

St. Gaspar's Letters

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2451

December 25, 1832

Virginia Battisti

Frosinone

With regret did I learn¹ ... mother, nor will I fail ... thoughts for all ... to prepare myself well for so ... all of eternity depends. The edifying life, however, led by the deceased woman causes one basically to be hopeful that she is in a place of salvation. I am fully aware of the fullness of your sorrow, which can be mitigated by a glance at the crucifix and at the Sorrowful Mother. The suffering of the Baby Jesus in the cave of Bethlehem will serve for us also as an example in bearing the sufferings of this miserable life. So, I leave you now in the Heart of Jesus Christ, with the expression of my total respect, and wishing you every blessing for the recurring mysteries.

Devotedly yours

Gaspere C. del Bufalo

Miss. Ap.

Rome, December 25, 1832

2452

December 29, 1832

Msgr. Giuseppe Costantini

Vicar General of S. Salvatore Maggiore

Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo²

Venerable Monsignor

His Eminence Giustiniani has directed me to come to an agreement with your most reverend and illustrious lordship in aligning the Mission in Concerviano with the Retreat in the venerable seminary there. That is, that the two Missionaries might be able to handle first the one and then the other. So, please let me know, within a reasonable time, the date that all could be carried out in an orderly fashion. Have no doubts about the selection of our members, for they will be suitable to your expectations. It appears that Father Biagio will not be able to come since this year he is placed in charge of the schools. I kiss your hands, and, while wishing you a Happy New Year and many more, in the Heart of Jesus Christ, I am and will constantly be with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, December 29, 1832

P. S. Try to be insistent in the Cristaldi matters, for they are all pertinent to the people there.

2453

December 29, 1832

Student Fr. Orazio Bracaglia

Rimini

¹ These dots indicate that the copy of this letter has the word "torn off" written - that is, that the upper right hand corner of the original letter was missing.

² Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*³

Most esteemed Father Orazio

A thousand, thousand thanks for your joyful best wishes. *Dominus retribuet pro me in benedictionibus dulcedinis.*⁴

By carriage, I have sent a package for you, given to me in Frosinone. See that someone picks it up. The cost for the delivery will be taken care of by the recitation of one Hail Mary.

Become a saint, be humble, observe the rule, be a lover of that observance etc., as I have no doubt you will. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, December 29, 1832

2454

December 29, 1832

Fr. Giuseppe Ottaviani

Ancona

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Rome, December 29, 1832

Venerable Canon

Having just returned from several trips of the ministry, I now send a reply to your very kind letters. They are always welcome, but especially now with the recurring mysteries. In this case, I must say how very, very much I am obliged to you for the remembrance that you were pleased to show and continue to show for me. I assure you that I, too, in my wretchedness, do not fail to pray for you and for whatever you need, keeping in mind that true desire for an everlasting reunion in heaven toward which the years of time are directing us. Thus, let us continue to multiply our good works so that we will be fully rewarded by God. Wholeheartedly I extend to you my best wishes for every blessing of sweetness from the most merciful God during the New Year and many, many more, and I pray that your apostolate will be evermore productive of special and fruitful activities. *Ita fiat.*⁵ I would be happy to know whether Alessandro Musati, about whom you write to me, is in the locale for neophytes or in a particular family, so that I would be able to see him with great joy to my spirit! The program is quite interesting.

As for the money, the following should be done. After the collection, send me three *canne* and five *palmi* of good cloth, durable but not luxurious, for making a cloak for me and some other things. I repeat: three *canne* and five *palmi*. The money that is left over you should settle with his most reverend Eminence, the Cardinal, to whom you will give my greetings; you will have the means in Rome, or locate him thereabouts, or contact him by mail. On that occasion, or by means of another letter, you are to send me all the papers and accounts and a write-up of the affair. I will be most obliged to you for that. Also, indicate alongside the cost of the cloth that you are getting for me, but do not send that to me except after the collection. Include in the accounts your postal

³ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

⁴ The Lord will repay on my behalf in sweet blessings.

⁵ So may it be.

expenses etc.

With regard to Fr. Filippo, I would tell him that you will interrogate him about the expenses as well as for his instruction. Around Easter, you can contact him again, as you see necessary. In the meantime, in Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem, respect and gratitude

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

P. S. Perhaps you already know that the entire sum is for pious causes, Masses etc.

2455

January 1, 1833
Camillo Possenti
Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

Happy New Year and many more, all filled with blessings. Do not cease to pray and have others do so too, for me and for our Institute which the Lord is spreading more and more. In Cesena, another Mission House is being opened and still another is opened in Sonnino. *Laus Deo.*⁶

You will be receiving a letter from the President of Macerata Feltria regarding a certain business which that Mission House has in Fabriano. You might be able to use your influence for a happy result in that matter, and you will be doing me a very big favor.

I enclose a sample of the cloth or material which the Institute will be needing. Please send me one bolt, more or less complete, or two small ones. It seems that our other accounts are all settled. If not, please remind me. Pray for me, and, with esteem, respect and gratitude, I am incessantly

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, the 1st of 1833

2456

January 2, 1833
Fr. Giuseppe Maria Silvestri
Bauco

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

I extend to you my deep felt gratitude for your recent, very kind letter. Up to now, I do not know what Father Francesco Saverio of Pescaseroli has decided with regard to our Institute. However, in God, I am hopeful that his excellent nephew Father Pietro is ready to follow in the footsteps of Father Domenico.

With regard to the regulations concerning singing, I shall be awaiting your favors.

⁶ Praise God.

Pray for me *sine intermissione*.⁷ With esteem and respect, consider me to be, invariably
Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, the 2nd of 1833

P. S. Give my regards to Mrs. Carrara. Remind me of whatever I may have overlooked.

2457

January 2, 1833

Fr. Francesco Paradisi

Montalto

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Rome, the 2nd of 1833

Venerable Canon

Having just returned from several trips for the ministry, I am now sending a reply to your very kind letter which I appreciated beyond telling. May the Lord return to you a hundredfold the spiritual good wishes that you were pleased to extend to me, *et retribuatur in benedictionibus dulcedinis*.⁸ May all our days be days filled with merits for heaven and likewise all the years of time by means of which we will come to enjoy for eternal years that most blessed eternity which awaits us. Indeed, increase your prayers in my behalf for I am most needful of this kindness from you.

As for what you were able to leave in the Mission House, I know nothing. So, all you have to do is to address yourself to the local superiors, unless you wish simply to condone it. This, of course, is dependent on your decision to return or not. As for me, you will note that I am the same as before; but, if you are not content being with us, I can do nothing more than be resigned to the divine dispositions and say that the Lord wishes to have you as an apostle there in Montalto. Nevertheless, let us maintain a holy union in charity in the Heart of Jesus Christ where I now leave you, extending my sincerest regards to all of your household, to the most reverend bishop, and anyone else who remembers me.

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

P. S. Our House in Cesena is already opened, and also the one in Sonnino, two new foundations.

2458

January 8, 1833

Fr. Pietro Butti

Alatri

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Rome, the 8th of 1833

⁷ Without intermission.

⁸ He will repay in sweet blessings.

Most esteemed Canon

*Laus Deo*⁹ for what you were pleased to signify to me in your recent very kind letter. If I had been able even to imagine what you brought to my attention, I would not have asked Father Pietro de Victoriis for a course of Retreats which, indeed, will be beginning on Sunday the 13th. I could substitute another worker there; however, I do not agree with the idea that de Victoriis be required to complete what he has begun. This, then, is my feeling, as the good work continues, etc., etc..

The Sacchetti are accustomed to conducting the Retreat during the concluding days of carnival time. If, this year, you could work it out for Father Pietro, this would be an occasion for consolidating, improving and fulfilling every good work. Contact the Vicar General, to whom you will extend my good wishes, and then decide *in Domino*¹⁰ what you judge best. However, you must write to me by prompt mail so that I can regulate my actions. Only one bit of advice. It would be necessary for the Sacchetti to complete their work by the last Sunday of carnival time, since, on Monday, he would have to go to Vallecorsa in order to be on time for beginning the Lenten preaching there on Ash Wednesday.

Finally, pray for me, and have other do so too. With esteem, respect and very special affection, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

2459

January 9, 1833
To a priest Rome

House, the 9th of 1833

Venerable Canon

I thank you wholeheartedly for the leaflets dealing with the Opera di S. Michele and if it is not a trouble for you, continue sending them. The one thing that I regret is that I am not able, because of a lack of time, to carry out ordinarily all that I would really like to do. The Lord, however, will accept my good intentions. The leaflets for which I am very grateful are those dealing with the suffrages. The little time that I still have I must use in behalf of the Opera di S. Galla which I also recommend to your zeal. Give my regards to Canon Galli. Pray for me and consider me to be invariably

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

2460

January 12, 1833
Msgr. Antonio Begni
Bishop of Montefeltro
Pennabilli

⁹ Praise to God.

¹⁰ In the Lord.

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sansuine Suo*¹¹

Venerable Monsignor

I am writing this letter in order to inform your most worthy person that the Holy Father has already issued the rescript for the foundation in Pennabilli in keeping with the petition submitted in reference to the aggregation of the Filippini Fathers. That rescript is already in my possession, signed by his Eminence Frasoni *ex audientia Sanctissimi*.¹² However, before I produce it, it is necessary that I write the following: "His Holiness has granted this favor with the expressed stipulation that he does not wish to derogate from any bond at all that which might be *in favorem tertii*¹³ with respect to benefits forming the endowment of the House of the Filippini Fathers there". Therefore, it would be a good idea, if you would be pleased to do so, to write a couple of lines to me indicating that you assure me that the benefits to the Filippini Fathers remain free, and that not one of them will be called into question *in casu*.¹⁴ Once this matter is made clear, the entire procedure will be concluded.

I shall be awaiting your reply, and, while asking you for prayers, I am and will constantly be with complete respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, the 12th of 1833

2461

January 14, 1833

Fr. Luigi Prinzivalli

Rome

House, the 14th of 1833

Most esteemed Canon

Allow me to remind you of the task of hearing confessions for the poor people along with Canon Giuliani whom you will strongly urge to help; in case of a negative reply from him, (which I doubt will occur) you could then ask Father Filippo Gonnelli.

With regard to the Delegate Giacchesi, make every effort to get the memoranda. He left (so I was told) some floating credits as well as a permanent annuity. Father Filippo Gonnelli will be better able to elucidate this matter which is to be regulated as properly as possible. Pray for me who, with esteem, remains

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

2462

January 14, 1833

Fr. Tommaso Borti

¹¹ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

¹² From the audience of His Holiness.

¹³ In favor a third party.

¹⁴ In the case.

Rome

Most esteemed Father

With this most humble letter of mine, I wish to inform you that in the recent meeting of the workers in the hospice for the poor in S. Galla, your most illustrious person was selected as the postulator of the cause of the Servant of God, Parisi. While communicating all of this to you, trusting in your effective interest in projects leading to the glory of God, I have the honor, most illustrious Father, of repeating that I am, with esteem and respect

Your devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

14th of 1833

2463

January 15, 1833

Fr. Raffaele Rosati

Rimini

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Raffaele

In regard to the notification of Masses, we are all even.

Out of a condescending love and to please you, I exempt you from the Lenten preaching. However, with this change of things, I will only have to arrange things in other ways, in keeping with the urgency of the ministry. Do not cease praying for me. Address your letters to "Rome". With esteem and respect, I remain constantly

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

15th of 1833¹⁵

2464

January 24, 1833

Luigi Baldi

Meldola

Most esteemed Luigi¹⁶

Read this letter and then burn it. You may argue that I have not spoken well in favor of your cause. However, the circumstances did not allow for your request. So, please be satisfied with my good intention, though unable to do anything more for you. I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

¹⁵ From the postal markings it is evident that this letter was sent from Palestrina (Rome).

¹⁶ This letter is without a date, except for the postal markings (Palestrina, January 24); it is related likewise to a letter sent to him "From the rooms of Monte Citorio", dated January 17, 1833 in which there is mention of the impossibility of getting employment for Baldi, who had been recommended by the Saint, since higher considerations prevented the taking on of new personnel. The Saint wrote this letter in the left-hand margin of the aforementioned letter.

2465

January 25, 1833
 Msgr. Giuseppe Costantini
 Vicar General of S. Salvatore Maggiore

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Venerable Monsignor

I am sending this reply to two of your letters. Correspondence should always be addressed to "Rome".

In regard to your first very kind letter, I say that before Ash Wednesday I shall determine precisely the time for the projects of the ministry. We must adapt to the many things that are pressing at that time. However, your interests will not be forgotten.

Now, to the second of your most appreciated letters, and, in reference to the young man, I say candidly that since I have refused other requests, it is not right that I should go along with this one that is being offered to me. I shall give you only two reasons. First, it is not just that our Institute, so limited in means, should pay for one who does not intend to offer himself to our Society. Second, since subdeacons are exempted from the cost of room and board, I am not, you can be sure, in a position to have outsiders enjoy this privilege; even with our own we take the same stand. Furthermore, God knows that, through his grace, the projects of his glory are dear to my heart, and I would not mind offering myself for them; but *non omnia omnibus*.¹⁷ Add to this, my attachment, my esteem and my propensity for going along with each and every one of your desires is simply another stimulus for accepting the project. Please read all that I have in my heart. These are miserable times and I do not wish to take on more debts for our Institute. Finally, do not cease insisting energetically on the Cristaldi matters that are so beneficial for that Abbacy. I kiss your hands, venerable Monsignor, and with profound obeisance, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Zagarolo, 25th of 1833

2466

January 29, 1833
 Fr. Raffaele Rosati
 Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Raffaelle

Send a reply to Canon Muti, *pro veritate rei*,¹⁸ indeed, in few and simple terms concerning Gentilucci.

Tell Canon Fontana that I will send an answer to everything in the next ordinary mail-delivery.

It will be necessary for you to do me the kindness of preaching the Lenten series in Giano,

¹⁷ Not all things for everyone.

¹⁸ For the truth of the affair.

which Merlini took care of last year. I had exempted you from this, but now you can be sure that I am not able to exempt you. You will do a great work in that area. After that, you will return to Romagna. Be assured that you will be doing a great work. Send me your reply quickly, et juxta cor meum.¹⁹ For this, I shall be most obliged to you. A great deal of good results from preaching. With esteem, consider me as

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

29th of 1833

Send your letters to "Rome".

If Pievetorina is more convenient for you, let me know; in that case, the Lenten preacher in Pievetorina will go to Giano. Perhaps this might be less expensive. Make your decision freely. Write to me.²⁰

2467

Msgr. Fortunato Maria Ercolani

Bishop of Civita Castellana

Civita Castellana

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*²¹

Venerable Monsignor

Thank you for your very appreciated letter which I shall communicate to Canon Achille. In all things, may the will of God be done. I kiss your hands, venerable Monsignor, and extending my best wishes to your excellent brother, I am and will constantly be

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Genazzano, February 4, 1833

Send your letters to "Rome".

2468

February 4, 1833

Fr. Rafaele Rosati

Rimini

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Rafaele

Upon receiving this letter of mine, please leave for the Lenten series in Pievetorina (that is how I have set it up). This humble letter of mine will also serve as an introduction to the excellent and most worthy Archbishop of Camerino²² to whom you will give my greetings. Try to be there in good time. Sermons are delivered three times a week. In Pievetorina, you will be getting another of

¹⁹ And near my heart.

²⁰ This second paragraph was written on the fourth siding near the address.

²¹ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

²² Msgr. Nicola Mattei.

my letters. Seek to follow the most concise and economical travel arrangement. This is what God wishes; and you should be obediently trustful. I repeat: get there in time so that everything will work out in good order. You will do a great deal of good work, and you will be doing me a very special favor that I shall not forget. With esteem and affection, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Genazzano, February 4, 1833

Your letters, "Rome".

2469

February 9, 1833

Vow to St. Appollonia
to be freed of a discharge from his teeth²³
the favor received

"to celebrate one Mass for the Souls in Purgatory on one day of the Novena, or on her feastday, or within the octave. In case of physical impossibility, I will be held to nothing. In case of moral impossibility, caused by any, though slight but reasonable motive, I shall be permitted to delegate the celebration, or take care of it myself *quam primum*".²⁴

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

On February 9, 1833, I celebrated *ut supra*.²⁵

It was fulfilled in February 1834

It was fulfilled in February 1835

It was fulfilled in February 1836

On November 16, 1837, *Paschalis Virgilij applicavi*²⁶

2470

February 14, 1833

Student Fr. Orazio Bracaglia
Cesena

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Orazio

Here are the dimissorials. Now you are to plan to present yourself, along with the Superior of the House, to the most reverend bishop, and then to send the document of the ordination at your convenience.

During your Retreat, do not forget to pray for me and for the Institute, which God is using for so many projects leading to his glory. Particularly, establish holy humility deeply within yourself,

²³ Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Gaspar's Health and Teeth Problems. For various reasons [cf. This note] we assign the writing of this vow to February 9, 1833.

²⁴ As soon as possible.

²⁵ As above.

²⁶ This last line is in the handwriting of Virgili. [I applied it on Easter. Virgilj]

and for this virtue, try to get the most intimate knowledge from the Lord. Be zealous in the observance of the Rule and in the imitation of Berchmans. God wishes you still in the boarding school, and you are to look after the responsibility which, as the oldest one there, you have before God. See that everything goes along in accordance with our acknowledged regulations, and, whenever you have any doubt, write to me. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, February 14, 1833

2471

February 14, 1833

Camillo Possenti

Fabriano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Camillo

It is now some days since I have returned from the holy Missions. This is what caused a delay in our correspondence. In the mail, you will be receiving the 6,48 *scudi* for the cloth which I have received. I would like to have a line or so from you, for my own peace of mind, Pray for me and have others do so too. With esteem and respect, I am, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, February 14, 1833

2472

February 15, 1833

Msgr. Antonio Begni

Bishop of Montefeltro

Pennabilli

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*²⁷

Venerable Monsignor

Here is the rescript from the Holy Father. I pointed out to Cardinal Frasoni that he should see that the stated conditions are observed in the foundation of the Congregation of the Filippini Fathers. Until the matters were clarified. I was not able to send the rescript. Now, with the last most appreciated letter, I do not know what to say. Examine the situation well and then it will be necessary for you, if you agree, to send in another petition in which you will ask for what is needed and is lacking In any case of exclusion, which will never happen because of a fault on our part, please return the enclosed matter to me so that it can be preserved in our archives, only for the sake of historical record. In the meantime, I shall not fail to pray that, in all things, the will of God be done.

The Lenten preacher for Macerata will be the Superior of our House in Cessena, Father

²⁷ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

Gennaro Gamboa, a priest who will do a great deal of good work. I kiss your hands. With esteem and respect, I remain²⁸

Rome, February 15, 1833

P. S. Then, too, you could please send the paper directly to Cardinal Fransoni.

2473

February 16, 1833

Michele Di Mattia

Vallecorsa

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Michele²⁹

As soon as the subject who wishes to be invested as a member of the St. Xavier group gets to Rome, I will instruct him with regard to everything that is needed. You are to continue zealously with your apostolate. Pray for me who remains constantly

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, February 16, 1833

P. S. I received the letter of concern for his Eminence Odescalchi. I will see that the petition gets to him. In this matter, they should write directly to the Curiale Savelli, and they should select a person who will work on it. I do not have the time. Share this letter of mine with Giovanni di Mattia.

2474

February 16, 1833

Fr. Luigi Gonnelli

Rome

Dearest Canon³⁰

My appointments which are always becoming more numerous oblige me to ask you to take my place in the position of Director of the organization of the brethren of St. Xavier as well as the organization for the women. This branch of the apostolate will add new meritorious opportunities for your particular zeal. With your ability to get things done, you will bring about improvements and render more glorious this work of the Lord who is the sole center of our hearts. With this understanding, then, you should look into whatever pertains to the steady progress of things in every respect. With esteem and affection, I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

House, February 16, 1833

²⁸ The piece of paper of this letter which bore the signature was cut off. In a notation, Merlini says that "it was given as a remembrance to the sister of Natalia [?] Sapada on April 9, 1861.

²⁹ On the second siding, Michele De Mattias makes a listing of "those incorporated in 1833 into the organization of St. Xavier in Vallecorsa".

³⁰ In a different handwriting, at the foot of the page, there is the signature: "Sig. Can. D. Luigi Gonnelli".

2475

February 23, 1833
Fr. Pietro Butti
Alatri

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Canon

With regard to the seminary there, here is my opinion. De Victoriis could come the night of Palm Sunday but not before. He could instruct the youth on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, and on Holy Thursday, communion in the cathedral. Get in touch with Canon Domeniconi. I have selected De Victoriis, who during those days does not have Lenten preaching, because every moment is useful for the organizations. I shall be awaiting your response. I am writing in a hurry. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, February 23, 1833

With regard to the conservatory, you say when, while including some other things etc.

2476

February 24, 1833
Msgr. Giuseppe Costantini
Vicar General of S. Salvatore Maggiore

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*³¹

Venerable Monsignor

One of my confreres, Father Isidoro Paoletti, is in Poggio S. Lorenzo to conduct the Retreat there. After Poggio S. Lorenzo, he could move on to Longone, from there to Vallecupola, and finally to Varco. With the course of the Retreat covering eight days, the Retreat in the seminary should be held from the Tuesday after Passion Sunday, or the Wednesday, up to the Wednesday of Holy Week. I hope that this will correspond to your wishes and can be worked out with his Eminence Giustiniani if you also approve of this. I would appreciate your reply. Then, there is the Mission in Concerviano; I will send other workers who will assist also the souls in the Abbacy of Farfa. I kiss your hands, and, with esteem and respect I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, February 24, 1833

2477

February 26, 1833
Mother Maria Nazzarena De Castris
Piperno

³¹ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

Hail to the Divine Blood

Very reverend Mother

I am sure that God has helped you to realize that my delay in answering was caused by a very definite inability. It is just a very short while now since I have returned from the holy Missions. After my return, I found that the affairs of our Institute had grown by leaps and bounds. Likewise, I was occupied with the death of two of my Missionaries, called to the eternal years by God, just a short time from each other. Recommend them to the Lord for me. Also, pray for me and for all of our Institute, that our numbers will constantly increase.

The status of your soul is one undergoing special interior and exterior sufferings. However, a glance at the Crucified Lord is our great comfort. Let us enter into the Divine Heart and there we shall find calm and tranquility. What I am stressing here, indeed, is to have great trust in God, blind obedience with reference to past life, and a secure feeling in God that things will continue to proceed with regularity. There is nothing to fear. The devil keeps buzzing, but pay no attention to him.

With regard to your duties, and anything else, let all be placed in the furnace of holy, divine love. You are now being faced with a situation calling for great patience. Exercise it courageously. As for Sonnino, have no doubt, I will inconvenience you, when necessary. In Jesus Crucified, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, February 26³²

2478

February-March 1833

Fr. Raimondo Casanova

Zagarolo

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*³³

Most esteemed Father Raimondo³⁴

I have sent the young man in the meantime to Albano.³⁵ Once he has been invested, he will eventually be assigned to his position. Celebrate the Masses at the earliest possible opportunity and please send me the notification according to our rule. I am sending the devotional materials as the alms. Let me know if this is agreeable with you.

The exercise for the Oratory as a unified matter will be printed this year, generally speaking. For the time-being, it will be necessary to supply as best as possible.

If one or the other booklet is not needed by you, please send it back to me and I will give you an exchange for it. This is all that I felt obliged to convey to you. In the meantime, with esteem, I

³² The year is 1833 as is evident from the reference to the death of two Missionaries (Fr. Luigi Renzi and Fr. Giacomo Achille) which occurred, respectively, on January 11, 1833 in Sermoneta, and February 24, 1833 in Frosinone.

³³ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

³⁴ The letter is without a date, but it must be from 1833. In fact, in January of that year St. Gaspar preached the Mission in Zagarolo. Also, in the letter to Michele De Mattia, of March 26, 1833, mention is made, as also here, of the new printing of the rule for the Oratory. Cfr. , furthermore, what is said in Note 2. Therefore, it seems that this letter should be assigned to a time shortly after the Mission in Zagarolo.

³⁵ Probably refers to the Brother Loreto Petrassi of Zagarolo who entered in 1833.

remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

P. S. The mistake of the sixteen *paoli* was cleared up and were consigned to the young man who noted the mistake.

2479

February-March 1833

Fr. Raimondo Casanova Zagarolo

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dear Father Raimondo³⁶

Please celebrate five Masses according to my intention, and then we are all settled on everything. Please accept the enclosed matter, and, in Jesus Christ crucified, I am

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

P. S. If God calls you to our Society, then come. It is necessary to celebrate the Masses immediately; please, then, send me the notification. I suppose that you yourself will celebrate them. The *scudo* for the corresponding alms are income for the Institute.

2480

March 2, 1833

Fr. Pietro Ferrante

Falvaterra

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Pietro

Voluntarily will I send the Missionary to take care of the Three Hours of Agony in Ripi. You should handle the required proprieties with the most reverend bishop informing him that you have written to me. On the morning of the same Good Friday, send the mounts with a footman. Once the Missionary has completed the Three Hours service, he will be returning. A burro will be needed for the brother-in-service. For regulating my own schedules, please send me a reply, with haste. Continue promoting good work there; in particular, our great devotion. Then, too, as far as you are concerned, why do you not follow Xavier in our Institute of the Missions?

Pray for me and have others do so too. With esteem and respect, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 2, 1833

P. S. The Missionary will be selected from Frosinone. Send me your reply immediately.

³⁶ This letter, too, is without a date, but is most probably contemporaneous with the preceding one.

2481

March 2, 1833
Fr. Pietro Butti
Alatri

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

Venerable Canon

Canon Domeniconi is perfectly correct, and I fully agree with him that eight days will be needed for the seminary. However, I, in the recent planning demonstrated only my own willingness, even for the meditation for the organization of St. Xavier. But no longer am I able to take part since Lent is all filled out for our Institute. The Jubilee celebration in Romagna; requests sent in from Sabina preceding those that came from Alatri, in addition to what had been arranged beforehand in the Province; I need not mention more. Many of our men are also occupied in Lenten preaching etc. etc. So, *non nos elegit Dominus*.³⁸ May God entrust this good work to others, as well as that which is desired following the work in the Conservatory. Hence, this means that it will be up to your zeal to locate someone else who is capable of handling the work for the organizations. Give my best regards to the Canon Vicario. Pray for me. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, March 2, 1833

P. S. after Easter, I shall be in the Province for the Mission in Veroli. In the meantime, prayers.

2482

March 2, 1833
Mother Maria Teresa Cherubina
Monastery of Buon Consiglio
Cori

Hail to the Divine Blood

Mother Superior

They wrote to me from Sermoneta about the Retreat that you in that Monastery are requesting. If it takes place immediately after Easter, I am hopeful that I can come there in person, or send another of our capable men. In Lent, it is truly impossible. I shall be awaiting a line or so of reply from you, please. Asking you for your prayers, I remain, with esteem

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 2, 1833

2483

March 2, 1833

³⁷ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

³⁸ The Lord did not choose us.

Msgr. Giuseppe Costantini
 Vicar General of S. Salvatore Maggiore

Tell me precisely the places where you wish to have Retreats so that I can arrange my schedule, in addition to the ones mentioned in the enclosed matter. If two of our men are needed for the seminary, then indicate that to me, please. I feel that one would be sufficient.³⁹

2484

March 4, 1833
 Card. Carlo Odescalchi
 Rome

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁴⁰

Your Eminence⁴¹

I am enclosing a page⁴² of reminders pertaining to the pious organization of S. Galla for which I find that I am no longer able to do what I had been doing before. However, much of it is being handled by Father Filippo Gonnelli.

At the time when I ceased the administration of that hospice, I presented several useful suggestions; if your most reverend Eminence would like a copy one day, all you have to do is drop me a line and set up a definite appointment. Or, at any word from you, I will supply you with a copy of them.

Because of the inspiration which your most reverend Eminence arouses in me, I would like to communicate to you a thought of mine which always remains fixed in my mind. It is that it appears to me that there should be someone who would assist your Eminence in the work of the hospice, for you can be sure that it demands one's occupation, with all due respect to everyone. Perhaps, it may be an error on my part; but you can consult with the Lord in prayer. I have delayed writing to you of this because I feared doing something that was none of my business; but then, after recommending myself to the Father of Lights I decided to present this, respectfully. If I am doing wrong, *habe me excusatum*.⁴³ No human motivation could have induced me to write about this. Only the pure motivation of the glory of God.

Your most reverend Eminence does not lack available men upon whom you can cast your glance; they could offer themselves in service. I could mention a priest, dependent on your most reverend Eminence, who does not have many responsibilities and who would be able to frequent the hospice. The higher level of direction is well-entrusted to your most worthy person; however, other matters pertaining to the work of this pious place either would not fit in with your duties or would not jibe with the titles with which you are invested.

Finally, do not cease praying a lot and always for me, and I assure you that I will never forget you in my unworthy prayers. In Santi Lorenzo e Damaso, do not forget the great devotion to Xavier

³⁹ This note has no written date. In someone else's handwriting, it appears to read "2 marzo". The year, certainly, is 1833. (cfr. the letter to the same person dated February 24, 1833).

⁴⁰ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

⁴¹ This letter does not have an address. However, it undoubtedly pertains to Cardinal Carlo Odescalchi, the patron of the organization of S. Galla.

⁴² Cfr. the following letter.

⁴³ Hold me excused.

... the Fridays ... the Novena. Take care of yourself; move about a bit. I recommend the confessor for the good Capuchin nuns of Albano. I kiss the sacred purple, and with profound reverence, esteem and veneration, most reverend Eminence, I remain

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

March 4, 1833

Novena of Xavier, until the 12th, the day of his canonization.

2485

March 4, 1833

Card. Carlo Odescalchi

Rome

Santa Galla

Memorandum

This pious union has, for some time now, lost the 20 *scudi* which, ever since the time of the good Saroni, had been granted for the first Communion of the children of that pious place.

For the feast of the Sacred Heart, 40 pounds of wax were provided; certificates were printed and 20 *scudi* were supplied for the feastday.

In person, the Delegate Giacchesi was discussed.

2486

March 4, 1833

To a Cardinal Rome

Your Eminence

The holy Retreat in S. Cecilia is completed⁴⁴ and I hope with the special blessings of the Lord. Within a short while the extraordinary visit will take place. Then, I shall be with your most reverend Eminence, whose sacred purple I kiss. I am and will constantly be with profound reverence, most reverend Eminence,

Your most devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

House, March 4, 1833

2487

March 6, 1833

Fr. Antonio Gammarelli

Rome

Venerable Canon

For three purposes the devotion of the divine Blood is promoted. First, to pay a cult of compensation for the abuse that sinners offer it. Second, to present to the Eternal Divine Father an

⁴⁴ Here a word is illegible

offering of the price of our redemption and to implore peace for our times. Third, to point out to the people that *justificati in Sanguine salvi erimus ab ira ser ipsum*.⁴⁵ So, add to all your other merits the one that is going to acquire all that the enclosed matter implores; also, everything that you find in the booklets regularly used in our devotion. Always with fullest gratitude to you, I have the pleasure, dear Canon, of declaring once again with esteem that I am

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

March 4, 1833

P. S. Please, if it will be necessary to make improvements in the petition, entrust this task to some good cleric etc.

2488

March 7, 1833

Fr. Tomasso Meloni

Cammerino per Pievetorina

Hail to the Divine Blood

Fr. Tommaso

By mail, you have probably received the 3 *Sc.* for your Masses. In addition, you shall receive 2.94 *Sc.* for the other 20 Masses, for I posted them today. I say 2.94 *Sc.* because I have made a deduction for the postage costs. You will send me notice with regard to this.

I recommend to your charity the good management of things there, *in omnibus et per omnia*.⁴⁶

Concerning the barber, it seems that one might well be rid of that expense, since Titta, who knows how to do barbering, is there. In this matter, if there should be some difficulty because of just reasons, let me know about it. Be sure that you do not fail to have the Brothers observe the rule and also be given conferences.

Since I wish (and I tell you this as a natural secret not to be divulged) to follow the practice of the Church of changing those preachers who have remained for a whole year at a certain place (as long as God gives us the strength to keep up the preaching of the ministry), I have been considering assigning you, after the Easter precept season, to the House at Nepi. There you will be stationed with Fr. Raffaele Brandimarte and two of our Brothers. That is how it will be for the time being as to number, besides, of course, our men who stop off there while they are traveling. Let me know if you are happy about this; but, speak to me as you would to a subject of yours, for I want to do what you tell me. I feel that this is the way I must write to you.

Let me know how Rosati is getting along. Pray for me, who in J.C. Crucified,
am

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, March 7, 1833

⁴⁵ Justified in his blood we shall be saved through it from wrath.

⁴⁶ In all things and through all things.

P. S. Tell Rosati that I shall write to him in another ordinary mail delivery. Let me know when the Lenten blessing is given there.

2489

March 7, 1833
Student Fr. Orazio Bracaglia
Cesena

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Father Orazio

I give thanks to God for your ordination, a new motivation for your gratitude and for your pursuit of sanctity.

I am greatly pleased that you have informed me of everything that is needed. In reply, I say:

1. After Easter, Father Gennaro will be coming as the head of the House of studies and the classes. For the time being, Santarelli will supply as best as possible.

2. With regard to silence, preach by way of example; speak often of it with the companions; in every instance, first one glance toward God while making an act of humility and prayer, acknowledging thus our own wretchedness. Then, a glance toward the companions who are new. Gradually and with kindness you will win them over; be mindful of Berchmans. Finally, a glance toward me, keeping me informed on occasion. Likewise, before Easter, Sebastianelli⁴⁷ will be returning to the House of Studies until he is fully prepared through his studies to be hearing confession *pro viris*,⁴⁸ while expecting Fr. Gennaro to complete this work.

3. Is Storchenau available there? Let me know. Are there writings on ethics? For the time being, do whatever can be done there. After Easter, everything will be set in order. You yourself must help out in this.

4. I have sent the Sardagna. That is already taken care of for the present. Keep me informed. After I get your next letter, I shall see what has to be done and I will bring it to a conclusion. Let me know what has been done so far, that is to say, to what point you reached. Write to me in detail and with precision.

5. With regard to the rule, write directly to Gentili, the director of the young men in the House of Studies in Albano, so that everything will be done according to good order, and make a copy of whatever is required. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, March 7, 1833

2490

March 9, 1833
La Madre Abbadessa
Monastero in Velletri per

⁴⁷ Fr. Antonio Sebastianelli. (cfr. the letter to Fr. Bracaglia dated May 22, 1833.

⁴⁸ For men.

Cori⁴⁹

Hail to the Divine Blood

Mother Abbess

I understand all that you say to me. When the need arises, on some other occasion, if God inspires you to do so, please write to me in due time. I am deeply sorry that I was not able to help you, but because of the Jubilee celebrations in many Diocese, our members have been swallowed up, so to speak, and these were all previously made reservations.

This humble letter of mine will serve to ask you and your Community for the charity of incessant prayers; recommending to you the devotion to the Divine Blood, price of our salvation, in Jesus Christ Crucified I am with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted, obliged servant

Gaspare del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 9, 1833

2491

March 9, 1833

Fr. Stefano Pigliucci

S. Felice in Giano

Hail to the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

Rome, March 9, 1833

Most esteemed Canon

It is true that the pile-up of affairs does delay our correspondence, however, I never forget to pray for you.

Your father informs me that your canonry is administered by Canon Marchetti, once the Vicar Forane if I am not mistaken.

So, in order to get assistance, continue to write to him. I beg you, however, not to ask me to act in this matter. The reason why is that I simply do not have the time and only on very rare occasions do I see Cardinal Falzacappa. Still, I do have the chance of seeing Abate Cannella with whom I believe I spoke one time meeting him at the house of Prior Falzacappa when we discussed indifferent matters.

With regard to the ordination, at the first opportunity, I shall check to see what the Cardinal has in mind; but this will not occur presently. You should write to him directly with your petition enclosed.

Once you are ordained priest, while continuing to persevere in your moderated conduct, I will find no difficulty in having you remain in our Institute. In due time, your career will perhaps be exercised in Romagna. But then, what arrangement can be made for your patrimonial title? We should continue praying for this. In the meantime, prayer - study - and preparation for the ministry, while cultivating holy humility.

With esteem and respect, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified,

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

⁴⁹ Cf. Gasparian History and Trivia: Cori (Monastery of Maria del Buon Consiglio)

Mis. Ap.

P. S. With regard to your studies, cling to what is practiced in our Institute and, as best as I can, I shall write to Palombi. The House of Studies, expressly desired by the bishop, has been opened in Cesena. Let us pray.

2492

March 11, 1833

Msgr. Giuseppe Costantini

Vicar General of S. Salvatore Maggiore

Hail to the Divine Blood

Venerable Monsignor

After receiving two of your most esteemed and appreciated letters, I now owe you a reply to both of them.

Father Vincenzo Cotino, it is very true, should be on hand for the appointment that he knows about and about which you write to me. However, I am holding there in reserve Father Isidoro Paoletti until the Sunday *in Albis*; if this arrangement is not adequate, then, with your customary kindness, please let me know. Have no doubts, I shall write to him in keeping with your wishes. So, I shall be awaiting your response which, I beg, will be promptly sent.

With regard to Concerviano, let me know whether you are ordering a Retreat there or whether you wish to have a Mission, as expressed in the petition. If it is a question of Mission, I will send another of our capable workers who, along with Father Isidoro, could initiate the Mission either on the first or second day of the feast of Easter. For that period of time, if necessary, I could send two workers, in order to allow Father Isidoro to be free; so, let me know, always using the mail-delivery. If, however, may I repeat, you feel that Father Isidoro will be enough, then no further expenses need be made for traveling. I will do whatever you tell me just as long as God will be glorified and souls will be purged in the Divine Blood. Pray a lot for me. Now that the mail is ready to depart, I reserve anything further *ad alias*.⁵⁰ While kissing your hands, I remain wholeheartedly and with esteem

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, March 11, 1833

2493

March 14, 1833

Fr. Lorenzo De Rossi

Zagarolo

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁵¹

Most esteemed Father Lorenzo

A couple of lines to express to you my sentiments of true exaltation in God for the good work

⁵⁰ For another time.

⁵¹ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

that you are zealously promoting through the holy Oratory, *ad opera*⁵² of St. Xavier. I am desirous of seeing an even greater increase. Be another Xavier in Zagarolo. Stimulate, encourage, direct and consolidate this most salutary establishment. May you be pleased with the enclosed matter. While asking you for your prayers, I am and will constantly be, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

G. C. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 14, 1833

2494

March 14, 1833

Fr. Carlo Giorgi

Genazzano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Carlo

On the Saturday before Passion Sunday, two of my companions, along with a Brother, will be arriving in order to go to the Mission in Pisciano. I have told these men to stay with the Augustinian Fathers there, but I have not had the heart to say a single syllable to them. In your charity, would you please look into this and leave word that when they arrive they are to go, for example, to the aforementioned house where, for one night, they will enjoy their hospitality. I am relying on your charity and await your reply. On that occasion, you are to act for me with the Father Prior and with the pastor, thanking them for the great kindness they showed in welcoming us at the last Mission. It is not necessary for me to recommend to your well-known zeal the pious organizations, and to pray and have others always pray for me. Do me the favor of giving to Pisciano the following instructions:

1. On Passion Sunday, the Mission will begin around hour 22.
2. They are to send in due time three saddled mounts to Genazzano to be used by the Missionaries, who will be quickly informed of this, and, that the footman should first have attended Mass.
3. When the Missionaries are drawing near, the meeting is to be carried out as you know it to be done there, and then, with the passage of time, record all in the name of his most reverend Eminence⁵³ as well as mine. Furthermore, see that the platform is prepared and anything else that will be needed.
4. Arrange lodging for the Missionaries. Three separate beds are needed, two for the Missionaries, the third for the Brother. But note, the separate beds are to be in one or two rooms if there is no other accommodation.
5. The Brother will assist the Missionaries who will be living apart, that is, by themselves.
6. If they do not have the Crucifix in Pisciano, one could, if you think it a good idea, have Father Francesco Manselle be kind enough to loan one. In that case, it would be necessary that someone in Pisciano who is well-known should go to get it. Otherwise, one will be sent there.
7. Tell the pastor, or whoever is responsible, to send someone to me in Rome to get the

⁵² For works.

⁵³ Cardinal Carlo Maria Pedicini.

container with the most holy Madonna and St. Xavier. Opportunities will not be lacking.

This is the charitable action that I am asking of you. If you could arrange a meeting with the pastor, to whom I send my best regards, this would be even more useful. At the latest, the general communion service will occur on Holy Wednesday in the morning; shortly thereafter, the reminders; after the noon meal, they can enter into the services of Holy Week. I shall be awaiting your response. In Jesus Christ crucified, I remain, with esteem and respect

Your humble, devoted and obliged servant

Gaspare Can. del Bufalo

Mis. Ap.

Rome, March 14, 1833

2495

March 16, 1833

Bartolomeo Panzini

Sermoneta

Hail to the Divine Blood

Dearest Bartolomeo

A couple of lines in a hurry since Giovanni is about to go the post office. I understand everything that you tell me. May the will of God be done. I shall be awaiting you at the earliest possible moment that you can work out. Write to me. Take care of yourself; pray for me. Give my best regards to Canon Aloysi. I am surprised that Father Biagio has gone to Sezze. In Jesus Christ, I remain

Affectionately yours

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, March 16, 1833

2496

March 16, 1833

Msgr. Antonio Begni

Bishop of Montefeltro

Pennabilli

*Christus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁵⁴

Venerable Monsignor

The only reason that Cardinal Franzoni had in not having the request repeated was because of a certain reticence in not showing that he was upset without sufficient cause. So, if a declaratory petition is really necessary, send it to him by way of mail-delivery within an envelope. I am hopeful that you will offer your services since you are one filled with zeal for the glory of God and the welfare of souls. With these things in mind, I shall hold off sending Father Gennaro who already has the power of attorney until a reply is sent to this most humble letter of mine. Father Gennaro is charged only to take care of the canonical acts; whereas, with the settlement of things, another of our men will be the President of our new foundation.

⁵⁴ Christ loved us and washes us in his blood.

For the sake of history, I shall point out that, contained in the petition, we are to enjoy the privileges of the Congregation of the Filippini Fathers and, unless I am mistaken, the Indulgences too. I would imagine that the Congregation of the Filippini Fathers remains incorporated and connected, so to speak, with our Institute; not indeed suppressed; and the expression "privileges" is a general indication of this. At any rate, I beseech you to write a line or so. I shall not depart from your suggestions and I will send you the necessary page of clarifications that are required for the assumption of possession itself. I kiss your hands; send me news about yourself; and, with esteem and respect, I remain, in Jesus Christ crucified

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

March 16, 1833

2497

March 19, 1833

Fr. Carlo Giorgi

Genazzano

Hail to the Blood of Jesus Christ

Most esteemed Canon

I have not received your response to a letter of mine. I am hopeful that you have carried out everything. Tell the pastor of Pisciano that he should try to arrange someone to come to Rome for the container holding the Madonna and St. Xavier. I am writing in a hurry.

I shall send a reply to your recent letter concerning the project etc.

Your humble servant

G. C. del Bufalo

M. Ap.

Rome, March 19, 1833

2498

March 19-23, 1833

Fr. Carlo Giorgi

Genazzano

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Father Carlo

Here is the container which must be sent on to Pisciano, along with the Crucifix that Father Francesco Manselle is kind enough to make available. Please, work things out with the curate of Pisciano, informing him not to send anyone to Rome for this baggage. However, he should pay the coachman a few *paoli* that are required for having transported the container. Otherwise, I will take care of it when you send me word.

With Saturday's mail-delivery,⁵⁵ I shall be sending you a prepaid packet in which I shall give

⁵⁵ This letter does not have a date. From letters to this same person, dated the 14th and 19th of March, 1833, we conclude that this letter must come after the one dated March 19 and previous to the one of March 23, "Saturday", the day on which St. Gaspar will write him still another letter.

you a reply to your most esteemed letter. In it, you will also find a letter of mine to my companions in Pisciano which must get to them immediately so that their ministry will be conducted according to regulations. Inform the companions, however, that this letter of mine which will be getting to them alters nothing in the method to be used as already written to them and arranged, but including what I am now writing to Missionary Father Cotino contained herein. The introductory functions will begin on Sunday. I am etc.

Your humble servant
G. C. del Bufalo
 M. Ap.

2499

March 25, 1833
 Fr. Antonio Santelli
 Roma

*X'tus dilexit nos, et lavit nos in Sanguine Suo*⁵⁶

My Venerable Monsignor

I regret having to write to you that it has become impossible for me to give the Triduum at the *Accademia delle Belle Arti*. In good faith I said yes, and God knows how much I would like to do this. However, a cold that has assailed me will not permit me to carry out what I had promised. Hence the denial arises from necessity and not from choice. I would say that you should make arrangements for another of our members, whom you will discover will not be wanting. In an extreme case, and with another reminder from you, I will come; but please realize that I have no voice: and I must rest it for a while. Meanwhile consider me with all esteem as your

Humble, devoted, obliged
Gaspere C. del Bufalo
 M. Ap.
 P. S. Perhaps you could get a Jesuit.⁵⁷

2500

March 26, 1833
 Michele Di Mattia
 Vallecorsa

Hail to the Divine Blood

Most esteemed Michele

Here is the rule for the Oratory. I do not have copies of the large books of the rule until the new reprinting. I am sending two of the hymnals.

Paoletti's letter has already taken its course.

In writing to me, whenever necessary, give me no other title than that of Missionary.

Pray for me. With esteem and respect, I remain

⁵⁶ Christ loved us and washed us in his blood.

⁵⁷ Despite his cold and hoarseness the Saint had to preach nevertheless, perhaps because it was not possible to find anyone to substitute for him. Msgr. Santelli who was the director of the spiritual association at the *Accademia delle Belle Arti* assures us of this, noting in his *Vita* and in his own writing: "in 1833 he gave a triduum of exercises to the entire *Accademia* of S. Luca".

Your humble servant
G. C. del Bufalo
M. Ap.
Rome, March 26, 1833
I will look into the faculty for the seven churches. Have no doubt about this.⁵⁸

⁵⁸ This postscript is on the second siding.