

St. Gaspar's Letters

1401 - 1450

Letter Number	Date	Page
1401. Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci, Offida,	<i>2 May 1826</i>	1105
1402. Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli, Roma,	<i>2 May 1826</i>	1105
1403. Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri,	<i>2 May 1826</i>	1106
1404. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>3 May 1826</i>	1117
1405. Msgr. Nicola Mattei, Treja,	<i>4 May 1826</i>	1108
1406. Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri,	<i>5 May 1826</i>	1108
1407. Mr. Camillo Possenti, Fabriano,	<i>8 May 1826</i>	1109
1408. Mr. Camillo Possenti, Fabriano,	<i>8 May 1826</i>	1110
1409. Fr. Luigi Locatelli,	<i>13 May 1826</i>	1110
1410. Fr. Giovanni Chiodi, Baucce,	<i>16 May 1826</i>	1111
1411. Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli, Roma,	<i>16 May 1826</i>	1113
1412. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>16 May 1826</i>	1113
1413. Fr. Beniamino Romani, Vallecorsa,	<i>16 May 1826</i>	1114
1414. Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris, Piperno,	<i>18 May 1826</i>	1115
1415. Fr. Pasquale De Nardis, Albano,	<i>18 May 1826</i>	1115
1416. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>19 May 1826</i>	1116
1417. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>20 May 1826</i>	1117
1418. Mr. Camillo Possenti, Fabriano,	<i>21 May 1826</i>	1117
1419. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>22 May 1826</i>	1118
1420. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>23 May 1826</i>	1119
1421. Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri,	<i>26 May 1826</i>	1119
1422. Fr. Francesco Meletti, Fano,	<i>26 May 1826</i>	1120
1423. Fr. Tomasso Meloni, S. Felice di Giano,	<i>27 May 1826</i>	1120
1424. Fr. Nicola Palma, Teramo,	<i>27 May 1826</i>	1121
1425. Pope Leo XII,	<i>27 May 1826</i>	1122
1426. Mr. Pasquale Fuschi,	<i>28 May 1826</i>	1122
1427. Fr. Giovanni Chiodi, Frosinone,	<i>May 1826</i>	1123
1428. Msgr. Nicola Mattei, Camerino,	<i>1 June 1826</i>	1123
1429. Fr. Ferdinando Gigliozzi, Fontana,	<i>2 June 1826</i>	1124
1430. Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci, Offida,	<i>2 June 1826</i>	1125
1431. Fr. Pietro Fusari, Fumone,	<i>4 June 1826</i>	1125
1432. Fr. Giacomo Giorgi, Albano,	<i>4 June 1826</i>	1126
1433. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>6 June 1826</i>	1126
1434. Mr. Domenico A. Gagliardi, Castelforte,	<i>6 June 1826</i>	1127
1435. Fr. Giuseppe Bellisarj, L'Aquila,	<i>8 June 1826</i>	1128
1436. Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri,	<i>8 June 1826</i>	1129
1437. Pope Leo XII,	<i>9 June 1826</i>	1130

1438. Fr. Antonio Santelli, Albano,	<i>10 June 1826</i>	1131
1439. Mr. Giovanni Di Mattia, Vallecorsa,	<i>11 June 1826</i>	1132
1440. Mr. Domenico A. Gagliardi, Castelforte,	<i>16 June 1826</i>	1132
1441. Fr. Ferdinando Angelici,	<i>21 June 1826</i>	1133
1442. Fr. Pasquale Aloysi, Terracina,	<i>22 June 1826</i>	1133
1443. Fr. Pietro Butti, Alatri,	<i>22 June 1826</i>	1134
1444. Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris, Piperno,	<i>22 June 1826</i>	1135
1445. Msgr. Nicola Mattei, Camerino,	<i>22 June 1826</i>	1135
1446. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>23 June 1826</i>	1136
1447. Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi, Roma,	<i>23 June 1826</i>	1137
1448. Fr. Giovanni Chiodi, Frosinone,	<i>24 June 1826</i>	1138
1449. Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli, Roma,	<i>about 25 June 1826</i>	1139
1450. Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli, Roma,	<i>26 June 1826</i>	1140

1401

May 2, 1826
Giovanni Francesco Palmucci
Offida

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Giovanni Francesco

For the month in that area get in contact with either Bellini of Ascoli or Father Bassotti, the Filippino Father in Elpidio, having first obtained the bishop's approval.

I need 100 Roman *canne* of cloth, good and thick material, firmly-woven, to be used for bed linens by our community. Send them immediately and use the greatest possible economy. Let me know the cost so I can reimburse you. In a hurry. Asking you for your prayers. I am

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 2. 1826

1402

May 2, 1826
Msgr. Gresorio Muccioli
Bishop of Agatopoli
Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor and dearest brother

Here are a few notifications about enrollees which you will please register as coming from Corsica and sent on to me. In all things praise be to the Divine Blood.

A complete and rapid application of your zeal is needed to get the petition ready for the Congregation of Rites, so that the decree *in mense*¹ can be spread *ubique*.² If you approve it, I will not change a single word of it. So, then, all that remains for you is the kindness of your charity in having a proper copy made of it that can be presented. With regard to the privilege for S. Nicola in Carcere dealing with the Office and the Mass, it seems to me that there is no misunderstanding. Likewise, you should give your immediate attention. As best you can, to the matter dealing with Atri and everything else that is the fruit of our discussions.

I see the difficulty involved with Jacovacci and Glampedi with respect to the retreat for this month. I hear that the former is outside Rome, and the latter is occupied with the Marian month. So, in plenty of time, inform the confessor at S. Galla who is Father Francesco Gonnelli or Canon Visconti.

For now, that seems to be all I have to say except that we should be united ever more and more in prayers during these holy days. As much as we are able, let us propagate both the devotion of our month and the public recitation of the Chaplet. May Jesus be our love. In his Divine Heart, with all my love and esteem, most venerable Monsignor, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant and loving brother

¹ In the month.

² Wherever.

G. C. del Bufalo
 Mis. Ap.
 May 2, 1826

1403

May 2. 1826
 Fr. Pietro Butti
 Alatri

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

My dearest Canon

I did not explain myself well with regard to the petition, and you are perfectly correct. To speak of things in such a way that might be prejudicial to the doing of a good work is not my way of acting. We are required to respect all of the works of the Lord. So, should you withdraw, at least, the petition from the most reverend Treasurer, you will be doing quite well so that it is not lost and can be preserved if the Lord *in simplicitate*³ should provide another opportunity. It is too arduous an undertaking to begin the preparation of the locale; and then, what about the church? *Orabimus ergo provoluti coram Domino.*⁴ For the time being. God will accept our good intentions.

I give thanks to God for the good work that is being done because of the holy Jubilee year. As for my coming there to give the Retreat for the members of the S. Xavier group, I am not able to promise you that with any degree of certitude. All we can do is be hopeful, for it is all dependent on how I will be able to fulfill my job in the Propaganda which is presently keeping me very, very busy. I can, however, assure you that you will have a very capable worker and it should be possible to combine this good work with making the preparation for the feast of the Divine Blood. Consider this at the foot of the Crucifix.

I know nothing about what you have specifically written to me concerning our Tagliaferri. I do know that he was preparing himself. At any rate, the delay is God's disposition. It is better that way. He will become more mature. That is how I see it, in the Lord: *edoctus experientia in ministerio.*⁵

With regard to the relics, do not be surprised at the long delay. This happens also with me, and I am in Rome. Even the reliquaries themselves have not arrived.

Tell your brother that he should continue to hold off, and not to make any changes now, for with the multitude of requests coming in, they would be all mixed up. With regret did I receive the news concerning the excellent nun Mariscotti. If you have the time, please remember me in your prayers. Give my best regards also to Canon dell'Uomo, and to anyone else who remembers me. May Jesus be our love, and, in his Divine Heart, I remain

Your humble servant
 G. C. del Bufalo
 M. Ap.
 Rome, May 2, 1826

³ In simplicity.

⁴ We will pray, therefore, prostrate before the Lord, etc.

⁵ Taught by experience through the ministry.

1404

May 3, 1826
 Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi
 Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I informed Monsignor Caprano of what you know about. I note, however, that in his handling of our matters, one must be armed with holy patience. With great fervor, let us make the Pentecost novena so that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the Holy Father in a special way concerning our Society and that he will give it his ultimate approval. During these days, I am not able to come in person because, as you know, I am engaged with the ministry up to the feast of Pentecost. Still, in practice, I note that as long as I am alone to assist the Society in Rome, I do not seem to achieve anything, nor can I really figure out how to coordinate things. You should never cease keeping before your attention all of our affairs, as the opportunities arise. In your prayers, do not lose sight of all of the things that we have pending, as well as all our holy foundations, all of which are in a state of beautiful development, though the devil certainly *circuit*⁶ in an effort to retard it. We will put the brakes on him *gladio orationis*⁷ I would just like to set to the point where I would not have to inconvenience you so much, you, to whom we owe so very much. I would surely be quite elated if the Holy Father would assign a certain sum to me for governing the direction of our Society. With regard to Postal expenses, I intend to begin noting them down, starting in May. But, as for the past, you would be doing me a favor to decide yourself what you think is reasonable in the Lord, since I simply am not able to give you an exact account. You could make a good guess. See whether you can work something out. I ask you this as earnestly as possible.

The Mission in Ancona and the one in the Archbishopric of Camerino is underway. Presently, arrangements are being made for others in Umbria, in addition to Retreats in Alatri, Piperno. Sezze, Terracina during this Jubilee year; then, too, the Missions in Baucco, Monte S. Giovanni, later Bassiano etc. etc. Prayers, prayers - I kiss your hands. I leave you at the foot of the Cross which forms the beautiful representation on your coat of arms ... oh, may the Cross be triumphant once and for all over the hearts of everyone.

I forgot to tell you that a holy monk of Scandrialia wrote to me that, in order to make a particular restoration in their church, the Holy Father granted them only ten scudi, which appears to be a mistake, something not in keeping with the petitions that were submitted etc.

In Cannara, a devout person would like to have a church built in honor of that statue of Loreto which replaced another in recent times. And Vicar Modestini is kindly giving it consideration; so, there would be yet another shrine in Umbria.

In your discourses with the Holy Father, see that he becomes concerned evermore about certain representations etc. that are not decent, and especially those found in churches. Yesterday, a gentleman from Romagna, who is quite devout, told me about one in the Minerva, on one of the doors that I am not acquainted with. He told me this in a conversation, and Father Zauli told me that Cardinal Mattei did not suffer little upon seeing one in St. Peter's. All these things God in an indirect way brings to my attention. and I cannot help but join them to the purposes that I set for myself in

⁶ He goes about.

⁷ By the sword of prayer.

prayer. In Rome and everywhere, everything must breathe forth modesty, and one should correct or even remove everything which does not inspire one toward virtue, even though they may be things that are ancient, even very ancient memorials of ancestors, their monuments etc. The philosophical morality of virtue is carved in the heart of man and it is that which calls for all to be favorable toward it etc. May Jesus be our love, most venerable Monsignor, and in his Divine Heart. I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspere C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

May 3, 1826

1405

May 4, 1826

Msgr. Nicola Mattei

Archbishop of Camerino

Treja

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most venerable Monsignor

With this letter, I am informing you that when you leave Treja, please leave instructions that Father Luigi Mosconi will be arriving there after the Mission in Ancona, which at present is underway. To those clergy for whom you did not conduct a retreat, you shall have Mosconi do it. I shall be sending a bit more help by way of workers, so that they can interchange and take care of the entire circuit of work in your archbishopric. You would be doing me a great favor if you would send me a listing of the central Missions. This will make our correspondence much easier. Always keep me informed as to where I should address my letters to you.

The matters of the Propaganda still keep me quite busy and I am not thinking about the spring Missions anymore. Let us always do the will of God. I repeat, leave instructions for Mosconi where he will get them. When I later send ministerial help, they could arrange to be two companies of workers. As for the Missions in Camagna, the preaching will be handled by a young man who is outstanding in that line of work. That is why I have requested a listing of the Missions. I hope that all will be accompanied with bountiful blessings. With esteem and respect, I remain in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Rome, May 4, 1826

I assure you that the Missionaries I will be sending can, if necessary, be used in Camerino. But, if not, let me know.

1406

May 5, 1826

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

Father Biagio wrote to me concerning a certain peasant of Alatri who would like to enter our

Institute. Please do me the favor of telling me something about him; what I am suggesting is understood. Pray for me. I am sending a copy of the rule of charity; perhaps you may have had a doubt that I could have forgotten about it.

I have received no letter at all from Father Biagio. Let him know about this. Have courage in caring for the pious works. In a hurry, but in Jesus Christ crucified, consider me as

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 5⁸

1407

May 8, 1826
Mr. Camillo Possenti
Fabriano

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Camillo

Enclosed herein is the booklet. I would like the heading and everything else to be like the previous printing in Fabriano. Only to be added is the article⁹ that you find placed between the two crosses. I simply cannot figure out how the package for you has still not gotten to you. It was not supposed to come from the Lotti, but from the House in Pievetorina. Patience.

With regard to the lady seeking to become a nun. connected with the hospital for women in Rome. 200 *scudi* to be veiled, with no requirement of a dowry as a *conversa*.¹⁰ But would it not be more prudent in the summer? Then, too, one must also present a summary indicating her age, things required. and what she might receive, etc. then, admission for her will be sought.

I am sorry to learn of your status, and especially that you have not written about it to me in detail. Try to go by coach for you will not be lacking a way of getting there in order to take care of those humors. It is the great will of God! I also owe money for the paper. Let me know to whom I should give the money. I am conducting the month of the Divine Blood in S. Nicola. Pray for me. With esteem and wholeheartedly I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 8, 1826

1408

May 8, 1826
Mr. Camillo Possenti
Fabriano

Finally, our members and enrollees of both sexes participate in the spiritual benefits and

⁸ The date does not indicate the year. But comparing the letters to the same person, dated May 26 and August 5, it appears that this letter must be assigned to the year 1826. In 1826, St. Gaspar was in Rome in the month of May.

⁹ See the following letter.

¹⁰ Conversely.

innumerable indulgences granted to the venerated Archconfraternity of the Gonfalone in Rome of the Congregation of Canons Regular of the most holy Savior, of the Conventual Fathers Minor, of the Fathers Observants Minor of the Fathers Capuchin Minors, of the Hermits of St. Augustine, of the Carmelite Fathers, of the Dominican Preachers and of the Camaldolese Hermits, since our members, men and women, our enrollees, present and future, are declared to be brothers and sisters born from the venerated Confraternity which has been in existence since the beginning of the sixteenth century under the title of the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, in the famous basilica of Santa Maria del Vado in Ferrara, supported with a decree of the aforementioned Congregation, dated March 8, 1822, in full agreement with the original document which can be read where it was originally placed on the epistle side of the altar, in which our brothers and sisters, present and future, are declared to be participants in the spiritual benefits and indulgences of the beloved Confraternity of Ferrara aggregated legally to our Archconfraternity by a previous Apostolic *beneplicatum*.

Note to Mr. Possenti

Make a very clear copy of the above article. It is to be added in the booklet that I am sending, in the place where the Cross is found. Check all the spelling. The instruction for the other things to be printed, I shall send through the mails.

G. C. del Bufalo

1409

May 13, 1826
Fr. Luigi Locatelli

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

For peace of my own conscience, I must tell you that the collections permitted by the most reverend bishop of Gaeta (as you yourself can verify) are all assigned for the building in Vallecorsa. You are experienced in the field of building and so you know what is demanded. The people of Vallecorsa, have written to me, once they learned of the fact, or rather, Canon Calamita has written to me expressing wonderment etc. After the Retreat in Monticelli, if Father Fusari who was involved there, does not arrive on time, he would have directed the collection to be made. As for me, once I have explained the situation, I am at ease before God. You will take care of the rest; the bishop, however, did not assign the Lenten preachers. You can be sure that if it were not for the building going in in Vallecorsa, that is of interest in the diocese of Gaeta, I do not know whether the bishop would have permitted a collection. He recently refused one for the celebration in a Commune of his diocese, and I, who had become interested in it, received a negative reply from him. God's works must be treated with a much higher spirit. Pray for me, who with esteem and respect remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 13, 1826

1410

May 16, 1826
Fr. Giovanni Chiodi

Baucco

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Father Giovanni

I have re-read several of your letters and am now sending a reply to those matters that are more urgent.

1. I give thanks to God for the Mission there. Try to establish an oratory each night, following the example of many other groups, and pointing out to them the advantages. It was an old custom that at night everyone would go to pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament. Furthermore, *ubi aut duo vel tres congregati. etc.*¹¹ Later, when it is desired, Baucco can have sermons of visitation etc. Then, too, the St. Xavier organization is in a special way close to my heart. I add nothing further.

2. In your preaching, do not overwork yourself. Be concerned rather with brevity. and avoid superfluous repetitions. Give thanks to God for the gifts that you have received and cultivate them more and more for his glory.

3. I authorize you to give the final blessing there with the plenary indulgence attached, and nothing more; also, you will bless the rosaries, crucifixes, medals *in articulo mortis*¹² as long as the rosaries or the crucifixes are not of fragile materials, for example, a crucifix made of chalk, etc. In that case. the articles do not have the indulgences. If the rosary is made of fragile material, the indulgence is attached to the medal. Bless everything from the platform and wear the surplice and stole. You will adhere to our method. Above all, use the method with many prayers and with continuous acts of humility before God.

4. I wrote to Marziale with regard to what you said to me concerning the allotment for the Mission there, and I am awaiting results, since arrangements have to be made for the access and return of Donati.

5. If taking up the collection for Terracina is not prudent, drop it. It would be used for beds. and for the poor in that area who are really our primary concern.

6. You already know our regulations with respect to gifts given to the most holy Mary. You must have gotten part in Ascoli and part from Merlini. With regard to the Sectarians and books of a similar type, follow the directions of the bishop as to their disposal, so that any book that is classed because of the freedom of its printing, should be surrendered. As for weapons that were stolen from the government, they should be returned privately to the government. The case is different when the prohibited weapon is the personal property of the penitent. It would be beneficial if you, during these first Missions, would keep in contact with me, once you have returned to Frosinone, informing me of the difficulties that you encountered etc., the method that was followed, the oratory, the services etc. so that I can note things down when necessary. It seems that I have now covered everything, communicable to the companions, wherever necessary.

7. If you do not succeed in getting a seat on the coach for Donati, because of the women who are not to be present, not even on the box, then send him by way of Albano with a mount. If he does come by coach, he will need to have a map for Frosinone; if he goes by way of the small carriage of Albano, he will not need one for his entrance into Rome.

8. Let me know whether you received 25 *scudi* that I sent for your expenses. I await a

¹¹ Where two or three are gathered together, etc.

¹² At the moment of death.

response, and a receipt. I have already contacted Guglielmi on this matter. Starting from now, I urge you to be very thrifty, and support the House in regard to cleanliness, linens, method, observance of the rule, etc. Whenever any doubts arise, get in touch with me, and see that no one is admitted into our House. The young man from Atino should be trained in his studies and you should keep him under your vigilant care until the House of studies is opened in Sonnino. I urge you to maintain the strictest vigilance and let me know just where he stands in his studies, how old he is, what talents he demonstrates etc.

9. When you get back to Frosinone, you will prepare the room on the second floor, above the doorway, for a Missionary who will be coming there for residence in Frosinone within a few days. You will continue to inhabit the same room that you have had. Once you have returned, Zampini will be coming to Rome with Donati, so, the room where Zampini was staying can be prepared for Father Gaetano Zapponi who presently should be handling the Mission in Isola.

10. I urge you to preside there and adhere to every regulation and to our method, so that everything inspires edification.

11. Let me know what alms for Masses you are to have from me for those you have said. A notification on an open sheet of paper will do; the other you sent me was small, and I sent it back to you so that you could copy it. I will be waiting for it. When you have returned to Frosinone, you will find a listing of Masses that I shall send you, and for which you will be responsible to me, otherwise, all kinds of confusion will arise with regard to the distribution of Masses, and I would be quite upset.

12. Figure your accounts out with Severini.

13. Later, the shipments, except for those that pertain to our affairs, will be handled at the expense of the people who are requesting the Mission. Little by little, everything will be worked out systematically.

14. The sum of 14 *scudi* or rather the nine scudi for the boarding fee for Giano, you will send to me in Rome through the services of Donati. You probably have received the reply from the boarding student Incelli with respect to the remainder, or you can check into it.

15. You will then take care of a shipment to Sora at the expense of the economist of Frosinone with respect to the enclosed. I am relying on your careful attention.

16. It seems I have nothing more to add, at least for now, but asking you to maintain a very strict exchange of letter-writing. Pray a great deal for me and consider me as

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 16, 1826

Send the enclosed immediately. I have sent a Brother to Frosinone, as sacristan. and one who is also able to read at table. Zampini says that he is not happy. You try to set him straight and maintain good order in every way I shall write to Canon Aloysi in Terracina and he will also find some Masses there, so that I will be able to set a certain order in reference to the notifications.

May 16, 1826

Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

Rome

Hail to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor and loving brother

I thank you for your letters and for the matters concerning Atri. Praise the Lord for all.

I hope that the sacred invitations for the Month will be out soon, and let us pray for the success of that Month from this point on. As for the other things that you recall, you will continue to carry them out as the opportunity arises. In particular, look into that most important question dealing with the suffrages.

The Lovatti affair still demands a great deal of energy in order to conclude it. Last of all, let me know through Mr. Prampolini when Msgr. Scerra will be in Rome. When you see him, ask him and then send word on to me. I questioned Fr. Nicolini and he answered that the finalization of the Giano affair is entirely dependent on Msgr. Scerra. Let us keep persisting evermore, praying; and with distinct esteem and respect, consider me as

Your humble servant and loving brother

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

(Roma) May 16, 1826

I would like to see a conclusion to the business with the Chapter.

1412

My 16, 1826

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

My venerable Monsignor

I think it would be a good idea for you to inspect the enclosed matters, which I ask you please to return to me.

I would consider a House of Missions in Zante as necessary. I am quite happy that the Companion granted by the Holy Father to Canon Carboneri will become a priest in time. Praise be to God.

The situation at Giano is going to be prolonged for quite some time from what I was told by a Jesuit friend of mine. I am speaking of getting the signature on the Brief. If the arrears are going to be paid by the Cammera, please inform me, so that I can send the claim from the Archives at Giano. I add nothing more.

I know that your spirit is distressed, and you have my sympathy.

I, too, am bearing my Cross the best that I can. In order not to give in to the devil, I climb the walls, so to speak, to do the best I can; and at the foot of the Crucifix I never forget you, to whom I owe so much. May Jesus unite us one day in his blessed kingdom. With all affection and esteem, I am and will constantly be, begging you for your prayers, your

Humble, devoted, obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

P. S. I hear that the nomination of some Cardinals at the Propaganda would be desirable.

Poor Caprano is doing what he can, etc.¹³
 Rome, May 16, 1826¹⁴

1413

May 16, 1826
 Fr. Beniamino Romani
 Frosinone per Vallecorsa

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

My very dear Fr. Beniamino

How is your health: Please do not over exert yourself preaching; have Can. Calamita read out of the book. God accepts our good intentions. To tell the truth, I am very concerned about your health. How does the climate there suit you? If the air is too light, we have a spacious convent in Sermoneta which is on a lower level and you could enjoy perfect quiet and solitude there. Write to me openly about your feelings. You simply are not cut out to be a pastor; rather, you should take up residence in one of our houses. However, if you wish to remain in Vallecorsa, it is all right with me.

The Holy Father still has you in mind; but up to now, nothing new has developed. As you continue to be a member of the Society, you are permitted to retain the part of your patrimony which remains, and that for three years. During these three years we will keep up our efforts. So, make up your mind, because in this case, since the Rescript is expressed in general terms for the Institute, all you need is a word of certification from me.

I repeat, take care of your self. If ever you need anything, let Canon Calamita know. Should you need Masses, write to me.

There seems to be nothing else to add except that you pray for me who am wholeheartedly and with esteem

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 16, 1826

1414

May 18, 1826
 Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris
 Piperno

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most reverend Mother

With pleasure did I learn of the fruits of the holy Retreat. Praise be to God, the giver of every good gift. I previously wrote you another letter and I am surprised that it never reached you. In it, I

¹³ At this point in the original, there are some words crossed out, but still legible: "in short, the chastisement is not over yet, etc."

¹⁴ In the margin, on this manuscript, there is the handwritten response of Cristaldi to the two enclosed letters. To the first (from Carboneri, regarding the sad religious conditions of the Ionian Island): His Holiness desires that a young native from that region should be educated for the priesthood in Rome; to the second one (from the Marchese Bisleti, regarding the project of a House at Veroli): His Holiness would help out financially. On the outside of the letter, St. Gaspar notes: "to be preserved for the time being".

said that Merlini's transferral was not caused by you, but by Monsignor Manassi's illness; he was supposed to go to Aquila, but he got sick. This information is for your peace of mind. Ultimately, let us be united evermore with God the giver of every good gift. May his grace and his love inflame us and raise us to the most intimate love for him. Let us love him without measure, let us love him without reserve, let us love him without failing, since he is in essence love. I leave you now in the Divine Heart! Oh what a sweet abode! Therein, while asking you for copious prayers and expressing my fullest sense of obligation, with esteem, I remain

*Suo infimo in Christo servo*¹⁵

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 18, 1826

1415

May 18, 1826

Fr. Pasquale De Nardis

Albano

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father Pasquale

I give thanks to God for your recovery. With regard to the petition that you mention to me, send it to me and I will willingly take care of it.

As for you, I have decided that you are to be Superior of the Mission House in Pievetorina; I would like you to leave at the earliest possible time. Realize that, at the present time, there is the round of Missions being given in the archbishopric. With your arrival there and assuming residence, indirectly it will be contributory to the achievement of greater good work.

I kiss your hands. Pray a lot for me to Jesus and in his Sacred Divine Heart, Father Pasquale, consider me as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 18, 1826

You are the boss in deciding when you will come to Rome in order to depart whenever you wish. But, in order to avoid heavy expenses at the hospice, let your stay here be as brief as possible.

In addition to your position as Superior, you will also act as the economist.

1416

May 19, 1826

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

*Erit vobis Sanguis agni in signum*¹⁶

Most venerable and beloved Monsignor

1. If you see fit, I would like you to read to the Holy Father the paragraph of the bishop of

¹⁵ Being his lowest servant in Christ.

¹⁶ The Blood of the Lamb will be in sign for you.

ancona concerning the papal blessing, so that he will be made more trusting in the exactness with which the pontifical dispositions are carried out.

2. Read one or the other point from the letter from Aquila in order to motivate the immediate obtaining of the Indulgence which I am asking for. Tell our Holy Father, while also recommending me to his prayers, that the granting of that indulgence along with his Holiness' signature, will increase the fervor, as I take careful charge to satisfy the desires of the city of Aquila through the devotion to the blessed image of the most holy Mary. You are quite experienced and are cognizant of how, in certain cases, rapidity of action is most useful in giving pure glory to God and giving honor to Mary most holy.

3. If you think it is all right, I would like our Holy Father to send me for a Mission to Manfredonia at a time that is yet to be established. I give my assurance that the ministries in the State are not being overlooked. In the Province of Campagna, in addition to the Missions, on Sunday the Retreat will be terminated in Piperno for the Jubilee year. Next Sunday, the Retreat will be conducted in Sezze, and within days, in Terracina. My Monsignor, let us keep busy for the glory of God. With Saint Bernard let us say: "We have no personal interests; everything is for the glory of God". With the upcoming month of the Divine Blood, which I will conduct in S. Nicola, I hope that I will be able, God willing, to accomplish great things. Oh if only the entire reform plan were allowed to develop fully. ... what a beautiful thing that would be. ... Prayers. I hope that the Holy Father will protect evermore our Society, that he will not forget the matter of a hospice, and going up the mountain, so to speak, not to be forgetful of the secret project of S. Norbert. Maybe we can possibly take over the place where now the Nuns of the adoration of the most Blessed Sacrament are; I hear that they are supposed to be moved. Your own advice and ideas will surely refine this presentation. A Tuscan bishop is requesting a group of our workers. May our Holy Father be favorable. I will arrange the time little by little, and you might ask him for an extension of the faculties granted for the other Missions. Note, however, that I am not referring to the papal blessing.

Always subject to your correcting, I would say, in regard to the artisans in Albano, that your first authorization would be sufficient, after having studied the recent accounting regarding the work that is of precise urgency in the restoration of that old monastery of S. Paolo.

Finally, I would be delighted to know just when you will be leaving for Terracina; then, I could come there to visit with you immediately in the morning, at our usual time. I kiss your hands and with the fulness of esteem, respect and true gratitude, most reverend excellency, I again declare that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

May 19, 1826

1417

May 20, 1827

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*¹⁷

¹⁷ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

Venerable Monsignor

Monsignor Bonanni wrote to me concerning the enclosed that I would have to submit it immediately by prompt mail delivery in order that it would arrive on time. So, as a particular favor, since I will not be able to come to see you personally, please let me know the result, after the audience.

Likewise, I remind you about a subsidy for me, so that I can continue to govern the direction of our Institute. After Pentecost, I will have the good fortune to see you again. Recommend me often to God and, most venerable Monsignor, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

May 20, 1826

1418

May 21, 1826

Mr. Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Camillo

I received the paper and I thank you very much. Will I be able to give the money to someone in Rome whom you might indicate? I shall await your reply.

Thank you for the booklets. Note that in the adoration of the wound on the right side, where the blessing is implored etc. there is the expression, which is not a good wording, namely, "from you, oh tremendous judge", in the composition of the blessing. I would have used another title. Perhaps I may be wrong. *Sapientioribus me remitto*.¹⁸

I have heard that you have put on a bit of weight. ... Do whatever you can to avoid a too sedentary life...

The coachman was satisfied with what he was supposed to get in the Holy Year and of which Cencio had no recollection whatsoever. All I need is your word. ... Is the oratory in Cereto no longer in existence? along with Canon Tarulli, revive it.

Take care of getting the chaplets for me. Please, do not take too long. Excuse my urgency; I am referring to the printer. I am extremely needful of them.

With regard to the woman wishing to become a nurse, our climate here in Rome at the present time during the summer is in no way comparable to that of the Marche, and furthermore, at the present time, I would not know where to place her. Try to find somewhere else in the Province. Canon Tarulli, in S. Anatolia, is quite well-informed and could well know where etc. Direct her to him. Excuse my many repeated inconveniences. Dear Camillo, in Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 21, 1826

¹⁸ I submit to those who are wiser.

P. S. If the woman wishes to come to Rome, let me know her family and given name, her age, her abilities, qualifications etc. and whether she would go into an institute of nuns in charge of a hospital for women in S. Giovanni.

1419

May 22, 1826
 Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi
 Rome

*Sanguis Jesu Christi emundat nos ab [omni peccato]*¹⁹

Venerable Monsignor

The Mother Superior of the Adorers of the most Blessed Sacrament, located at the Four Fountains, has been charged to contact me with regard to the Tuscan Missions. I have read the original letters addressed to her. Enclosed is the name or the identification of the bishopric.²⁰ You can speak or not speak to the Holy Father about it, as you judge best in the Lord. It would be helpful only insofar as the faculties would be granted just as I requested for the diocese of Manfredonia and Viesti. In my mind's eye, at times, I see a multitude of workers who are gradually making their way throughout the entire earth with the holy chalice of Redemption, offering to the Divine Father the Divine Blood: *Pacificans per Sanguinem*,²¹ and, at the same time applying it to souls: *Justificati in Sanguine etc.*²² While there are many who will be giving abuse to the price of our Redemption: *Quae utilitas in Sanguine meo*²³ ... there will also be a huge army of souls who, with solemn worship, will be seeking to make compensation for the many wrongs that Jesus receives etc. etc. Oh if only all would generously enter into the spirit of our great work once and for all; what rapid progress would be witnessed for the glory of the Lord!

Next Friday, at the usual time, I shall be coming to visit you. Pray a lot for me and especially during the recurring mysteries of the most holy Eucharist. While kissing your hands, believe me to be, with esteem and gratitude, in Jesus Christ crucified

*Suo infimo in Christo servo*²⁴

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

May 22, 1826

1420

May 23, 1826
 Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi
 Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*²⁵

¹⁹ The blood of Jesus Christ washed us from all sins.

²⁰ In XI, 363 ter, in a different handwriting, we find this: "Monsignor Bindi, Bishop of Monte Alcino".

²¹ Making peace through the blood.

²² Justified in the blood, etc.

²³ What utility in my blood.

²⁴ Being his lowest servant in Christ.

²⁵ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

Most venerable and beloved Monsignor

Two reasons prompt me to inconvenience you again. The first regards the Veroli affair, and I ask that after the audience with his Holiness, you write effectively to the Monsignor Delegate. If you agree that it is a good idea, it would be helpful for the Holy Father to read the letter from the bishop, and then, please send it back to me for our general Archives which I am presently putting in order, so that, in case of my death, everything will be in good form.

The second reason pertains to the petition of the bishop of Terracina, who, from other letters, I fear we are going to lose since he is in a deplorable, very deplorable condition. Oh the great will of God! He has written a letter to me that brought tears to my eyes and, in confidence, he tells me that he is in a true, precise state of need, otherwise he would not be inconveniencing our Holy Father. We hope that in obtaining the means for going to the baths that he has been ordered to take, they will be good for him. This is the final measure that is being applied. In short, there are crosses to be faced everywhere. I kiss your hands.

Next Friday, I will be stopping by for a moment or so to greet you. I believe that I wrote to you that the Tuscan bishopric is the one in Monte Alcino.

Pray to Jesus a lot for me during the touching solemnity of the most Blessed Sacrament which is imminent. With the fulness of esteem, respect and veneration, while urging you to be most careful about your health, most venerable Monsignor, I renew myself as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 23, 1826

1421

May 26, 1826

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Canon

Father Biagio says that for the ordination in September, Don Vittorio can be ordained to the priesthood. So, please see to the dispensation from age, and in the dimissorials, see that it is stated that if the archbishop of Spoleto is impeded, he can be ordained by any bishop etc. The tuition which Don Vittorio is supposed to give should be sent to me in Rome, for then I shall forward it on to Giano to cover the many provisions of comestibles there.

In a hurry, but with esteem, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 26, 1826

1422

May 26, 1826

Fr. Francesco Meletti

Fano

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

This most humble letter of mine has a twofold purpose. First, that you show hospitality to my companion, the bearer of this letter. Second, to ask you to join us for a Mission in Romagna, or, in case you are unable, to send another capable worker in your place. I am counting on your kindness and charity. We are in the universal Jubilee year. The requests coming in are numerous. Let us all work together for the Lord's cause. With esteem and respect, venerable Canon, consider me as

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, May 26, 1826

1423

May 27, 1826

Student Tommaso Meloni

S. Felice di Giano

Hail to the Precious Blood of J.C.

Dear Tommaso

In reply to your last letter, I say to you that I would like to have you accelerated toward the Diaconate, in keeping with what I have written to Fr. Biagio. What a beautiful thing, my dearest one, to be united always more and more to God! What a great thing it is to have the opportunity, within a short time, of renewing the great Sacrifice of the Cross! *Adstabimus ergo coram Domino in spiritu humilitatis, etc.*²⁶

I do not cease to repeat that whatever you should need, without any limitation at all, just let me know. I am always in somewhat of a dither thinking that you may be in need of things and you keep me in the dark about it by some method that I would prohibit if I were ever to get knowledge of it. I add nothing further.

I recommend more and more the observance of external propriety, avoiding every act that would stand in the way of the dignity called for by the ministry. You are acquainted with the maxims of St. Ignatius concerning this. Everything must contribute to the progress of one who has been entrusted with the deposit of the holy divine mysteries.

I would like to ask you to find a prudent way of encouraging student Turchi to accept the Subdiaconate. He was a cleric at one time and had completed his studies of moral theology. He has always remained celibate; God has been very good to him. Now, is it not to the greater glory of God for him to dedicate himself to the ministries and to be of assistance to souls, especially nowadays, when they are so much in need? With prayer and every way possible; cooperate in overcoming the devil's opposition. Convince him to follow our way of life, according to the rules and make him understand that there is merit in all of this. I add nothing more.

I am very happy about your promotion, and I again assure you that I am

*Suo infimo in X'to Servo,*²⁷

G. C. del Bufalo

²⁶ We will stand before the Lord in the spirit of humility, etc.

²⁷ Being his lowest servant in Christ.

M. Ap.
Rome, May 27, 1826

P.S. Let Fr. Biagio know whatever you may need, for *in omnibus*²⁸ I would like to see the procedures that I have introduced there to continue. I hope in God for my own early return to that place of solitude. Prayers.

1424

May 27, 1826
Fr. Nicola Palma
Teramo

Hail to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

I thank you wholeheartedly for the additional copies sent to me of the Hymn in honor of our Saint. *Dominus retribuet pro me in benedictionibus dulcedinis.*²⁹

I understand what you tell me about your health; but you would always be an asset to the Institute, rather than a burden. Nevertheless, I realize that there are other reasons pertaining to the glory of God which rightly keep you where you are. The hope that I have is that the Pious Works flourish there as they are doing in other places. With my whole heart I pray to the almighty for this and I call upon your well-known and industrious charity.

I kiss your hand. With fullness of esteem, respect and affectionate attachment, I am and will constantly be

Esteemed Canon, your
Humble, devoted, obliged servant
G. C. del Bufalo
M. Ap.

Rome, May 27, 1826

1425

May 27, 1826
Pope Leo XII
Most blessed Father³⁰

Many devout pastors, concerned about making a compensation for the abuse that is shown toward the price of our Redemption by so very many sinners during our miserable times, have erected Pious Unions under the most august title of the Divine Blood, in order to offer it in a special way to the eternal Divine Father for the reconciliation of the wayward, imploring in this way for them a time for repentance. at the same time, the people are aroused to consider seriously the most

²⁸ In all things.

²⁹ The Lord will repay in my behalf with sweet blessings.

³⁰ This petition, in all probability, is the one that obtained the rescript of May 27, 1826 in which Leo XII granted the privilege of a solemn Mass of the Divine Blood on the first Sunday in July to all the places where that devotion had been canonically erected before 1826 and as long as a double of the first class did not occur. Therefore, we give to this petition the same date of the rescript, which is signed by Cardinal Giulio della Somaglia, Prefect of the S. Congregation of Rites, and the Secretary, Msgr. I.G. Fatuti.

important matter of the salvation of their souls, *praetio Sanguinis redemstae*.³¹ So, acknowledging that the Archconfraternity as well as its Mission and Retreat Houses, on the first Sunday in July, enjoys the privilege of the Office and Mass of the most Precious Blood,³² they would now like an extension of that privilege, making it available also for the other Unions that will be erected as this most important devotion is seen presently to be spreading ever farther and farther abroad. It is, indeed, quite true that in one or the other diocese and at another time of the year, this privilege is enjoyed, nevertheless, just as is the case with the Sorrowful Mother which is devoutly observed twice during the year with the recitation of the Office and Mass commemorating her sorrows, so too, analogously (admitting the due proportionality involved) considering the relationship between Jesus and Mary, it seems that it is not asking something unusual for the granting of this favor by your Holiness to this Archconfraternity. It would like at least that in an extreme case it would not be denied the privilege of the Mass alone, since, in general, that is granted to anyone requesting it who during the ecclesiastical year has an apostolic faculty for the Mass and Office.

1426

May 28, 1826
Mr. Pasquale Fuschi

Jesus Mary Joseph

Most illustrious sir

The reason why I have inconvenienced you a number of times is to have you draw out 100 *scudi* to cover the feeding of the Missionaries in the Province of Marittima. By an order from de Felici, the money was promised within eight days. Now, let me know whether the *scudi* are to be consigned to the bearer of this letter of mine. If you do not have them, I shall write to Gulielmi so that he can make other arrangements. If, however, they are available in Velletri, leave them there and I will see to their collection. The work is not to be set aside because of expenses, and so a delay is not to be expected. Most illustrious sir, with distinct esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

House, May 29, 1826

1427

May 1826
Fr. Giovanni Chiodi
Frosinone

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Giovanni³³

³¹ Redeemed at the price of Blood.

³² The privilege to which he refers here had been granted by a decree of the S. Congregation of Rites on March 26, 1822.

³³ This letter has no date, but from the reference to the building in Vallecorsa, it must be assigned to the time when Chiodi was first assigned to Frosinone, that is, in 1826. Furthermore, from the reference to the man who accompanied "Filippo", that is, Fr. Filippo Galli who is known to have been in Frosinone, as recorded in the Congressus of August 18, 1826, and also from what St. Gaspar says in the letter (n. 1410) to Chiodi, dated May 16, 1826 concerning

A gentle reminder to you. Merlini had charged you with taking care of some Masses requested from me for the building in Vallecorsa. You did not believe it, or you were unable to distribute them; but then no report? In the meantime, the customary and prescribed time has elapsed. So, be advised a second time. We continue handling these Masses, expecting the quickest celebration of them, as Merlini has written to me. I acknowledge, however, that you have acted in complete, good faith. As to the other things, in later mail.

The man who accompanied Filippo has been taken care of. I am etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Send the enclosed immediately.

1428

June 1, 1826

Msgr. Nicola Mattei

Archbishop of Camerino

Camerino

Venerable Monsignor

Three Missionaries have already arrived or will arrive within a short time to Pievetorina to help with your Missions; perhaps there will be four of them. Occupy them in work immediately since the universal, Jubilee year is calling us to make good use of the time. I also am pleased with the outlook of the Missions, the time wherein to balance out the appointments taken on by the Society, affirming our preference for our most worthy Monsignor Mattei.

For Fr. Camillo Rossi, Fr. Luigi Mosconi, Fr. Angelo Primavera, a brief respite in the House in Pievetorina for them to take on, through prayer, new spiritual energy; and then, on to Campo. You should assign, divide, regulate the workers as you judge best. I repeat, however, that there should be no delays between one Mission and the next, except for a few days. The group of men who have gone to Pievetorina are capable for work with the people of the land or with cultivated city-people. This I say to you by way of advice. They are altogether mature and not, in the least, novices. This again for your information. I kiss your hands and unite myself to you always more and more through the Divine Heart. Tomorrow, I shall begin conducting the month of the Divine Blood in S. Nicola. *Gratia Dei nobiscum.*³⁴ I send my greetings to all *nominatim*,³⁵ while stating once again, with full esteem and respect, though in a hurry, that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 1, 1826

1429

the arrival of a Missionary to Frosinone within days, this letter must be assigned toward the end of May, 1826.

³⁴ The grace of God be with us.

³⁵ By name.

June 2, 1826
Fr. Ferdinando Gigliozzi
Fontana

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

It is quite true that the business of foreign Missions still occupies my attention. Still, I hope in autumn to go out again to do good work, thus pleasing God.

Let me know whether I am to send the package directly to S. Germano or if I should send it to Sora to Mrs. Carrara.

With regard to the eight day Retreat which you would like to have, I shall try to supply with other workers. Presently, we are in a strict bind because of the upcoming harvest. If you would like to have it during the novena of the Assumption or at another time, write and let me know and you will be obeyed. First, of course, you must always have the request of the Ordinary and make sure that everything needed will be there. However, I am unable to say whether this or the other Missionary will be able to come; in general, the one whom God will be sending will be the one who comes, since he really has no need of men. So, give me your pertinent instructions.

I am sending the decree for the upcoming years, issued by the Sacred Congregation of Rites, namely, that in the forthcoming years the Office and the Mass of the Divine Blood, instead of being observed at another time of the year, will now be observed on the first Sunday in July. Read and you will note everything. When the opportunity arises, you will also bring this information to the attention of your bishop. Thus, the month of the Divine Blood will be more solemnly observed.

However, since in this year the Office has already been said, abide by the other petition which the Holy Father provides this year, as it is explained. Your rubricist will accomodate the calendar with the necessary changes and you should record all for the archives.

The expense to be met for the Congregation of Rites as a tax that that Tribunal charged for services and for the expenses which they incurred comes to 16 Roman *paoli*.

Pray to Jesus for me, and, most venerable Canon, know that I am at your beck and call. With esteem and respect, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 2, 1826

1430

June 2, 1826
Mr. Giovanni Francesco Palmucci
Offida

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dear Giovanni Francesco

1. No one can wear the identification of a Missionary if he is not one. The topic is a difficult one. It would be better to begin with Angelici whom I will greet at the bottom, that is, at the base of the altar, in the morning, after the Gospel, and in surplice. It will be necessary to provide the platform with good steps.

2. Send that cloth or material, the best that you can find, and everything will be all right. That

for now. Then, if Angelici wishes to be aggregated, then we will come to an agreement. In that case, the Society would not assign him impulsively to preach in Offida. *Ita, humano modo loquendo.*³⁶ God is, indeed, wonderful etc.

I shall send a reply to the other matters. I am conducting the month in Rome. Prayers. Prayers. Prayers.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 2, 1826

1431

June 4, 1826

Fr. Pietro Fusari

Fumone

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father

I thank you for the good work that you have promoted through the grace of God in the diocese of Gaeta. In Traetto I conducted only a few days of Retreat, and the mountains of which you speak, I do not know what they allude to. But I suppose to worries and sins. I repeat, I give thanks to the almighty God who has used you in the programs that rendered so much glory to him.

With regard to the permissions that you would like to have, it is impossible to obtain them. The Holy Father wishes to have order in the doing of good. You are quite aware of our previous discussions.

Except for programs initiated for building, as is being done with the dedication of the people in Vallecorsa, we do not ask for collections, and when these are granted by the bishops in accordance with the rules, no one has the authority to appropriate for their own purposes any part of them. But, as is known to be the case elsewhere, Canon Locatelli delicately withdrew the expenses that he had encountered; with Merlini as an intermediary, you consider having this done. But, for your own decorum as well as that of the Society, in time you should rid yourself of every promise. I would be very happy to see you free, whenever it would please God, so that you can better promote his glory.

In the meanwhile, be an apostle there, and especially encourage the devotion to the Divine Blood. I will remember to send you, at the first opportunity, some devotional materials. Pray to Jesus for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 4, 1826

1432

June 4, 1826

Fr. Giacomo Giorgi

³⁶ Go, speaking in a human way.

Albano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Father Giacomo

The members of the St. Xavier group of Veroli are asking for a shift of Retreats immediately in Veroli for a great celebration in honor of the Saint, having just had a very beautiful statue of him made there. So, God is inspiring me to send you and that you should take as a companion Father Pietro Spina. In Frosinone, you will find another letter of mine. In the meantime, it will be necessary for you to depart immediately, just as Xavier himself would have done. Afterwards, you will return to your place of residence. With esteem and respect, consider me as

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 4, 1826

1433

June 6, 1826

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*³⁷

Venerable Monsignor

In this holy month, we have seen each other in spirit; after the feast we shall speak together. May your meditation be taken from the book which I am sending to you. After Monsignor Manassi's departure from Terracina, his health grew worse, and, except for a miracle, we are going to lose him. I have made a vow. We shall see.

Some religious whom I have come to know through my missionary travels are recommending the enclosed. If there is something here, it will be a very big favor if you would return the enclosed. I wanted to write to you that I was unable to do anything about it ... still, God will give a reward for my good intentions. The bishop of Nocera³⁸ is offering his services to the Holy Father for the Foreign Missions. Oh! these are the men who are to be sent, and their offer is not to be refused.

Speak again to the Holy Father, *ut ex se*,³⁹ since you, to whom I owe so very much, must always cooperate in my private and hidden life. Let this be *in communicacione spiritus*.⁴⁰ I want to be united with God and to prepare myself for the eternal years. Here in Rome, I do not know, I am finding less time than outside it, even in the act of giving a Mission, for mental prayer which is the food of my poor soul; I steal whatever time I can. I am preaching the great month in S. Nicola. Oh what a tender devotion is ours! Jesus will speak to your heart and tell you what you are to do in behalf of the Society during this holy month. You know all, you recognize everything and, for me, that is sufficient. My confreres in Terracina did not manage to find the time to visit with you when you were in Terracina.

³⁷ Christ loves us and washed us in his blood.

³⁸ Monsignor Francesco Luigi Piervisani.

³⁹ As from itself.

⁴⁰ In the communication of the spirit.

They extend to you their regrets. I kiss your hands. May Jesus be our love and may we be irrevocably Jesus', in whom I remain

*Suo infimo in Christo servo*⁴¹

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

June 6, 1826

P. S. Remember to pray a lot for me. If, during some discussion, you note that the Holy Father is looking for individuals to fill out bishoprics, I am acquainted with more than one that I could suggest to you, without, I repeat, having it made known that the suggestion came from me, etc.

1434

June 6, 1826

Mr. Domenico Antonio Gagliardi

Castelforte

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Domenico Antonio

I seize this opportunity to renew with you my sentiments of esteem and respect, and, at the same time, to urge you to promote the most important devotion to the most important devotion to the Divine Blood, to most holy Mary Immaculate, and to St. Francis Xavier, our protector. Do not be discouraged by the setbacks that occur in the doing of good. God also rewards good intentions. Do not fail to do all you can for the glory of the Lord and the welfare of souls. Asking you for your prayers, consider me to be, with esteem and respect,

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 6, 1826

1435

June 8, 1826

Fr. Giuseppe Bellisarj

Aquila

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

I have looked over a few of your letters; with the present shortage of time for mailing this out, here are the things that I find necessary to point out to you:

1. With regard to the Missions that might be necessary in autumn, it will be sufficient that I have knowledge of them starting right now. However, while you are located in Aquila, the Liguori Fathers will themselves carry out the work of the Lord *a quo omne bonum etc.*⁴²

2. I recommend the enclosed for our Pacini.

3. You will be receiving the package of everything you sent to me. In place of the money,

⁴¹ Being his lowest servant in Christ.

⁴² From whom comes every good thing.

however, you will please celebrate eight Masses which I would have had to say because of a pious project, and for which I simply do not know what the offering was that I should surrender for this pious project. Nevertheless, you will do me the favor of sending me the sheet indicating: name, family name of the one who celebrates the Mass, the precise day of the celebration, the month, the church and the diocese to which that church belongs where it is celebrated. All of this on an open page, clearly marked and distinct, day by day. Include this with one of your letters etc.

4- In the regulations of the pious works that are joined to our method of giving Missions, you will find in the organization for the daughters of Mary that there is mention of hospital work. This, however, is a mistake; rather, mention should have been made to widows and married women who frequent the hospitals for women only, and should have indicated a time set aside for this. So, the rule dealing with this matter was later printed separately and had to be supplied.

5. The method of conducting a Mission is to be followed substantially; applicable then, but according to the places in particular, is what it says of the daughters of Mary, crowned with thorns etc.

6. In order not to multiply letters, I am sending a small package for the Vicar of the bishop of the Marsi. Tell him that he should apply two Masses for everything, as above, and to supply that information to be included in your page, so that along with the eight Masses there will be the number of ten that pertain to this pious project. Pray for the bishop of Terracina who is still sick. I kiss your hands. A thousand greetings to the most reverend bishop. Most illustrious sir, with esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 8, 1826

1436

June 8, 1826

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

Here I am sending a reply to your letter, following the same order that you had.

Father Biagio assures me that Father Vittorio can be ordained by September; thus, secure as we are in conscience, we now have another blessing coming to pass which is the freeing of the House from every debt. So you should prearrange and hasten whatever is necessary so that everything succeeds with the order that we all hope for.

I understand everything you tell me about Monsignor Domeniconi, whom you will greet with distinction for me, and, I repeat, let us hurry things. I knew nothing about that renunciation and it gets to me unexpectedly. Consider his age etc. etc. In the dimissorial, see that they put down *ad quemcumque Episcopum absente archiepiscopo Spoletino impedito, ita ut etc.*⁴³

We are in agreement that the rental payment of Father Vittorio will be sent here to Rome to pass through my hands, at your own convenience. I do not wish to disturb you. I would like the

⁴³ To any bishop if the Archbishop of Spoleto being absent is prevented, so that etc.

Society to have the means ... but, prayer, time and patience.

We come now to the topic of Frosinone. That our House could not be adapted for schooling, you are not to believe, now that it has been redone. The room where I used to stay is very bright. The room in front of a small *lendaria* is likewise usable; the chapel is quite well-lighted. The stairway has been made lighter by us, and God knows what it cost us. At any rate, what you are suggesting with respect to the rental will be accidentally changed and be planned *in casu etc.*⁴⁴ As for what is dependent on me, only accommodation can be expected as long as it is within the dictates of conscience.

You refer to making a petition. But, to whom is that petition to be made? To the Pope? Not really. The locale has been ceded from Rome to the Commune; it is no longer within the jurisdiction of Rome to take a hand in it, except for an absolute command which is not easily acceptable or honorable for Frosinone.

I ask, however, how is it that Frosinone is not fulfilling the duties of the rescript of concession? Perhaps they have a dispensation; so, I say that it is a matter to be handled by the Commune and with a steady foot. Still, if you are inspired to have a petition sent to the Pope, then go ahead and do so, but all I can do is pray. There is quick discussion about who could take care of it; it would appear to be my complete doing even though, ultimately it is something that does not meet with my agreement. We are not to be judges nor take sides.

It would be quite a long story to give all the details concerning the cost that Frosinone has been for the Society. The Pope said to me: I will give you another convent. This is it in confidence. It is something altogether different if the Commune had made a petition to derogate the first rescript dealing with the locale of S. Agostino, making known the equal compensation granted it etc. When they managed to have the government returned to Frosinone, then the Commune learned that they had to invoke the advice of the Missionaries and then *pro benefactis*⁴⁵ we were neatly thanked. *Bonum mihi quia humiliasti me.*⁴⁶

However, I will love Frosinone more than at first. I forgive everyone's intentions. God's ways are mysteriously wonderful! I would like charity to be forever the queen of my heart. And, what man in his right mind is not going to recognize that the Society cannot be established, separating the House from the church, even with the decision of total separation from the Maestre. You know that the Missionaries have a more frequent opening for enduring inconvenience in Frosinone; a few of them who are older remain voluntarily in the re-opened House in Terracina and elsewhere where the Houses and the churches stand together, but not in Frosinone; and I pity them. I keep moving forward and I will govern in Frosinone the hospice, as I have always considered it, as long as God wishes, content that I have in no way taken sides. I am sorry that the devil is winning out there. And, in a place of such suggestion, education of woman? *Parcat Deus*⁴⁷ anyone who sets up such programs. They want to do good, and yet good is not accomplished. I would like to see education in Frosinone. I would like the Maestra to have help and that the school be blessed abundantly. God sees into my heart. But, *est modus in rebus.*⁴⁸

⁴⁴ In the case, etc.

⁴⁵ For good deeds.

⁴⁶ It is good for me, because you humiliated me.

⁴⁷ May God have mercy.

⁴⁸ There is method in things.

As for the deputation to the Holy Father, is this an honorable move for the Commune of Frosinone? Furthermore, who are they going to send? If I had something to be planned, I would do it; but I say that there is no other means to be used here other than a reasoned-out page drawn up by the Council, expressing the concern of families and persons of note who should speak to the Delegate.

With regard to the Retreat in your oratory, I point out that presently I am conducting the month in S. Nicola; then come the harvests. I am waiting to see whether it will be convenient to set it up for the Novena of the Assumption. What do you say about that?

Pray to Jesus for me, and with esteem, respect and a very special affection, most venerable Canon, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 8, 1826

P. S. With regard to the nuns, please speak of this in another letter of yours, since right now I am short of time. Monsignor Manassi is very seriously ill, etc.

1437

June 9, 1826

Pope Leo XII

Most blessed Father⁴⁹

Canon Father Pasquale Aloysi, engaged in the Missions that are promoted by the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, humbly petitions your Holiness to deign to grant him the faculty of saying only the Mass and Office of the Blessed Virgin, since because of his failing eyesight he is unable to do anything else. The one making this request assures your Holiness that it is pure necessity which induces him to ask for the favor which he is imploring; that etc.

In behalf of the Missionary Fr. Pasquale Aloysi

1438

June 10, 1826

Msgr. Antonio Santelli

Albano

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

With pleasure did I read your most precious letter of the 7th of the current month and I notice in it your De Sales-like discretion which is so pleasant (just as is that of your excellent uncle, whom I greet with distinction) in regard to the little that the House of our Institute there is able to offer. We must not cease praying incessantly for it, so that more and more, *Deo dante*,⁵⁰ it can extend its glories which are, indeed, the very glories of God himself.

⁴⁹ On the fourth page, there is the Latin text of the rescript with the granting of the faculty. It is dated June 9, 1826. We assign this same date to the petition.

⁵⁰ God giving.

Severini, who during these days has not been at all well, sends you on loan a crucifix of his to supply at this time for your edifying desires. You will have the time to acknowledge this at your convenience upon your return to Rome. The young man that you proposed for the brotherhood will be leaving for Giano within a few days. I would be pleased if, when he arrives there, he would be encouraged by a fervent letter from you. You can see also from this how much I cherish you and esteem you in the Lord. Please tell Father Antonio Liparelli that he should prepare the room of Missionary Giorgi, director of Retreats there, who will be returning from the Missions in the Marca. Do not fail to inform the brothers-in-service about what could be needed both by you and by your uncle. It seems that I have nothing more to say to you now. I beg you for the charity of your prayers as well as those said in common upon which I especially place my trust. Kissing your hands, most venerable Monsignor, I have the pleasure of renewing myself with respectful obeisance and most sincere affection as

Your humble, obliged servant and loving friend

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 10, 1826⁵¹

1439

June 11, 1826
Giovanni Di Mattia
Vallecorsa

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most illustrious sir

I understand what you tell me in your most appreciated letter. In all sincerity, however, I say that I see, through the work that is mine, that the procedure that might bring you assistance from the Holy Father is really not feasible. Rather, I could make the effort to try to find some monastery where, with just a little dowry, your daughter could be received. Still, it would be helpful if, in this case, you would indicate to me if she might be provided with some dowry, at least in farm provisions and likewise to which Institute she feels more or less drawn. Furthermore, you might try to discover if she would like to become a Maestra Pia in Rome, or whether she would prefer to go outside Rome. It is necessary, indeed, to avoid, as much as possible, the expenses of traveling.

In the meantime, prayers, so that the Lord, in willing the end, will facilitate the means. Pray for me, most esteemed Giovanni, and with my esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 11, 1826

1440

June 16, 1826

⁵¹ The copy has the date 1816, but it belongs to 1826 as is evident from the offices of Giorgi found in the Congressus of April 15, 1826. In 1816, neither Liparelli nor Giorgi were in the Society. Santelli, in 1826, preached in Albano the month of the most Precious Blood, which was observed in June.

Domenico Antonio Gagliardi
Castelforte

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Domenicantonio

The setbacks which have occurred in regard to the preaching in honor of Xavier must not, in the least, discourage us in spirit. In fact, we must take on more courage in promoting the devotion to the Saint. I would say that a Retreat should be set up, and then, everything will go along better and with the fullness of fruit much good work will be promoted. Check with the members, listen to the bishop and then write to me, so that I will have the time to send you Missionaries, and in that way no further changes will have to be made.

It would be helpful that you try to have a candle burning in front of the Saint's image and the oil will be prodigiously helpful to the sick, as has happened in other locations.

I will be sending the Life of Xavier which will be a gift to the members. You take care of it. With regard to the foundation of a Mission House there, I would willingly write, but, *in causa propria*⁵² it is forbidden by our rule. You, however, should not cease promoting this great work. Pray for me, most venerable Domenicantonio, and with esteem and respect, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 16, 1826

1441

June 21, 1826

Fr. Ferdinando Angelici

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Father Ferdinando

Here I am sending you a reply to your letter. Presently my preaching of the month consecrated to the Divine Blood has delayed my answering you. I have not seen your brother at all, and I regret such a manner of procedure. I sympathize with the family, especially with you, and we should not cease praying, and being forgiving as best as possible, etc.

Your resolution to offer yourself to the ministry is excellent. However, contact the most reverend archbishop to get his permission, and I will be sending you to Umbria or the Marca in the fall. Later, we will consider the other things. You will be giving the *svegliarini* and the talks on the life of the most holy Mary.

With regard to the religious, such is the respect and affection that I nourish towards them that, in addition to wishing to support them, I desire that God send them novices, and, while being patient with the people, their own families will be fuller. In the meantime, we shall attempt to get whatever we can. The emptiness left by the recent upheavals must be taken into consideration. Still, in case, *quod absit*,⁵³ they should leave, then, the clergy and the people will necessarily have to send a petition to the Holy Father. So, we shall wait, praying etc. etc.

In holy confidence, tell me: has Canon Tarulli been suffering chest pains? How is he? Write

⁵² In its own cause.

⁵³ May it be absent.

and give me the details. Pray to Jesus for me, and, Father Ferdinando, with esteem, respect and affection, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 21, 1826

P. S. With regard to the religious, check with the archbishop.

1442

June 22, 1826

Fr. Pasquale Aloysi

Terracina

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

Enclosed is the rescript.⁵⁴ Translate it *de verbo ad verbum*,⁵⁵ so that you can follow it, as I have no doubt you will, with the most exact execution.

Pray for me, for I am constantly

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 22, 1826

1443

June 22, 1826

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Canon

I understand what you tell me about the renunciation which is no longer due to the most reverend bishop there.

With regard to Fr. Vittorio, I mentioned everything to his brother who came to see me. See whether you can prudently and without causing anguish have him remit as soon as possible the tuition for that same person. It is to be used to get wine which is running short in S. Felice. This bit of news got to me just a short while ago. In Albano, all the rooms there are occupied since the locale is small and one or two rooms are being set aside for retreatants. So, I will not be able to provide a room there *ad sex menses*.⁵⁶ There would possibly be space in Sermoneta. There, the locale is roomier and I have one or the other bed for disposal. I am not able to situate him in Sonnino, where the boarding school has been opened. If he would like to go to Terracina, where we also have the locale that was *olim*⁵⁷ the property of the Passionists, it would be necessary, however, for him to

⁵⁴ This refers to the rescript dealing with the petition sent on June 9, 1826.

⁵⁵ From the word to the word.

⁵⁶ For six months.

⁵⁷ Formerly.

bring along a mattress to Terracina. Among the others in the family there, is Canon Aloysi. It seems to me that the tuition fee should be somewhere in the vicinity of two *paoli* or 25 *baiocchi*. I do not know precisely. Nevertheless, calculating it in *baiocchi*, you can set it between 20 and 25 *baiocchi*. Figure the cost for illumination, the entire cost of board, and see how much is called for; the Society is in a very serious state of economizing for others. He might choose another asylum and he will find it among the beggars.

The program for the retreat in Alatri is in the hands of God. What you are expecting to ask of the Holy Father with regard to the Jubilee year should be properly asked for by the bishop. I believe that he has already been authorized. You might ask him. Let us arrange this matter for the time that you suggested to me. I am hoping to come in person, and I shall do all that I can to be there; but, if not, then I shall send you one of our men who is very singularly endowed with the gift of preaching. As for the other things, we will handle them after this month, since I am presently doing the preaching in S. Nicola until the feastday of the Divine Blood. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 22, 1826

P. S. Select the time for the Retreat precisely. Then, write to me.

1444

June 22, 1826

Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris

Piperno

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Very reverend Mother

Until after the feast of the Divine Blood I shall not be responding to requests. In the meantime, prayers. The baskets that you will be receiving should be handled with care since they will be filled with holy-water fonts and other earthenware articles, glasses etc. For everything, God will render a reward. Let us pray for our Monsignor Manassi. Oh God, what suffering I endure for such a holy man! I am presently preaching the month of the Divine Blood in Rome. Prayers, prayers, Reverend Mother, with esteem, I am constantly

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 22, 1826

1445

June 22, 1826

Msgr. Nicola Mattei

Archbishop of Camarino

Camerino

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁵⁸

Venerable Monsignor

In reply to your most appreciated letter, I say to you that I have not succeeded in getting other faculties. It has been noted that the Holy Father does not like to have so many distinctions and clauses in the granting of faculties. We have some of them that were granted by Pius VII. But, for anything more, one must proceed cautiously; it is well-known how often I speak to you in the fullest truth. Rather, perhaps through the mediation of your agent in Rome, you might procure another brief, but addressed to you and the petition made in the name of the Ordinary. This is a bit of advice that I offer, subject, of course, to your superior judgment. Even the Treasurer, whom I see on rare occasions, forgets the chores that he assumes and it is necessary to remind him of those things quite often. He is cooperative also in our present situations; even with all the attention that he maintains in our affairs, he simply cannot keep up with everything. We are both very respectfully aware of this.

The business of the moral cases in Pievetorina are now in your hands. It will be necessary for you to meet with Father Camillo Rossi. Cardinal Falzacappa is taking care of the other matter dealing with the emphyteusis. I do not think there is anything else pending.

During every Mission, try to ask for some alms in order to balance out the expenses in Pievetorina, and I give you my thanks in advance. With the share that you gave to the ministry, you have rapidly been effective in bringing the voice of the Lord everywhere. I wrote to Mosconi that after his rounds, he should remain in residence in Pievetorina. Within a short time, we will be sending a third reliable man there, and what was agreed upon in word, will be carried out. Pray for our most reverend Monsignor of Terracina who is gravely ill. I kiss your hands, and I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 22, 1826

1446

June 23, 1826

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Rome

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

Even though I know very well that you always have our affairs before your mind, I have, nevertheless, drawn up for you this enclosed page⁵⁹ which covers the more interesting situations, but only so that you will have them readily available for yourself at any opportunity.

I recommend to you the other account, namely, the arrear payments for Giano; there certainly has been no payment whatsoever, and in this matter we have our rights in justice. There, we have a community of some 25 persons to support. As for the brief, I believe that up to now nothing has currently been done. Furthermore, I urge you to be concerned about our boarding-school in Sonnino. Indeed, our two boarding-schools. The 100 *scudi*, which you so graciously implored from the Holy Father for Sonnino, were not sufficient for the artisans themselves who are engaged in the

⁵⁸ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

⁵⁹ Cf. the following letter.

restoration of this ample building, as well as for the other inevitable needs. I do not wish to add the least anguish to your heart with all of this. I know how you are overwhelmed with thorny problems, and I know that you do not lack the good will to be of help to our Institute. But, the circumstances are no longer propitious.

At any rate, I am hopeful that the recurring feast of the Solemnity of the most Precious Blood will bring me a bit of comfort *in temporalibus*⁶⁰ also. God knows how close to my heart is the greater progress of our Society, since it is so important in the fulfillment of the reform in all of its basic ideas. Most reverend excellency, I kiss your hands, and with the desire of greeting you in person after the feast of the Divine Blood, I state again, in Jesus Christ Crucified, that with esteem, respect, gratitude and very special affection, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Buf.

M. Ap.

June 23, 1826

1447

June 23, 1826

Msgr. Bellisario Cristaldi

Roma

Prospectus of the Mission and Retreat Houses
of the Archconfraternity of the most Precious Blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ

Giano: Debts, because of the arrears, contracted in the restoration of the locale; expenses from the first settlement there; sacred furnishings etc. Up to now, the current payments have not been forthcoming.

Pievetorina: needful of an ecclesiastical subsidy if available in the Marca.

Rimini: This has only 50 *scudi* annually from the episcopal sources. We recall the matter of a certain garden that was requested. The needs of the household, in the whole temporal picture, cannot be fully computed, especially in these miserable times of ours. In Romagna, there are five in the family there. But, oh! how needful that Province is for our Society. A certain Canon of Pesaro made plans for another foundation of ours with certain residuals. Oh! what edification has been given by the Province of Campagna during the Holy Year; what an improvement in culture it displays. Blessed will we be when, in all of the Provinces, the time will come when we will see in force a system of morality under the direction of the clergy. These achievements will be the glory of the priesthood.

Benevento: Freeing of the locale.

Albano: The artisans are yet to be paid and an endowment to be made to the seminary in Albano, and the Lateran Chapter.

Sermoneta - Terracina - Sonnino - Frosinone - Vallecorsa: offer together in various projects, along with supporting Albano; immense expenses. Vallecorsa is still in the process of building and restoring the convent occupied *olim*⁶¹ by the Viennese monks... Terracina, because of the sudden

⁶⁰ In temporal things.

⁶¹ Formerly.

refurbishings needed, has taken on 50 *scudi* of expenses and does not see the end as yet. Sonnino, where recently the boarding-school was inaugurated, my oh my what expenses! In general, it is a matter of convents that had been abandoned because of the recent upheavals, as well as of churches that have, as a consequence, been deserted. We need support for our daily living, and even more so, since the people, in general, do not have the means to do so; so also we do not want to irritate them with constant collections. The inevitable need for beds and those necessary furnishings in the church cannot help but face us, and they never seem to stop. I really would love to have some endowments and a general allowance for the entire Institute; likewise, a brief that would declare in our favor so many things that are rightfully ours; and then, *Nunc dimittis etc.*⁶² But, who knows whether the time for this has come or not.

In the hospice in Rome, we are paying an amount just for the walls alone. Oh how I would love to have an establishment in Rome for our clergy which could serve also as a center for learning languages to be used in the Missions of the Propaganda. Presently, I am in correspondence with missionaries in France. Assiduous prayers. With regard to Veroli, the locale will soon be freed. I am hoping to be rid of the burden of the emphyteusis in Frosinone. You should look into this matter with the Bisleti people. So, viewing the future, the Society will be able to be sure of that installation. When you discover papers or rescripts for our General Archives, do not forget to set them aside for me.

For anyone who is to assist or direct the Society, there should be a stable endowment. I repeat, let us offer prayers that God will bring to maturity our times etc. Every day, our membership keeps growing; the good work done is immense. I, too, must occupy myself in the field of preaching etc., assiduous prayers etc., and courage through the merits of the Divine Blood. The works of God are the fruit of tears and of suffering. Right now I am in the process of setting up the various groups who will be giving Missions in the fall. The Archbishop of Bologna is asking for Missions. He does not find the means. I shall write to the Marchese Tanari who will supply me with the information needed to facilitate those Missions and I am hopeful that we can come to some conclusion in the matter *auxiliante Deo*.⁶³ In short, let us serve God and even though troubled by things, let us glory in the crosses through which we will attain salvation etc.

1448

June 24, 1826
Fr. Giovanni Chiodi
Frosinone

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Dearest Father Giovanni

I have read the enclosed from Baucco. I have always said that I did not doubt the success that money could bring, but the lack of practical sense has brought about a useless spending.

Why give six *scudi* to the religious? Why spend money for more servants etc.? Why not keep an account of the offerings made by the people? On this, I point out that they are accepted only when means are not provided by the Missions, or when given for the benefit of our foundations in the way

⁶² Now dismiss, etc.

⁶³ By the help of God.

that I shall explain in more detail on another occasion. Finally, this applies with regard to those things that are urgent purely for our subsistence. However, I forgive you, for perhaps the fault is also mine; in fact, you can drop that perhaps since I have not given you sufficient instruction. At any rate, give no more thought to Bauccho in this matter.

You mentioned to me something about a reimbursement for that House for the Mission. What reimbursement are you referring to? The two *scudi* for Aloysi? But these you have probably already seen in the notification from Severini. I have nothing else in mind. But then, at the beginning of the upcoming month, you will be getting some help. I pray, however, that everyone will help the Institute, even in temporal matters, and I have no doubt that it will be so. As for the widow Meloni, at the beginning of each month you should send her the two *scudi* through the services of Canon Quattrociocchi. No further notice is needed beyond this.

Tell Canon Fusari that the privilege of the Mass of the Divine Blood is not to be extended to the auxiliaries. You are acting perfectly in asking me about everything.

I am sending you 20 Masses to be celebrated by you individually. I have already sent the alms to Severini.

I will take into consideration what you said to me about Marchetti. Little by little, we shall do all.

The frocks will be arriving on time. If I have forgotten anything, let me know. Pray to Jesus for me, and let us become saints. With esteem and respect, while kissing your hands, I remain

*Suo infimo in Christo servo*⁶⁴

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, June 24, 1826

1449

Around June 25, 1826

Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

Rome

*Christus dilexit Ecclesiam, acquisivit Sanguine Suo*⁶⁵

Venerable Monsignor and beloved brother

Here for you is the method for the Retreat, concerning which I have already instructed one or the other of the brethren and which, in time, I shall announce from the platform.

1. In place of the Chaplet, the Seven Offerings, read usually by the priest.

2. A brief reform, and a brief meditation. Blessing etc.

3. A conference, delivered on the Sunday preceding the feast, in Sant'Omobono, two hours and a half before midday for the men members, in particular, in Carica, along with the members of the St. Xavier group. On Monday, for the women, in particular, the sisters of charity. I am intending to announce all of this from the pulpit in time. What is dependent on your zeal, is to inform all of the aggregated members resident in Rome, or at least those whom we are able to have present, likewise in S. Omobono, at the indicated hour of the morning on the Friday preceding the feast of the Divine

⁶⁴ Being his lowest servant in Christ.

⁶⁵ Christ loved his Church ... he acquired [it] by his blood.

Blood, so that we can encourage them to promote, diffuse, extend this most important devotion. I see this to be necessary for the pure glory of God. Nothing else occurs to me to point out to you now except to ask you for your prayers. Do not be anxious about inviting bishops etc., having observed that even during the Marian months, that is not done. You do whatever you deem necessary, always bearing in mind the *horarium*,⁶⁶ since the functions are to be carried out precisely.

Monsignor Manassi⁶⁷ is in the final moments of his life. Oh the great will of God, etc.

Your affectionate brother

G. C. d. B.

M. Ap.

P.S. The seven-day thanksgiving should be carried out in the usual manner etc., except that the preaching matter should be presented in the form of a colloquium, etc. The same scheduling is to be observed.

1450

June 26, 1826

Msgr. Gregorio Muccioli

Bishop of Agatopoli

Rome

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor and dearest brother

I am enclosing a few pages. The letter which speaks about Monsignor Grimaldi offers you an opportunity to speak with the aforementioned Monsignor who will see that the letter of procurement, which is lacking, will come from the chancery. However, the listing of whatever has already been written, I would say, should be sent to Treja where they are presently in the process of setting up Archives, unless I am somewhat mistaken. Take care of yourself; pray for me, and with all my love and esteem, venerable Monsignor, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo M. ap.

House, June 26, 1826

P. S. Father Serafino, the Capuchin, wrote for a commission which has already been taken care of and completed. Give him my regards; he tells me that he will also be writing to you etc.

⁶⁶ Schedule.

⁶⁷ The letter certainly belongs to the month of June 1826 as is clearly evident from the reference to the grave illness of Monsignor Manassi. Furthermore, since it speaks of the retreat in preparation for the feast of the most Precious Blood, which in 1826 fell on Sunday, July 2nd, this letter must have been written a few days before the 25th of June, the "Sunday preceding the feast".