be worked out. If it is the reaction of your relatives that is detaining you, you

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<sup>61</sup> In spiritual matters.

know very well that *caro et sanguis non revelavit tibi*,<sup>62</sup> so, in case you decide in favor of us, you could select the House in Sermoneta. Offer prayers for me. Encourage other priests for this apostolate, and in particular a certain Gnessi; tell him to write to me. With esteem, I am

Your humble servant  
*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*  
 Mis. Ap.

Rome, November 13, 1822

## 499

November 17, 1821  
 Fr. Francesco M. Pierantoni  
 Felice in Giano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Fr. Francesco

Upon receiving this letter of mine, set out on your trip and take along as your companion Luigi Rampiri from Pievetorina, whom I shall dispatch. Preparations for both of you are made at the *Buon Consiglio*. I urge you to be careful. In a big hurry, but with esteem and affection, I am

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

Rome, November 17, 1821

Tell Rampini that if the brother in service from Porto Recanati, proposed by our Fr. Biagio, has arrived, he should join up with him and bring him along with you. In Rome, you will be quickly reimbursed for the expenses. Try to work things out with the greatest possible economy.

## 500

November 17, 1821  
 Marquis del Bufalo  
 Rome  
 Most venerable Marquis

Before departing, I am informing you with this letter that the annual subsidies for the Hospice from the Datary are to be computed for the past two years at 12 *scudi* for each period. Those periods were three in number each year, so the sum involved is 36 *scudi*. Formerly the amounts were provided from the funds of the Almoner, but then when they were stopped, his eminence Mattei entrusted it to the Datary. The total sum, therefore, for the two years is 72 *scudi*. The most reverend Treasurer will indicate to you what he judges to be proportionate to the loss of fuel which was once provided by the Solara and which has not been supplied for quite some time. I request that your excellency help in this objective, since our organization is in dire need. You can entrust the money to Vincenzo Severini in the usual way. With particular esteem and respect, dear Marquis, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant  
*Gaspare C. del Bufalo*

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<sup>62</sup> Flesh and blood have not revealed this to you.

Mis. Ap.