

St. Gaspar's Letters

801 - 850

Letter	Date	Page
801. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi,	<i>16 November 1823</i>	654
802. Fr. Pietro Torsani,	<i>24 November 1823</i>	654
803. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi,	<i>26 November 1823</i>	655
804. Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci,	<i>26 November 1823</i>	656
805. Msgr. Francesco Bonomo,	<i>28 November 1823</i>	657
806. Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli,	<i>29 November 1823</i>	658
807. Miss Luigia Del Bufalo,	<i>29 November 1823</i>	659
808. Msgr. Gaetano Bonanni,	<i>30 November 1823</i>	629
809. Fr. Pietro Torsani,	<i>8 December 1823</i>	660
810. Cardinal Luigi Ercolani,	<i>8 December 1823</i>	660
811. Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli,	<i>10 December 1823</i>	661
812. Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli,	<i>12 December 1823</i>	661
813. Fr. Pietro Butti,	<i>13 December 1823</i>	662
814. Msgr. Francesco Bonomo,	<i>16 December 1823</i>	662
815. Sr Maria Saveria,	<i>17 December 1823</i>	663
816. Fr. Pietro Butti,	<i>24 December 1823</i>	663
817. Fr. Pietro Butti,	<i>26 December 1823</i>	664
818. Cardinal Carlo Odescalchi,	<i>27 December 1823</i>	664
819. Msgr. Francesco Bonomo,	<i>28 December 1823</i>	665
820. Vicar Forane in Moldi Gaeta,	<i>28 December 1823</i>	665
821. Fr. Vincenzo Giovannelli,	<i>29 December 1823</i>	666
822. Cardinal Carlo Odescalchi, Ferrara,	<i>1 January 1824</i>	666
823. Mr. Giovanni Di Mattia, Vallecorsa,	<i>3 January 1824</i>	667
824. Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri,	<i>5 January 1824</i>	667
825. Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri,	<i>11 January 1824</i>	668
826. Mother Maria Saveria di S. Agostino, Roma,	<i>11 January 1824</i>	668
827. Mr. Sebastiano Cella Quarenghi,	<i>14 January 1824</i>	668
828. Mr. Sebastiano Cella Quarenghi,	<i>14 January 1824</i>	659
829. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>14 January 1824</i>	659
830. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>30 January 1824</i>	670
831. Msgr. Gaetano Bonanni, Norcia,	<i>1 February 1824</i>	671
832. Mother Maria Saveria di S. Agostino, Roma,	<i>2 February 1824</i>	671
833. Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri,	<i>2 February 1824</i>	671
834. Fr. Vincenzo Maria Fontana, Itri,	<i>February 1824</i>	670
835. Fr. Filippo Bonderl, Itri,	<i>4 February 1824</i>	673
836. Fr. Filippo Bonderl, Itri,	<i>6 February 1824</i>	674
837. Fr. Erasmo Pompa, Gaeta,	<i>6 February 1824</i>	674
838. Mr. Camillo Possenti, Fabriano,	<i>17 February 1824</i>	675
839. Mr. Camillo Possenti, Fabriano,	<i>17 February 1824</i>	675

840. Fr. Vincenzo Ceccacci, Guarcino,	<i>18 February 1824</i>	676
841. Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli. Roma,	<i>18 February 1824</i>	676
842. Fr. Filippo Bonderl, Campodimele,	<i>middle of February 1824</i>	677
843. Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci, Offida,	<i>22 February 1824</i>	678
844. Fr. Vincenzo Ceccacci, Guarcino,	<i>25 February 1824</i>	679
845. Fr. Bartolomeo Mancini, Itri,	<i>25 February 1824</i>	679
846. Fr. Vincenzo Ceccacci, Guarcino,	<i>29 February 1824</i>	679
847. Fr. Filippo Bonderl, Anagni,	<i>February 1824</i>	680
848. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>4 March 1824</i>	680
849. Mother Maria Saveria. di S. Agostino, Roma,	<i>7 March 1824</i>	681
850. Fr. Filippo Bonderl, Morolo,	<i>7 March 1824</i>	681

November 16, 1823
 Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi
 Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I have missed your letters, which I would like to see even more often since they give me such great comfort. Tomorrow, I shall be leaving Anagni, where I have had to do many things for the glory of God. I shall go to Sermonsta for a short time and from there I shall return to Frosinone for the retreat called for by our rule, during the Novena in honor of St. Xavier. There, I hope to receive your most longed-for letters.

With this letter, I am asking you for three favors. The first is for you to use your good offices with our Holy Father in obtaining pardon for the few brigands that are still at large, for you can be certain (and praise be to God) that since the establishment of our Mission Houses, there has been a notable change in the Province. There has been no new addition at all to brigandry. However, there remain those few still extant who, I can assure you from their conduct up to now, are deserving of pardon from the Holy Father, and you can be certain that such a move would redound to the highest glory of God. This is the first favor for which God is desirous of having you serve as mediator.

The second favor is that, once the Government has drawn up its budgets, they should see to the endowment for the Houses in the Province. (In my mind, I see you disturbed presently, but I pray to God that he bring me consolation in this matter). I know that you will keep this in mind, and, please excuse my importunity; but, whatever I say can be attributed to my deep love for our Institute with which, so to speak, I identify myself.

The third favor is that you ask his Eminence the Cardinal Secretary of State to permit us to take up residence in our convents, or, speak to the Holy Father. Very quickly the course of retreats would be initiated. I suppose you are saying to yourself that Canon del Bufalo is a real nuisance and I know him very well. Nevertheless, I am comforted in knowing how benign you are in spirit.

Finally, inform the Holy Father well about our Society. If necessary, send him a detailed resume, presented to him by you, which I will most willingly prepare at any request from you. Without workers, the vineyard will not be cultivated. What a delight it is to hear, from every nook and cranny, the invocation or the name of God and throughout the Province to hear resounding gloriously the sacred praises sung to the Almighty. Likewise, requests Missions, are not few in number. In the meanwhile, most reverend excellency, be assured that I pray and have others pray always for you, whom I love so deeply in Jesus Christ. Kissing your hands, and with esteem and respect, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Anagni, November 16, 1823

November 24, 1823
 Fr. Pietro Torsani

Pievettorina

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Father Pietro¹

Instead of the candlesticks, concerning which I wrote to you, I will be sending a multi-colored vestment with its accessories, since I feel that this will be to the greater glory of God. I shall take care of the errands that you mentioned to me. With regard to what is up to me, I am sending the offering for Masses in the sum of 4.50 *scudi*, intended for Cammerino and for you. I hope that the Mission in Valsantangelo will turn out to be most fruitful. I pray wholeheartedly to the Lord. What you are supposed to receive from Fr. Biagio, I shall try to get him to send quickly. I, too, desire to have your full cooperation, and with all my heart.

But, in the meantime, the beautiful, the ever lovable will of God which is for us that flowered bed spoken of in the Canticle. May the Lord lead us there. Soon Father Giobbi will be going to Albano. It is necessary to balance out our efforts. If you people there would need a new man, I will send him, but not as economist, the office which God would want you to fill for a bit longer. *Ora pro me miserissimo ut dilectio Dei alte figatur in corde meo. Sum tuus ex corde in Corde Jesu Christi Crucifixi qui suo nos redemit Sanguine.*²

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

803

Novembar 26, 1823

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor³

I am sending a reply to your most appreciated letters forward to me from Frosinone. In the meantime, I am in retreat in preparation for the feast of the great apostle of the Indies, St. Francis Xavier. I give you my thanks for everything, and with all my heart. On the feastday of our Saint, I have decided to offer my Mass for you. Join your intentions with mine. After that I shall leave for Terracina where, having put in order the business of our Society, I shall go out immediately on the missions.

in regard to the papers that I am supposed to submit, let me know whether I should limit myself to our Society or whether I should refer specifically to other lines of concern. That is something which I feel God wishes, in accordance with the discussions with our saintly Albertini. But, pray to God that I will be able to explain our position clearly.

I am swamped with requests for missions, and the bishop of Gaeta, in particular, does not

¹ This letter does not have a date. From the context, we conclude that it was written from Albano; the postal mark indicates that it is November 24. The year is certainly 1823. Cfr. the letter written to the same person on November 16, 1823.

² Pray for me, a most miserable person, that the love of God may be deeply impressed upon my heart. I am yours from the heart in the of Jesus Christ crucified, who redeemed us by his blood.

³ On the copy made by Fr. Amilcare Rey, we find the following annotation written by Fr. Joseph Schaeper: "authentic copy. The original was granted to the Cardinal Archbishop of Chicago. Rome, July 22, 1925".

wish to be overlooked. You know very well that Vallecorsa is under the jurisdiction of Gaeta. At the present time, he is eager to make my acquaintance and would like to have his wishes acknowledged. I could make use of the opportunity when he is concluding his tour of the diocese. However, I would like to have your advice. Write a couple of lines for my own peace of mind, and, while kissing your hands, consider me to be

Devotedly your
Gaspere C. del Bufalo
 Mis. Ap.

Allbano, November 26, 1823

P. S. We will be trying to get the few brigands who are still extant to come to a retreat in Terracina, and are hopeful of restoring peace to the Province.

804

November 26, 1823

Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci
 Offida

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Giovanni Francesco

I begin this letter by asking you to extend my sincerest and most cordial gratitude to Micheli for all that he has written to me. Tell him that *Dominus retribuet in benedictionibus dulcedinis*.⁴ In particular, oh how much I yearn to have the Letters of Xavier. Finally, assure him that I will, to the best of my ability, govern myself according to what he advises.

Tell Fr. Giovannelli that with regard to his Congregation I shall not cease recommending it as the opportunities arise. Since he loves very much the 20 Fridays in honor of Xavier, tell him that Quartaroli is in the process of having them printed. In this matter, ask Mr. Quartaroli if I have fulfilled my part and also what the cost will be. However, I will be able to take only the limited number which I ordered, since the ministry is requiring immense expenditures. Tell him that, later, I hope to find others who will purchase them, so, let me know whether he will have them for sale. Inform Fr. Giovannelli that the indulgences for Campli will get there, I hope, on time and that Teramo has already had them since last year. Furthermore, tell him that when requests come for missions in the Kingdom, they should be addressed to the Holy Father. In that way, there will be no worry about the time and these will be cooperating in a great work. When more and more people are working together, the expenses can be more discreetly shared. Oh the good work that can be done, and, on that occasion, I would return to visit the Holy Relic in that very dear city of Offida, and visit once again your most lovable person. Tell Fr. Giovannelli that he, too, should stimulate interest in the Kingdom, etc.

I thank God for the acquaintance you have made with the priest devoted to the Sorrowful Mother. This, too, is a most tender devotion, and, during the Missions, I bring along an image of the Sorrowful Mother, in addition to the other one etc. If you need some booklets of the devotion to the Divine Blood, send me word and I will see that you get them. If that priest would like to have the faculty of enrolling people, send me his name, family name, home town and diocese. Ah yes, let us do extensive, really extensive good work! Oh if only everyone loved God ... I am on retreat at this

⁴ The Lord will repay you with sweet blessings.

point and I am reviewing the status of my own soul. But what do you know ... I do not have as yet that total peace of soul that I would like to have; I do whatever I can. That is how God wills it, and his will is a most beautiful carriage in which to ride on to heaven. Prayers, prayers for me, needful of so very many things.

With regard to the cloth, since it will come at various prices, do me the favor of indicating that in some way. Let me know to whom I should send the 30 *scudi* which I already have on hand. Oh how happy I would have been had you passed through Teramo. Indeed, a procurator general ought to have a bit of diversion. You will get there with a couple of Hail Marys. With respect to Fr. Ignazio, prayers. I do not know what more to say. And, what is Brother Luigi doing? Tell him that he should keep his hands raised toward heaven for me, and I hope that he succeeds in even touching the firmament. With regard to our very dear Tarulli, prayers. Alas, however, *caro et sanguis non revelavit*,⁵ yet not even bishops know what to do concerning true vocations. Nevertheless, let us adore in all things the will of God.

Still, it depends on ourselves to be decisive when God gives the call. *Satis de hoc*.⁶ A thousand good wishes to your holy spouse and your children. *Oremus ad invicem. Gratia Dei nobiscum*.⁷ Tell Fr. Giuseppe Mondelli in Nereto that he should send his petition for the thing that he wants, and be happy with me for the good being done for those people. *Oh utinam omnes amarent Deum!*⁸

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

November 26, 1823

805

November 28, 1823

Msgr. Francesco Bonomo

Bishop of Gaeta

Gaeta

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I thank you for your most esteemed letter, and I say, in short, that you will be obeyed in everything in accordance with your desires. All that you need do is to specify at the earliest possibility, the times set, and oh how much good will be promoted and the number of souls that will be given to the side of Jesus Christ! The Divine Blood will be triumphant and the apostle of the Indies, St. Francis Xavier, will obtain distinct blessings from the all merciful God.

With regard to Vallecorsa, I assure you of my deepest concern. All that I ask is that you grant me extensive faculties, and the *alter ego*,⁹ shall we say, with respect to granting the faculty to others as well as anything else that is necessary for the ministry, just as the bishops of Terracina and Veroli

⁵ Flesh and blood have not revealed.

⁶ Enough about this.

⁷ Let us pray for one another. The grace of God be with us.

⁸ Oh, would that all would love God.

⁹ The other self.

have deigned to grant me. The reason for this request is that at times I try to provide new voices, in order to arouse the people, and presently we are limited in the number of individuals in residence, until the weather improves, which we hope will be soon. Thus, by means of a holy communication with the neighboring Houses, the good work can be achieved and a special fervor maintained in those souls there as well as encouraging the people in the surrounding areas. I simply do not know how to express fully to you the gratitude, esteem and very tender affection that binds me to your sacred person, who has been so interested in our foundation. Nor do I fail to make this known in Rome on various occasions, and for all of this, may praise be to the Lord.

They have written to me from Vallecorsa that your most reverend excellency could combine the parish of S. Maria to the other two and grant to us the church and parochial house. In that way, our Society could be in operation more quickly and by taking up collections in the church of S. Antonio, the Retreat House could be set up. But the decision on all of this we leave to your good judgement. As far as I am concerned, I would see in it the glory of God, because the furnishings that are available there and also because the people are quite well trained. If someone's activity in Rome is needed, all you have to do is send me the regular documents, and you will be obeyed. Let all this be for the records. I await your prompt reply in Rome. Pray a lot for me While kissing your hands, most reverend excellency, I offer myself at your beck and call, and asking you for your prayers, with best wishes to your nephew, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

M. A.

House in Albano, November 28, 1823

806

November 29, 1823

Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor and beloved brother

Not before today was the letter you addressed to me in Anagni delivered to me. I thank God for everything. For the sake of brevity, with regard to the matter of Romagna, I say to you that I am giving an answer to Fr. Gio. Battista Gaspari.

I am buried, *et scit Deus quod non mentior*,¹⁰ in the most weighty matters. At any rate, within a few days I will make a quick dash to Rome.

Give my best regards to his Eminence Falzacappa. Keep near your heart, as I do not doubt that it is, the Lovatti matter and also that of Bedoni, plus all the other things that I have mentioned in my previous letters.

Let us celebrate with fervor the feast of Xavier and oh how I would be delighted to have the Mass at the Gesu on the Saint's Feast Day applied for the Society, if at all possible. In S. Nicola, it would be most appropriate also to have an Image of the Saint, our Protector, on one of the altars. You probably have received notice of the death of a certain Canon Ajuti, one of our Missionaries.

¹⁰ And God knows that I do not lie.

The work of the Society is going along very well, by the grace of God.

Have Msgr. Santelli, a very good friend of Saveroli, speak for you. *Ora pro me assidue. Sum tuus ex corde in Corde J.X. Crucifixi.*¹¹

Humble, devoted, obliged servant and loving brother

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

House at Albano, November 29, 1823

It is already decided who will handle the Month.

807

November 29, 1823

Luigia del Butalo

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest niece

In reply to your letter, I say that to serve the glory of God, I shall write directly to Monsignor Bonanni, and I surely hope to get the book "*The Love of God*". What beautiful words are those: "The Love of God". Oh blessed is the person who burns with that celestial fire which the Lord has come to reawaken in every heart. As regard the other matters, I shall write to Cencio. Offer many prayers for the feast of Xavier in the church of Gesu. Give my best wishes and greet everyone, in particular Fr. Giuseppe, for whom I am enclosing a response. In Jesus Crucified, believe me to be

Your loving uncle

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

November 29, 1823

808

November 30, 1823

Msgr. Gaetano Bonanni

Bishop of Norcia

Norcia

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

My venerable Monsignor

With this letter, I am asking you for three things. First, that you do not forget to send me an image of the Sorrowful Mother, for which I will reimburse you for the cost. Second, I would like to know where they sell the books of your meditations, and in particular, the ones entitled "*The Love of God*", a copy of which I am in need. As a special favor, send this to me. Third, if you should have a copy of your pastoral letters, I would like to provide a copy for each of our Houses. I repeat, in particular, I precisely need a copy of the book, "*The Love of God*", and I will reimburse you for the cost. I take this opportunity, also, to recommend to your prayers and your offering of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, both my own soul and the Society. Let us maintain our union of spirit in Jesus Christ and I leave you in his divine Heart, while kissing your hands and repeating, your illustrious

¹¹ Pray for me continuously. I am yours from the heart in the heart of Jesus Christ crucified.

and most reverend lordship, that I am
 Your humble, devoted and obliged servant
Gaspare C. del Bufalo
 Mis. Ap.
 November 30, 1823

809

December 8, 1823
 Fr. Pietro Torsani
 Pievetorina

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Father Pietro¹²

I thank you wholeheartedly for your letter which compels me to show particular gratitude to you. Without considering my other preceding letters, you are to hold to this present one, and send me immediately, if he has not already left, Father Gregorio Giobbi, and urge him effectively to do so quickly. He is slated for Albano and he will be happy there. I had written in other terms at the beginning because, in the uncertainty, I did not know what should be said. I will send there the new man for the Lenten series and thus he will initiate his apostolate with that Lenten preaching. Rossi, who is in Giano, I will appoint for that same foundation without moving him at this time. Father Gregorio will find everything prepared at *Buon Consiglio*. I am sending you 40 Masses, and in the next ordinary mail delivery, I will forward the six *scudi* as the offering.

Pray a lot, a whole lot for me. May the Lord make all of us entirely his own. Greet everyone in that community for me. May the Lord reward you fully for the good that you are promoting there. I would like to know whether the vestment arrived. Obtain prayers from others for me. I keep insisting in behalf of the one who is seeking to become a nun. If you were to send me another petition (since I no longer remember the name) along with a document of her acceptance by the nuns, I will procure help from the general funds. But it will be only a small consideration. *Ora pro me.*¹³

G. C. del Bufalo
 M. Ap.

810

December 8, 1823
 Cardinal Luigi Ercolani
 Rome
 Your Eminence

As a particular favor, I am asking you to deign to grant me a brief meeting, informing the person who is presenting this letter of mine. Most reverend Eminence, while kissing the sacred purple and asking you for a remembrance in your prayers, with profound esteem and obeisance, I remain

¹² The letter has no date. The day and the month is derived from the postal marking. The year is without doubt 1823. Also evident from the postal marking is that the letter was sent from Rome.

¹³ Pray for me.

Your most humble, devoted and obliged servant
Gaspare Canonico del Bufalo
 Mis. Ap.
 December 8, 1823

811

December 10, 1823
 Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli
 Bishop of Agatopoli
 Rome

Hail to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I received a request from the Most Reverend Treasurer to meet with him early tomorrow morning. This should not interfere in any way with our appointment. I thought that I ought to advise you of it, so that if there should be a slight variation of time from our scheduled hour (I hope that it does not happen), it will not alter our getting together.

I am with distinct esteem and respect *in Xti Sanguine*¹⁴

your

Humble, devoted, obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

(Roma) December 10, 1823

812

December 12, 1823
 Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli
 Bishop of Agatopoli
 Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor and dearest brother

Reflecting more closely on the Bedoni legacy, I note that four times per month one can rightly insist on the obligation toward the hospital, in addition to the office and Mass etc. This does not detract from the paragraph which is encouraged by the Association of Maria Santissima del Pianto, etc.

Pray a lot for me, and with esteem and love in Christi, I remain

Your humble servant and loving friend

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis Ap.

December 12, 1823

813

December 13, 1823

¹⁴ In the blood of Christ.

Fr. Pietro Butti
Alatri

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

I am writing in a hurry, and I am saying everything as briefly as I can. Your brother has received the reimbursement of four *scudi*. It seems that I have not been mistaken about the amount. I would like you to send immediately to my house, two other portions of cloth for coats, and a bit more for a single pair of trousers and a waistcoat of the usual black material. Let me know immediately the cost. Within days, I shall be in Frosinone. I am etc.

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

December 13, 1823

As for the Mission, the bishop will be satisfied as he wishes and when he wishes, as long as he informs me in time about the scheduling. I will follow his directions. I am referring to what you mention in your letter.

814

December 16, 1823

Msgr. Francesco Bonomo

Bishop of Gaeta

Gaeta

Venerable Monsignor

With regard to the church of S. Maria, no more is to be said. I did not suppose that there would be such concern. I have written about it with the greatest indifference. I thank you for the faculties and it is understood that they are granted by your most reverend excellency for anything that may arise.

As for the Missions, I am expecting to begin them on the day after Epiphany. With the current mail, let me know if this is satisfactory and whether you would like me to engage in letter correspondence with the respective pastors. I am holding on to your most appreciated letter so that I will not forget the respective places. Take good care of yourself. And pray a lot for me.

The Lenten preacher for Vallecorsa has already been assigned and it is the Secretary General of our Institute. He is a priest who offends no one and is *omni exceptione major*.¹⁵ Most reverend excellency, while awaiting your response and extending my best wishes to your nephew, with esteem and obeisance I have the honor of saying that I am

Your most humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare Can. del Bufalo

Missionario Apostolico

Rome, December 16, 1823

815

December 17, 1823

Sister Maria Saveria of S. Agostino

¹⁵ Greater by every exception.

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

A couple of lines in a hurry. Father Nicolini, the present pastor of S. Stefano, a Silvestrian monk, agrees to take on your spiritual direction. Let me know if you would like me to contact him. As for the other matters, I leave that for another letter of mine which I will try to write as soon as possible. With esteem, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

December 17¹⁶

Consider getting the faculty from the Cardinal and then you yourself should inform him by letter to S. Stefano.

816

December 24 , 1823

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

I am here in Frosinone, about to depart for the Mission in Supino. I would like you to send me the man that you proposed, having the following qualifications: 1. goodness of life and a love for work etc; 2. ready to apply himself in the kitchen. You already know which kitchen I am referring to; he is to be clean and economical. He will have three months of probation, and during those three months his clothing, shoes and everything else on his back will be at his own expense. The Society will provide only his food. Once those three months are completed he will be given clothing. He will undergo his probation in Frosinone since it is close to his home, just in case he does not succeed. After three months, he will be at the disposition of the Society. It is necessary for him to come immediately *ad standum*.¹⁷ So, tomorrow after the noon meal, send him to me. Also send me my bill. As for the other things, *ad alias*.¹⁸ Prayers *ad invicem*.¹⁹ A thousand greetings to Father Serafino. I am and will always be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Frosinone. December 24, 1823

817

December 25, 1823

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

¹⁶ The year is 1823. Cfr. the letter to the same person dated January 11, 1824.

¹⁷ To remain.

¹⁸ For another time.

¹⁹ Mutually.

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

Thank you for your favors. Have no doubt about my concern about picking up the cloth at the customs. However, I will send the money to you for the postman. In all, 9.67½ scudi.

With regard to the man for service, I would like to have a prompt decision, and, indeed, I would like to see him in Supino, where you also could enjoy a little escape, which would do you good, and I would have a chance to talk to you. If you are unable, then, we will supply with letters. With respect to the schedule for the Missions there, they have not set up any precise day without indicating that to me. Give my best wishes to your uncle who might well, on his own, be eager to withdraw to one of the convents that we inhabit at the present time in the Province. If so, he might keep that in mind. *Ora pro me.*²⁰ Give my regards to Father Serafino. I am and will always be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Frosinone, December 26, 1823

P. S. Offer prayers for success in Supino.

818

December 27, 1823

Cardinal Carlo Odescalchi

Ferrara

Your Eminence

A certain nun of Sezze di Casato Valletta has asked me to contact you with regard to a young girl, a relative of this same nun, who is located in your Eminence's Conservatory in Rome. She asks that she should not be kept excluded when she is so far away from home. She writes to me that already her teacher has made some remark to her that has upset her. I hope that you will extend to her, inasmuch as you can, your charity; you will gain great merit in the eyes of God. I am writing this in a bit of pressure for time. Send your reply to Rome. Pray a lot for me, most reverend Eminence, and, while kissing the sacred purple, I am and will constantly be

Your most humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspere Can. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Supino, December 27, 1823

P.S. The brother-in-law of the bishop of Terracina is in Comacchio, and, from what he has written to me, he will be coming to pay you his respects.

819

December 28, 1823

Msgr. Francesco Bonomo

Bishop of Gaeta

Gaeta

Venerable Monsignor

²⁰ Pray for me.

The Lenten preacher assigned for Vallecorsa is Missionary Father Giovanni Merlini, Secretary General of our Institute, and I assure you that he will do good work for the glory of the Lord.

Around the 10th of January, the course of holy Missions will begin and I thank you for the details sent to me concerning the number of souls involved, for my information. Presently, I am getting in touch with the respective Vicar Foranes and I hope to go in person to visit at least some of the places indicated, if not all of them. Allow me to keep Gaeta also in mind. I am hopeful that through the merits of the Divine Blood everything will go along in accordance with your most edifying desires. Our members who will be sent to the various places will be endowed with those qualities that are needed for the fulfillment of this very august ministry of preaching the Gospel to the people. The order that you indicated to me in your most venerable letter will be followed. Having been authorized, through your kindness, for whatever may be needed for the good work which must be promoted, the only thing left now is to ask, as I am presently doing, for your blessing upon me and my companions. Meanwhile, I declare that I am at your beck and call, asking you for your prayers. Most reverend excellency, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare Can. del Bufalo

Missionario Apostolico

Supino, while giving a Mission, December 28, 1823

P. S. If needed, send your letters for forwarding to Vallecorsa. I wish you a Happy New Year, filled with special blessings.

820

December 28, 1823

Vicar Forane

Mola di Gaeta

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Vicar

By commission of the most reverend bishop of Gaeta, I must inform you that within a short while the holy Mission will be coming there. As soon as I get to Itri, I will let you know the precise day for the entrance. It seems to me that two Missionaries and one Brother in service will be adequate, and they will handle whatever is necessary. Meanwhile, you might continue preparing the people by means of many prayers and likewise to ready the lodging for the Missionaries, allowing them the greatest possible freedom of movement. Until you receive my next letter from Itri, you could in the interim have a rather large platform erected. For the time being, this is all that I have to suggest to you. Pray a lot for me, and with esteem and respect together with my affection in Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Supino, while giving a Mission, December 28, 1823

P. S. In the event that you would have to write to me, send your response to Rome for secure forwarding or have it addressed to Vallecorsa to my companion there.

821

December 29, 1823
Fr. Vincenzo Giovannelli
Ascoli

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Father Giovannelli

With regard to the Mass, everything is very fine. Do not worry about it any more. As for your Congregation, I have spoken to Monsignor Strambi to whom I said that, without burdening him with postage costs, you would see that he received a memorandum. But, how can anything be done since the Holy Father is always ill? I do not know. Let us adore the judgments of God. With respect to the church of S. Agostino, the bishop there will have to send a memorandum to the Treasurer.

We are agreed with regard to the Missions in the Kingdom. Requests are coming from every angle. *Ora pro me.*²¹ A thousand heavenly greetings to Fr. Vincenzo and Fr. Emidio. I have already assigned two excellent members for the month of June in your area, and have no doubts, we will handle that with great economy. I would say the entire month, etc. With esteem, I am

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Supino, December 29, 1823

Ask Fr. Emidio whether he got the eight *paoli* and tell him to offer suffrages for Giosafat of Giano. Have many prayers offered for me so that I may become a saint.

822

January 1, 1824
Cardinal Carlo Odescalchi
Ferrara
Your Eminence

In order not to delay matters which I am supposed to conclude in behalf of the hospice, at our last meeting I was charged with the task of writing to your most reverend Eminence to ask you to please investigate the power of attorney which you were to handle with the department of Salt and Tobacco, with one of your relatives in Milan (if I am not mistaken); it has been left pending, in the hope of finding, however, a certain Testori. I beg you to make a diligent inquiry so that the matter can be concluded to the advantage of the poor.

Pray a lot for me, and while kissing the sacred purple, believe me to be, most reverend Eminence, with esteem and respect

Your most humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspere C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Supino, while giving a Mission, 1st of 1824

P. S. Please send your reply to Rome for a more secure address.

823

²¹ Pray for me.

January 3, 1824
Mr. Giovanni Di Mattia
Vallecorsa

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Chief Magistrate

I am here to ask you to find a prompt opportunity to handle the enclosed matters. It will be easier for you to do it, and I know that I am inconveniencing you with this letter of mine. However, I also wish to assure you of my sentiments of esteem and respect, and to declare again that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspere C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Supino, while giving a Mission, 3rd of 1824
Gonfaloniere²²
in your absence, the Vicar Forane
Vallecorsa

824

January 5, 1824
Fr. Pietro Butti
Alatri

Hail etc.

Dear Canon

Please send me as much cloth as is necessary for making a coat, trousers and vest for a brother in service who is of the same stature as you, a bit huskier, but not as heavy. Also send me as much red cloth as is necessary for making a red uniform just like the ones they use in hospitals. See that all is delivered to Frosinone, consigned to Fr. Ferdinand Sesso who will hold on to everything until my arrival there. Also, please send me the bill. I am writing in a hurry. Pray for me, for I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Supino, 5th of 1824

825

January 11, 1824
Fr. Pietro Butti
Alatri

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

I thank you for the kindness that you have shown in doing me the favor of carrying out my

²² The addressee made this notation: "Received on the 6th the enclosed matters handled on the 7th.

requests, *et Dominus retribuet pro me!*²³ I am sending you the 9.35 *scudi* as reimbursement. I ask you to write me a couple of lines for my own peace of mind, and address it to Terracina. Recommend me to God. I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Frosinone, 11th of 1824

826

January 11, 1824

Mother Maria Saveria of S. Agostino

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

I would like to know whether Father Nicolini has come to see you. If not, manage as best you can, and, I would like to have you meet once with Father Giuseppe Mugnaj. Having received his advice, contact whomever you can. Father Luigi Cesarini could serve as a substitute for Mugnaj. I do not cease recommending you to God with all my heart. Give my best regards to the Superior, and, with respect and esteem, believe me to be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Frosinone, before leaving for the Missions, 11th of 1924

827

January 14, 1824

Mr. Sebastiano Cella Quarenghi

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Sebastiano

Through a letter to me in Terracina, I would like to know if you have drawn the final deposit of money from the postal service. Though in a hurry, I remain with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Terracina, 14th of 1824

828

January 24, 1824

Mr. Sebastiano Cella Quarenghi

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Sebastiano

Since I already had mailed my other letter to you, I now add that I have received your letter with the enclosed receipt. This, I say, for your peace of mind. I thank you wholeheartedly. I shall not

²³ And the Lord will repay on my behalf.

fail to pray for you. You do the same for me. In Jesus Christ, believe me to be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

14th of 1824

829

January 24, 1824

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

Because of the many and repeated requests, I have decided to accept the Missions in Gaeta under whose jurisdiction Vallecorsa falls. Send your most appreciated letters to me in Terracina.

I should like to ask you to tell the Holy Father that penitent Tizio, at the point of death, informed the confessor that he had brought damage to a commune to the sum of around 50 *scudi*. Now, the heirs, or rather, a priest who is the son of the deceased, discovering this etc. is now asking that that sum be applied for a Mission in that same commune, and furthermore, that it should be used for other pious projects in favor of the people there. With the matter being presented in these terms, it would be sufficient to have the vocal consent of the Holy Father, since the matter has been submitted to my hands, etc.

Do not forget, if possible, the 180 *scudi* in the hands of the administration of Piperno for the building and the church of S. Maria delle Canne in Sonnino, etc. Although in a hurry, I ask you for your prayers, and with fullest esteem, respect and constant gratitude, most reverend excellency, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Buf.

M. Ap.

Terracina, 14th of 1824

830

January 30, 1824

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I hope that you received my other letter, and, as a special favor, I ask that you send your replies to me to Terracina where they will forward them. I simply do not know how to express my gratitude for your immense charity. You already know what I am referring to. I truly was in extreme anguish, and I did not hazard insisting too much, for I acknowledge very well indeed your generosity of heart, nor did I want to add new troubles for you. I ask only one thing from God: that he give me only as much as I need for carrying out the ministry. In truth, I can assure you that the expenses are always on the increase. Our churches and our houses are very needful of a thousand things. We try to manage little by little. The members are growing in number, clothing for the brothers in service

has to be considered, and even the cost of food is demanding. From time to time, we must add, there are cases of sickness. The House in Albano is of particular concern to me because the cost of living is more expensive there. Finally, I am presently faced with the building project in Frosinone which adds a few more worries. I am saying all of this so that you will not cease praying and cooperating by giving a helping hand to our Society which I would like to see, before my death, in a secure state for carrying out its sole purpose of continuing the good work that is now being done.

As for everything else, *fiat voluntas Dei in omnibus*.²⁴ They have already taken up residence in Sermoneta and there are six Missionaries there, since they have that many beds available. I cannot describe the immense good that is being accomplished in the diocese of Gaeta under the leadership of the foundation in Vallecorsa. Be assured that I would consider myself blessed if I had the compunction which is so joyously and exultantly displayed by the people.

Oh my God! What a pleasant and sweet thing it is to work for love of you! I never lose remembrance of you in my poor prayers and in the prayers recited by the people in public. Read all the rest that still remains in my heart.

For Ash Wednesday, I shall be in the Province of Campagna, and perhaps in Frosinone, I will have to preach the Lenten series as well as the retreat for the people in the Delegation. Monsignor Bonanni has written to me again about Missions in his area. S. Benedetto would like to have me there. Take care of yourself, and believe me to be, with esteem, and respect, and very special affection

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Castellone,²⁵ 30th of 1824

P.S. Blessed is the one who encourages Missions, and in the Kingdom I see very special things. Requests are coming in from everywhere. *Laus Deo*.²⁶ I urge you about the 180 scudi on deposit in Piperno for the building, and the church in Sonnino.

831

February 1, 1824

Msgr. Gaetano Bonanni

Bishop of Norcia

Norcia

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

You may be sure about the holy Mission, and around Easter, I shall give you the precise date for the entrance, basing it upon the approximate date which you indicated to me. You can imagine what consolation I feel in arranging for this Mission, so that we can renew our spirit in God. Thank you for the objects that you sent to me. Recommend me frequently to God. While kissing your hands and with esteem, respect and a very particular affection, believe me to be in Jesus Christ

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

²⁴ May the will of God be done in all things.

²⁵ Nowadays, it is named Formia.

²⁶ Praise be to God.

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Mola di Gaeta, February 1, 1824

P. S. You probably already know about the death of Giosafat in Giano. When necessary, always write to me in Rome.

832

February 2, 1824

Mother Maria Saveria of S. Agostino

Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

With this letter, I wish to assure you that I am writing purposely to Fr. Giuseppe Mugnaj in reference to the matter already known to you. In the meanwhile, be courageous, read the letters of de Sales, and place your trust in God. With esteem and respect, consider me to be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Castellone, February 2

833

February 2, 1824

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

At the beginning of Lent, you should be able to join the others for the Mission in Giuliano. At that time, there will be no Scripture, and you will be back in time for Easter. Send your response to Terracina. In a hurry, etc.

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspere C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Castellone, February 2

834

February 1824

Fr. Vincenzo Maria Fontana

Missionary in Itri

Fervorino for the holy Cross

Mihi autem absit gloriari nisi in Cruce

*Domini nostri Jesu Christi*²⁷

My beloved people, oh how much we owe to the Cross of Jesus Christ! It is the symbol of

²⁷ Be it far from me, however, to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

our glory; it is the standard of our salvation, the mystical tree of life. Blessed is the one who nourishes himself with the fruit of this plant! So, let us glory in the Cross, the ladder to heaven, the weapon of Christianity, the miraculous branch against the power of the demon. If people are accustomed to leave for posterity a memorial of the most celebrated deeds, how much more ought this to be so where our religion is concerned. Yes, if you were to be asked for the reasons for having this service during these days, you tell them that the holy Mission has afforded you this opportunity. Indeed, how many tears are being shed during these days at the foot of the Cross; how many sighs are released, how many good resolutions are made. Here is where the repentant sinner finds comfort, where the troubled soul finds courage, where the soul already sanctified finds the tenderness of love.

Here, from that pulpit, the wrathful learn meekness, the proud learn humility, the shameless learn mortification. *Mihi absit gloriari nisi in Cruce.*²⁸ In looking at this sacred monument, oh my beloved faithful, you will remember the mercy shown to you during these days, you will be given courage to face your sufferings, and you will wage war against the tyrannical kingdom. Also, let us remember that the Cross will re-appear on the day of universal judgment. *Hoc signum erit in caelo cum Dominus ad iudicandum venerit.*²⁹ Oh my God, what a tremendous thought this is! Will all of these souls here be on the side of the holy ones? And, I, who am preaching, where will I be? Oh, my Lord, grant, *per viscera misericordiae in quibus visitasti nos,*³⁰ to show us your mercy ... But, Jesus says: My children, it is entirely up to you. The Cross reminds you that I have poured out my Blood to the last drop. *Quid potui ultra facere et non feci?*³¹ Consequently, the Cross will appear again at the last judgment to remind you of how much I have done for mankind. Oh people of Itri, in charity love Jesus wholeheartedly; bless him, give him praise. Remain at the foot of the Cross and pray for me who, in a special way, must sustain the glory of the Cross, which is my life, my hope, my glory. Hail to the Cross ... hail to the Cross ... hail to the Cross.

Dear Canon³²

I am not forgetful of the tasks you asked of me, and little by little you will see them taken care of. In the meantime, enclosed is the fervorino. I regret that I am unable to serve you as you deserve. Pray a lot for me, and, with esteem, respect and particular affection, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Miss. Ap.

835

February 4, 1824
Fr. Filippo Bonderl
Itri

²⁸ Be it far from me, however, to glory except in the the cross.

²⁹ This sign will be in the heavens when the Lord comes to judge.

³⁰ In the heart of mercy in which he visited us.

³¹ What was I able to do further and did not do?

³² The letter does not have a date. However, it must be assigned to the beginning of February, 1824, when Fontana was to preach the Mission in Itri along with Fr. Filippo Bonderl and Fr. Gaspare Carboneri. Cfr. the letters to Bonderl on the 4th and 5th of February, 1824.

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

Write and let me know what expenses you incurred. I am granting you the faculties and all cases reserved in the synod so that you can apply yourself to the ministry of hearing confessions. With regard to the saying of the office, say it as it was said in Prossedi; it is to be said while traveling. As for the other things, contact me *toties quoties*.³³ In hearing confessions, do not forget to adhere to our regulations, as I have no doubt you will do, *et signatim*³⁴ with reference in point to contracts and agreements under the *raccoltas* etc. See to the beds *et pro interim adhibita divisione inter mares at foeminas utatur jure matrimoniali ut possunt, et iterum curetur providere, etc.*³⁵

Here, then, is your schedule for the few days that you still have there. All Saturday morning in Itri, help to bring the hearing of confessions to a conclusion. Saturday evening, you will go with Canon Carboneri to sleep at the Madonna della Civita; on Sunday morning, both of you will make your entrance in Campodimele, and there you will use the time available for giving the main sermon. Canon Carboneri will remain, if necessary, for one or the other day. During those days, I would like to have you arrange for a triduum for the priests and the town leaders. Canon Carboneri, who will be directing this Mission, will handle the other matters, working in harmony with you. Asking you for your prayers, with esteem believe me to be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Mola, February 4, 1824

836

February 6, 1824

r. Filippo Bonderl

Itri

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

Recently I received your most esteemed letter and here I am sending you a reply. I am communicating to you the faculty for the two repentant Carbonari, who, I suppose are laymen, provided that there is no external scandal *post Bullae emanationem*.³⁶ You will have them verbally renew their profession in the faith and their withdrawal of their oath etc. With regard to the denunciation which was made previous to the bull, in accordance with the instructions given in this present Mission, you need give no more thought. *Si autem a die subscriptionis Bullae iterum reinciderunt in errore, vel pertinaciter perseverarunt vrel quomodocumue partem, favorem ecc. acceperunt ecc. hi omnes denunciationi subiecti sint*³⁷ and, having been absolved by you, you are to

³³ As often as.

³⁴ And clearly.

³⁵ And for the time being, adhering to the division between men and women, they should utilize the marriage law as much as possible.

³⁶ After the publication of the Bull.

³⁷ If, however, from the day the Bull was signed they have again fallen back into error or pertinaciously persevered or in any way sought a part or favor of the church, all of these should be subject to denunciation.

send them to Canon Fontana for the execution of the denunciation, *si opus sit in actu reconciliationis*.³⁸ With regard to the enrolments in Anagni, we shall discuss all of that etc. Pray for me, and with sentiments of esteem, respect and affection, I am in Jesus Crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Mola, February 6, 1824

P. S. The Superior of the House in Benevento has already arrived here. *Laus Deo*.³⁹ God bountifully blesses the ministry through the merits of the Divine Blood. Greetings to the companions etc. as well as to the Vicar.

837

February 6, 1824

Fr. Erasmo Pompa

Gaeta

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Father Erasmo

Here are the details concerning the function. Next Sunday, may it please God, at the usual time the holy Mass will be celebrated in S. Erasmo, after which the procession toward Itri will be organized. In Itri, the meeting will be held and everything will take place in the piazza of S. Francesco, for fear that the church of the Annunziata will not be adequate. As a precaution, I will contact the Vicar of Itri so that he will prepare a convenient place for the most reverend bishop, setting it up opposite the church of S. Francesco. I would see it *in faciem loci*,⁴⁰ and it is understood that this will be done if the weather permits, otherwise, it would be done in the church. The service will begin at the 15th hour so that around noon the most holy Madonna can be in Castellone amid songs and hymns of exultation.

In Castellone, the people from Itri will be given a blessing and sent home. Time should be allowed for taking a bit of food. Later, around the 21st hour, the ministry should be resumed. I would have a catechetical instruction follow, but I would inform the most reverend bishop to depart so that the service can be terminated on time.

In S. Erasmo, you should have a place arranged for the most reverend bishop, and I would suggest that, after the service in Itri, he should be informed that he will have his dinner in Itri and then, using the small cart, he could arrive in time in Castellone. If he would not be able to go to S. Erasmo, then, if I am given this information, I shall see to providing a remedy so that the main sermon can be given in the open spaces of Mola, and a type of cathedra can be set up for the Monsignor. Pray for me, for I am and will constantly be⁴¹

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

³⁸ If it should be necessary in the act of reconciliation.

³⁹ Praise be to God.

⁴⁰ After the fashion of the place.

⁴¹ In the copy, we find "I am and will constantly be" written two times, but that is certainly an oversight.

Mola, February 6

P. S. If the people of Itri wish to remain, then certainly the preaching will be done in the open spaces of Mola.

838

February 14, 1824

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I am worried about your health since I have been deprived of your most appreciated letters. So, you can write to me in Frosinone. Most reverend excellency, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. d. B.

Mola di Gaeta, February 14, 1824

839

February 17, 1824

Mr. Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Camillo

I am ever so grateful for your kindness towards me. God knows how vivid is my remembrance of you and I, a miserable one, do not cease recommending you to God, aware as I am of your charity towards me. I received all of the printed matter. Everything is going along fine. It seems to me that I do not have any bills with you.

But, now, it is necessary to open things up again since I am in need of having the Chaplet reprinted, following the pattern of the last edition. Remind me of the cost. However, the greatest care must be taken. We are approaching the Lenten season. You realize what the need will be. Read in my heart everything else. Keep insisting on the pious organizations. With esteem and respect, in Jesus Christ consider me as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Lenola, February 17, 1824

840

February 18, 1824

Fr. Vincenzo Ceccacci

Guarcino

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Vicar

With this letter I am writing to your most illustrious lordship to ask you please to arrange for the holy Mission there for the first Friday in this approaching Lent, since it cannot be arranged for

any other time. Let this be a general reminder, reserving for myself the opportunity of writing to you again and giving you the schedule of our entrance for that holy Mission, which I hope will be especially blessed by God etc. The Missionaries that will be coming there will be three in number, along with the man who is their assistant. I ask you to provide lodging for them, allowing them the greatest possible freedom. Also, see that the platform is quite ample and that there be a good support to hold the Crucifix in place. With esteem and respect, believe me to be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Lenola, February 18, 1824

841

February 18, 1824

Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

S. Nicola in Carcere

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I am inconveniencing you with these few lines so as to engage your charity in bringing the Bedoni matter to a conclusion. I suppose that you have thought about the *Tre Ore di Agonia*⁴² in S. Nicola. In case you have not, you might ask Feretti, Visconti, La Monaca, Giannoli, or Fr. Gioacchino, the Passionist. Do not forget the Novena of Xavier on March 4th.

Begging you for your prayers, I am with esteem and special attachment

your

Humble, devoted, obliged servant

Gaspere C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Lenola⁴³

February 18, 1824

P.S. Two women-associates have died in Ascoli, one by the name of Mucciarelli, the other Sabbatini. Offer suffrages for them.

842

Middle of February, 1824

Fr. Filipno Bonderl

Campodimele

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

I am delighted with the good work etc. Do not rush the Mission for one does not that easily set profound and deep roots for a stable good work, since God loves to have the repetition of the

⁴² The Hours of Agony: the Good Friday Services.

⁴³ *Lenola*: Cf. Geographical Data

means used etc. I would advise you to give the blessing on Sexagesima Sunday, and on Monday, you could leave by carriage for Terracina with the other companions.

On the other hand, if you were to give me the task of getting other carriages, you might consider going from Campodimele by way of Vallecorsa, and going at least as far as Vallecorsa. I realize that you are closer to Frosinone. You decide etc. I am sending you a blank certificate. You, then, can forward to me the name of the one you have selected.

I also am sending the rules for the women-associates, along with the listing of the 13 cases. I was unable to read them over again. But you will understand them and conduct yourself accordingly etc., but, always *in foro interno tantum etc.*⁴⁴ Your faculties will hold for the duration of that Mission. Pray a lot for me and have others do so too etc. Full of gratitude, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

As usual, send me a reply etc.

Fr. Filippo Bonderl

Campodimele⁴⁵

843

February 22, 1824

Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci

Offida

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most illustrious sir

I thank you with all my heart for your most appreciated letter, and I do not know how to describe the vivid remembrance I have of you, whom I love *in charitate non ficta, in visceribus Jesu Christi.*⁴⁶

I will be delighted to receive the book of the letters of Xavier, and I yearn for that moment. Let me know the cost. As for the reprinting, check with Mr. Quartaroli to see what contribution he can make, and I will take care of the printing. Hence, he will have as many copies as will be proportionate. If you can, find other associates, but return to me the book sent to Quartaroli.

With respect to Berardo Lupi, I believe that everything has been settled, but, since I know that I had various other matters under consideration with him, still I do not recall exactly what I discussed with him.

Your memorandum is pending in the hands of the administrative council, and I am hopeful for the best. Eventually, I will be able to let you know what ultimately is decided.

I have received the cloth and everything else, and it was all quite satisfactory.

I am not pleased with the change made in the Oratory. God rewards *non secundum fructum*

⁴⁴ In the internal forum only, etc.

⁴⁵ This letter does not have a date, but it must be assigned to the middle of February, 1824. In fact, the Mission in Campodimele began on February 8th and in this letter St. Gaspar advises Bonderl to conclude it on Sexagesima Sunday which, in 1824, fell on February 22nd.

⁴⁶ In charity unfeigned in the heart of Jesus Christ.

*sed secundum laborem.*⁴⁷ The bishop rightly pointed out: *nihil innovetur.*⁴⁸ The men's organization of St. Xavier could combine their good work with the Augustinians or with the Chapter, and continue doing everything as usual. That means that the recitation of the rosary is not to be overlooked. Do you not know that a single voice giving praise to God rouses the lazy ones in the houses? The devil has made great strides and that is why, *sub specie melioris boni*,⁴⁹ the good work is diminishing. An apostle, like Xavier, went about all alone in the Indies; a Palmucci also, all alone, could carry out his apostolate.

I am presently in the Kingdom giving a Mission, and within a short time I shall be returning to the papal State. Continue to address your letters to me in Frosinone.

Canon Tarulii is still undecided whether to remain with us or depart. I am awaiting a letter from him. Then, we will come to a decision.

Would you please give me time to read the writings that you were kind enough to send me, but not in such a hurry?

Asking you for your continuous prayers, with esteem and respect, consider me as
Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Lenola, February 22, 1824

P.S. Give my greetings to all etc.

844

February 25, 1824

Fr. Vincenzo Ceccacci

Guarcino

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

I thank you for your most esteemed letter. Since, at the present time, the penitents are crowding in, I shall send you another letter on Ash Wednesday from Frosinone. Do not be concerned about the lodging. It will be sufficient if it is arranged for Missionaries etc. Pray a lot for me, and, dear Canon, with special esteem and respect, believe me to be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Lenola, February 25, 1824

845

February 25, 1824

Fr. Bartolomeo Mancini

Itri

Hail to the most precious Blood of Jesus Christ

⁴⁷ Not according to the fruit but according to the labor.

⁴⁸ Let there be no innovation.

⁴⁹ Under the appearance of a better good.

Dear Father Bartolomeo

The Lord inspires me to take you with me on the Mission in Guarcino, of the diocese of Alatri. I have written to the most reverend bishop and I have obtained his permission for you. The other priests will supply for you there. So, get your cincture and your crucifix and come to Lenola by next Saturday evening and we will take it from there. Since you will be in Lenola for just a brief time, you will be there as a private individual and then we will come to our decisions. I have no doubt that you will be cooperative in this matter. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare Can. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Lenola, February 25, 1824⁵⁰

846

February 29, 1824

Fr. Vincenzo Ceccacci

Guarcino

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

I am enclosing the flyer announcing the forthcoming holy Mission.⁵¹ I urge you to see that the platform is sufficiently large. There will be three Missionaries involved, and along with us will be the man who is our helper. The lodging should be for all to be together. For the Friday morning after Ash Wednesday, see that three pack animals are readied in Frosinone to handle the baggage, namely, the crate bearing the Crucifix, the one bearing the most holy Mary etc. I ask that they come early so that they can return to Guarcino. Also, four saddle horses should be directed to Ticchiena for about the 17th hour, since we shall depart from there after the noon meal. You should appoint someone to watch for our approach and everything will be done as regularly followed. More when we see each other in person. Recommend me frequently to God and have as many others as you can do the same. Full of esteem and respect for you, I remain in Jesus Crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Lenola, February 24, 1824

847

February 1, 1824

Fr. Filippo Bonderl

Anagni

Dear Canon⁵²

⁵⁰ On the copy of this letter, the date is given as "1823", but that is evidently a slip of the copyist.

⁵¹ A copy of this flyer is found after the letters of May 16, 1824.

⁵² This letter does not have a date. Probably it must be assigned to February of 1824. In fact, from October 30, 1823 to March 4, 1824, Father Luigi Gonnelli was the Missionary Father, President in Frosinone. From there, he went on to Albano, as is noted in the congressus books of the respective Houses. Cfr. also the letter to Bonderl of March 7, 1824.

I am writing in a hurry. The faculties are always granted for the men and women associates. Pray for me.

*G. C. del Bufalo*⁵³

848

March 4, 1824

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I give thanks to God for the excellent news I have received concerning your health, and I pray to God, with the complete out pouring of my heart, that it will continue to prosper for the sake of his greater divine glory. Be assured that I, a miserable one, do not cease praying for whatever may be your needs.

With regard to the financial support for the excellent Canon Betti, I have sought a document from the bishop of Fuligno to provide the monetary subsidy in behalf of his sisters. The rescript which you sent by order of the now deceased Pius VII has not been found, and so the bishop has supplied for it. The urgent need for the making of the payments by Canon Betti, according to the promises by which he has bound himself for the sake of the aforementioned sisters, causes me to beg you to show your most charitable concern.

Tomorrow, I am leaving for the Mission in Guarcino. Send your letters to Frosinone, where I shall anxiously be awaiting them.

Recommend me frequently to God, and with esteem and respect, consider me as

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Frosinone, March 4

P. S. During Lent, Canon Betti will be in Frosinone, and another of our fine workers has gone to Benevento to help out and to give them a change in preachers.

849

Mother Maria Saveria of S. Agostino

Roma

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

In reply to your letter, I say that you should give thanks to God for having discovered a spiritual director who is readily available for you, without belittling the merits of others. You should not oppose his direction. But with docility make known to him the status of your soul and be courageously obedient.

Through crosses, we draw closer to Jesus. So, adore him in your heart, as I now leave you with the most sorrowful Mother, asking you for your prayers and those of the entire community.

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

⁵³ Annotation on the copy: "incomplete", that is, the original sheet was perforated.

Mis. Ap.
Guarcino, March 7, 1824

850

March 7, 1824
Fr. Filippo Bonderl
Morolo

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Canon

I am enclosing a certificate for the Archpriest. It seems to me that you told me that he did not have one. I do not know his name. You insert it and then send me the information. I am also sending certificates of enrolment, that I have along with me, for our devotion, together with a few booklets. Otherwise, the devotees can procure copies of the new printing, and if they wish me to take care of it, let me know the number of copies they wish to have. God knows how much I would like to handle everything, but the ministry calls me to attend to a thousand different things.

I am grateful to God that you are there consolidating the pious organizations. You could also look into the possibility of canonically erecting our Pious Union of the Divine Blood, and note that it is gradually being set up in Carpineto, Acuto etc.

Actually, in Anagni, you could establish the oratory just as has been done in Frosinone, Alatri, Veroli etc. It would fit in beautifully with the work that is being done.

Remind me of whatever I may have overlooked. See that you have a discussion with that priest who is sincerely concerned about his spiritual status, and urge him to join our society. There is possibly a place for him, and I am delighted with the prayerful life that he loves so much. You, along with others, should recommend me to God, and, with esteem and affection, asking you to give my greetings to Nicola, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.
Guarcino, March 7, 1824

P. S. You might be able to have as a Missionary helper in Anagni, Canon de Cesaris, with whom I am not acquainted except by name only, and thus together work out etc.