

THE VOICE OF ROSA MYSTICA

MOTHER OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

FONTANELLE DI MONTICHIARI - (Brescia)

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Monthly bulletin of the Foundation Rosa Mystica - Fontanelle Montichiari (Bs) - Italy



*Holy Lent:
the propitious
time for
conversion
and return
to God*



Important clarifications on the Marian Worship in Fontanelle di Montichiari

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on the recognition and regulation
of the Marian devotion in Fontanelle di Montichiari*

Since some time we receive communications from Rosa Mystica devotees in different parts of the world regarding disciplinary actions by their Bishops on the devotion to Mary, Rosa Mystica, as well as letters of Her followers concerned about how such interventions are spread to other dioceses, sometimes inaccurately or partially, sometimes to the detriment of the genuine modalities and intentions with which the cult is experienced and practiced in Fontanelle.

We would therefore like to provide some important clarifications on the recognition and regulation of the Marian devotion in **Fonta-**

nelle di Montichiari in order to clear the doubts and reassure the hearts. It should be remembered that much of the information we give below are for a long time on the official website of the Foundation of worship and religion *Rosa Mystica Fontanelle*, in four languages (www.rosamisticafontanelle.it), and, on behalf of the Bishop of Brescia, we procure exactly the same information to Bishops and local Ordinaries when we are directly consulted for official clarifications.

1. Having taken notice of the contributions made by his predecessors, and the instructions giv-

en by the Holy See, as well as of the letter to the Bishop of Brescia by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on November 13, 2012 by a special Directory and published by decree on July 15, 2013, the Bishop of Brescia, has regulated the Marian cult in Fontanelle, to give adequate assistance to the pilgrims who come to this place from different parts of Italy and abroad. The cult was already allowed and regulated by Bishop Giulio Sanguineti with a previous directory of 2001 after some restrictive interventions by Bishop

IMPORTANT CLARIFICATIONS ON THE MARIAN WORSHIP IN FONTANELLE DI MONTICHIARI

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Foresti in 1984 and in 1997 and by Bishop Morstabilini in 1968.

2. According to the indications of the current Directory, a Marian and baptismal worship are currently promoted in Fontanelle under the direct supervision of the diocesan Bishop, without referring to the apparitions, messages, or other phenomena of presumed supernatural nature related to the person of Miss Pierina Gilli. We recall that the Church refers to the alleged apparitions or other extraordinary phenomena in Fontanelle with the formula “non constat de supernaturalitate”, i.e. “It is not evident to be of supernatural origin”, thus manifesting a judgment of suspension and prudence of the Church, and therefore pending further verification of the phenomenon and doubts related to its complexity.

3. As can be deduced from the letter of the Directory, the Bishop of Brescia does not demand from the faithful – neither in the past this was necessitated by the predecessors of the Bishop – to remove statues, icons, votive tablets or altars dedicated to Maria Rosa Mystica, nor in Fontanelle, in parish churches or in private chapels. The image of Mary with the three roses, which, to the best of our knowledge, was not present in the diocese or in Italy before the events of Montichiari, and is now widespread and revered around the world. In Fontanelle and in the Parish of Montichiari the statue of Maria Rosa Mystica has been exposed for many years. In addition, in the cult, the Loreto title of “Rosa Mystica” is valued as well as the devotional significance of the “Three Roses”, linked to “prayer - penance - sacrifice”, which represent the three traditional coordinates of Christian spirituality.

4. The task of the Foundation of Worship and Religion *Rosa Mystica Fontanelle*, erected by the Bishop of Brescia in 2014, especially in light of

the many fruits of conversion and of spiritual and physical healings that continually are reported to us, is also to continue with a serious work of study and investigation of the events in the Parish of Montichiari and in Fontanelle, and of the documentation regarding the historical and spiritual events of Pierina Gilli, the alleged seer who died in 1991, subject of a summary diocesan investigation back in 1947/48.

This complex and renewed phase of study is currently conducted in the Diocese of Brescia, in close consultation and by an explicit assignment of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith: recently a major integral

part of the investigative material has been provided and is already in the possession of the same Congregation, a material that until now was not yet at the disposal of the Roman Tribunal of the Holy See.

At the same time, through an independent initiative of the Cultural Association of Research and Study, Milan (Ares), data of the Diaries of the alleged seer were published, accompanied by other historically important sources and authoritative opinions, including the posthumous judgments of the biblicist, Mgr. Enrico Galbiati and mariologist, Fr. Stefano De Fiores.

These contributions will usefully enrich a path that can give an account of the historical origin and the sources of such a major phenomenon of worship and devotion to Mary, which crosses since long the diocesan and national boundaries.

Mgr. Marco Alba
Episcopal Delegate

Holy Lent

Brothers, I beg you not to neglect the Grace of God.

This is the propitious moment, this is the day of salvation.”

Dear faithful, pilgrims, devotees of Rosa Mistica, dear friends, we are initiating “a solemn time” in the Church’s life, an auspicious time for conversion and return to God, not only for the confession of sins, but also and above all of the goodness of God, who in Christ Crucified renews a new and everlasting alliance with sinners.

The Holy Lent is thus a preparation for Easter, a concrete sign for everyone, a passage from the sadness of sin to the baptismal joy of Grace. The proper virtue of this liturgical period is to St. Augustine the humility as indicated by our Lord. Since His birth in a manger to His death on the cross, the whole life of Christ has been marked by attitudes of humility. He had the nature of God, but He did not think that by force He should try to remain equal with God. (cf. Philip.2, 6) but He “emptied himself”, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men, assuming the conditions of the sinner, granting life to the wicked.

Christ has proposed Himself as a master of humility: “Learn from me who am meek and humble of heart” (Mt.11,29). The meek is the one who opens himself to accept the will of God; the humble is the one who identifies his own good in doing the will of God. The humility of Christ becomes a school in which to train oneself. Christ is the “great Doctor”; in fact, He procures for sinners the remedy of humility to overcome pride and with the celebration of the Easter Mysteries He shows the way of return to God.

How could we not think, therefore, about the docility and humility of Mary, we, who every day, every Sunday, always come here in this recognized place of baptism and Marian piety. Let us ask for the Grace that we too become docile and humble. There are 40 days of spiritual exercises to lead us to celebrate a truly Holy Easter. The Lenten program that we have prepared, will help us all. In the meantime, we assure you, that we will keep praying for you and in return we beg you to do the same for us. Have a Wonderful and Holy Lent!

Your priests

IN LENT WITH ROSA MYSTICA TO DISCOVER JESUS

“Among the pillars of this Marian devotion, Fontanelle, there is one definite message. It is the exhortation to “prayer, penance, sacrifice”, that we now are going to ponder a bit upon again also in this Lent, which during the liturgical year is, once more, going to prepare us to celebrate the Easter of Resurrection in all its richness.”

“Prayer, penance, sacrifice”. Useless to hide that these words may sound a bit strange in our modern ears. Perhaps even unpleasant, because they seem to send us back to a past world where the faith of those times seems to us like wrapped in a suffering atmosphere that penetrated life and in an oppressing way. We, modern men and women, tell ourselves that, on the contrary, we are accustomed to search, sometimes at any cost, to “realize” our wish to live with a lot of pleasure, money and success, trying to eliminate from our horizon not only all sorts of suffering but even death. Only to find ourselves blown away when inevitably all illusions collapse and the suffering eventually catches us up, leaving us not only dumbfounded, but often also desperate. Only then, touched by pain, it is more likely that we will look for a deeper meaning in our existence, finding or rediscovering the faith that we had disdained. In short, if we can learn and understand life, with the passing years, it will make us more humble and available to penetrate more and more the mystery that surrounds life. The moment we understand it better, a step forward in this direction will help us perform the exhortation to “prayer, penance and sacrifice”.

“Prayer”: often we believe that we need to recite many prayers, accumulating many words, almost as if we have to catch the attention of a distracted God to convince Him to be benevolent towards us. On the contrary, prayer must serve us to awaken us, to bring us to recognize and feel in our hearts that God really exists and loves us. We therefore have to entrust ourselves with confidence in His love, convinced that He knows exactly what we need. So, if words – like those of the Rosary to which Mary exhorts us to pray continuously and anywhere – are very useful to stay close to God, in reality, what matters above all, is what Jesus calls “continuous prayer”. In other words, to keep our hearts always open to the Lord, in a profound dialogue, even silently, with our Creator and Father, convinced that He guides and helps us at every moment in our lives. If we are convinced, it will become a wonderful habit, a profound and ongoing attitude even in the midst of everyday life, of all the problems and daily work. So, why should we not try to perform this Lent?

“Penance”: here it should be clarified that even be-

fore making some external gesture of penance, which is also important, first of all we have to recognize one thing and that is what the Church calls “sin”. In other words, the limits that accompany our human nature, leading each of us to do wrong things, contrary to the good that God has planned for us. Often we do not want to accept it. The first and best penance is to recognize with humility, our fragility and weakness and to trust ourselves to the divine Mercy, i.e. to the Love which knows what we are made of, willing to help us to become better. Becoming aware also here, that if we turn away from God, we fail to love Him, but above all, we hurt ourselves and often very badly. It would therefore be very useful and beautiful if during this time that separates us from Easter, we could make even better use than usual of the sacrament of reconciliation. A full confession after a thorough examination of conscience will renew our hearts, bringing us into contact with the divine mercy.

“Sacrifice”: to understand its significance, we need to recall one thing, namely the sacrifice par excellence, that of Jesus on the cross who gives His life for love of each of us. Sacrifice means, consequently, to discover primarily, more and more, and always better, that life is love, and that we will not be real men and women if we do not realize ourselves in this direction, in imitation of the true and only Master, Jesus. Knowing how to sacrifice means, therefore, to learn little by little to give up our selfishness, opening ourselves to God and to others with a continuous growing generosity. It is not easy, but it is possible, especially if we understand prayer and penance and if we try to live them to the fullest.

This can be our Lent: a path towards Easter, towards the most important memory of the key event of Christianity - the death and resurrection of the Lord - renewing our soul. It is the awakening of our faith, our hope and our charity with the help of Rosa Mystica, of Her, who first was the Mother of Jesus, but now has also become our most affectionate and tender Mother.

Rosanna Brichetti Messori

We have received



■ *From Colombia* - Good morning from Medellin, Colombia. I am pleased to communicate with you. Please put these photos on your newsletter and on your site, as a testimony of love, gratitude and respect towards my Madonna and Mother, María Rosa Mystica. These photos were taken in the cave last December 8,

at night, when we were preparing for the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin. Here in Colombia this event is called "Night of Candles" because we light candles and put them on the doors and windows in homage to the Virgin. Thank you so much!

Luis Felipe Londoño

Timetable of March and April 2017 Period of lent and easter

Every day: 15:00 Confessions; 16:00 H. Rosary

Every lenten friday: 15:00 Confessions
15:30 Stations of the Cross - 16:00 H. Mass

Saturday:

15:00 Confessions - 15:30 H. Rosary - 16:00 H. Mass, Pre-festive

Sundays and feast days: 15:00-17:00 Confessions.

15:00 Adoration; 15:30 H. Rosary.
16:00 High Mass

**Wednesday 1° March – Ash Wednesday
- Fasting and abstinence . Beginning of the Holy Lent**

15:00 Confessions – Eucharistic Adoration
15:30 H. Rosary
16:00 H. Mass with imposition of the ashes

Friday, March 3 - First Friday of the month

Monday, March 13 – Monthly Marian Prayer Day

Monday, March 20 – Feast of St. Joseph

15:00 Confessions – Eucharistic Adoration
15:30 H. Rosary; 16:00 High Mass

Friday, March 24 - Prayer day for missionary martyrs

Saturday, March 25 - Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord

15:00 Confessions; 15:30 H. Rosary
16:00 High Mass

**MARCH 26 START OF SUMMER TIME; TIMETABLE OF THE CELEBRATIONS
POSTPONED BY ONE HOUR.**

Sunday, March 26: 16:00 -18:00 Confessions
16:00 Adoration; 16:30 H. Rosary; 17:00 High Mass

April 9 : Palm Sunday - Triumphant entry of Jesus in Jerusalem - Blessing of the olive oil and H. Mass starts with the procession

16:00-18:00 Confessions; 16:00 Adoration
16:30 H. Rosary; 17:00 High Mass

April 13: Monthly Marian Prayer Day - EASTER TRIDUUM:

- *Holy Thursday:* normal timetable
- *Holy Friday:* 15:00 Stations of the cross in remembrance of the death of our Lord
- *Holy Saturday:* 15:00 - 17:00 confessions;
17:00 Rosario (no H. Mass)

April 16: - FEAST OF EASTER OF RESURRECTION

16:00-18:00: Confessions; 16:00 Adoration.
16:30: H. Rosary; 17:00 High Mass.

April 17: DAY OF THE ANGEL

16:30 H. Rosary; 17:00 H. Mass

**Sunday, April 23: First Sunday after Easter,
Feast of the Divine Mercy**

In remembrance of the maternal call of Rosa Mystica
09:30 prayer with the whole community; 10:30 Procession.
11:00 High Mass – at noon, timetable for feasts

Tuesday, April 25: Feast of St. Mark, evangelist

16:30 Rosary; 17:00 H. Mass.

Information: +39 030 964111 - info@rosamisticafontanelle.it



The reconstruction in Fontanelle that we announced in December, has been started. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. We will do our utmost to minimize this disturbance as much as possible and especially to accomplish them within the established time limit. The estimated expenses of this intervention are around **300,000 Euros**. All those who wish to contribute with donations and offerings for the realization of this important project in favor of the Marian devotion in Fontanelle, are kindly invited to use the following bank account of the Foundation:

IBAN: IT 24 R 08676 54780 000000007722

BIC/SWIFT: ICRAITRRIS0 (The last character is a zero)

IBAN C/C POSTE: IT93 0076 0111 2000 0002 9691 276

BIC/SWIFT C/C POSTE: BPPIITRRXXX

The lack of space does not permit us to publish many other beautiful testimonials co-operating in the recognition of the case; they are kept in the archive. We all feel united in prayer in the maternal heart of Maria Rosa Mystica.

Foundation Maria Rosa Mystica - Fontanelle

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Postbox 134 - 25018 MONTICHIARI (Brescia) - ITALY

For satellite navigation system: **Via Madonnina**

For communications please contact:

Loc. Fontanelle - Via Madonnina - Tel. +39 030 964 111

E-mail: **info@rosamisticafontanelle.it**

Please view web page: **www.rosamisticafontanelle.it**

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