

STIGMATINE HISTORICAL NOTES



Annotation
of events
in the Stigmatine
history

Daniel Giacomelli CSS
Morogoro 2020
Kutaisi 2023

Dedicated to all the Stigmatines, those of the past and the present ones.

Especially to those who would never appear in historical pages,
but who made a difference in the Congregation,
so it remained faithful to the spirit of St. Gaspar.

– And many of them have made an impact on my vocation. –

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FOREWORDS

The starting point for this work was the document of Fr. Joseph Henchey, “*Stigmatine Calendar. Annotation of events in the Stigmatine history, 1777 – 1910*”.

Fr. Joseph did a very good job of collecting information from many sources. He had put the entries in a calendar order, which means, for each day of the month there are more events (i.e. all events which happened on the 1st January in different years; then all the events on the 2nd January, and so on). I have rearranged his work in chronological order.

I went through his entire work, comparing the entries with two more recent works, one of Fr. Michele Curto (“*Dal convento delle Stimmate al Mondo*”, 2017), the other of Fr. Luigi Mantovani (“*Albero rigoglioso e frondoso...*”, 2020). Here and there I discovered discrepancies in the dates or names, so I made further research, retaining what seemed most fitting.

Then there was the second part of the work, almost new, covering the following years, up to 2020. For this part I consulted the English version of Fiorio’s ‘*Breve Cronaca*’, the books of Curto and L. Mantovani and a book of Pietro Mantovani, (found by ‘providence’ in Morogoro) which continues the title of Fiorio’s book: ‘*Brief Chronicles; years 1945 to 2000*’.

The work certainly will result in two styles of presentation: the first part, based on the work of Fr. Henchey, is more linked to dates. The second part, totally new, often puts together topics which cover a broader span of time than a single date.

I confess that it was difficult to do research without the appropriate tools, and – being out of Italy – without access to the actual sources of information. I had to rely on translations (which contain errors, so never fully trustworthy) or on reported references. In the misfortune of been held two weeks in Rome and six weeks in Verona because of travelling restrictions (for the pandemic crisis of covid-19), I could access the full collection of *Il Bertonian* and some other books,

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so I had material for building up the third part, after the year 2000. The work was delayed a bit, but became more complete.

I have to thank the Superior General, Fr. Rubens Sodré Miranda, for his support and for putting me in touch with many people for the final part of the work.

I want to apologize in advance for errors and omissions. Let us consider this as an initial work. I hope that other people may become interested and give further contribution, bringing additional information, resolving pending matters and pointing out mistakes, so to amend them. [You may send the proposed amendments directly to me at: daniel.giacomelli@yahoo.com]

Before closing, I'd like to quote some words from Fr. Joseph Henchey's introduction, since I feel very much in harmony with his words:

“One fact above all has touched my heart: the Stigmatine Community has truly experienced the Sacred Stigmata in its 200 years’ history: they lived the ‘Sorrowful’ Good Friday aspect, in the enormous sufferings the Community has endured - the many pre-mature losses of dear and competent men - and the failures of some apostolic projects. The ‘Glorious’, Easter aspect has been most evident as well: the undying hope in the resurrection, and the extraordinary commitment to the Apostolic Mission, living out in practice the words of Jesus on Easter night, when He manifested His Sacred Stigmata in the Cenacle room with this Apostolic Missionary mandate: As the Father has sent me, I now send you! (cf. Jn 20:19, ff.)”

Although the Congregation of the Sacred Stigmata of Our Lord Jesus Christ always remained a “pusillus grex” – a little flock, the desire to live the heritage of St. Gaspar Bertoni and to serve the Church without hindrances has moved the Stigmatine history and continues to bring fresh support to the evangelization in all its aspects.

A great thanks to the Holy Spirit and to his faithful servants as well.

The work started in January 2020 at Morogoro, Tanzania, and was closed at Kutaisi, Georgia on the 14 September 2020 - *Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross*. [Further corrections were applied, closing on 9 January 2023]

LDS – Praise to God always!

Fr. Daniel Giacomelli, CSS

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The author of the picture on the title page is Bruno Facciotti.

ABBREVIATIONS:

CS	Collectanea Stigmatina
MS	Manuscripts of the Founder
<i>Breve Cronaca</i>	by Fiorio (original text in Italian)
<i>Brief Chronicle</i>	by Fiorio (text in English, translation by Fr. Henchey)
<i>“Albero rigoglioso...”</i>	by Luigi Mantovani
<i>“Dal convento...”</i>	by Michele Curto
STIMMATINI	by General Curia: Vademecum 2019

SPECIAL WORDS (usually kept in the original language)

Stimmate [*Mother House of the Stigmatines, in Verona, Italy*]
 Derelitti [*Second house of the Stigmatines, in Verona, Italy*]
 Santa Maria del Giglio [*church in Verona, attached to Derelitti*]
 Trinità [*former convent, near to the parish of Holy Trinity, Verona, Italy*]
 San Nicola dei Prefetti [*church in Rome, Italy*]
 Santa Maria dei Miracoli [*church in Rome, Italy*]
 Visitadoria [*temporary administrative territory in Brazil*]
 Santo Niño [*Delegation of Philippines*]

Stigmatine Provinces and Delegations:

Sacro Cuore
 Holy Spouses
 Santa Cruz
 Santa Maria della Speranza
 São José
 Mary, the Morning Star
 Most Holy Redeemer
 Saint Famille
 Santo Niño
 Cristo del Perdón

English translation used in this work:

Sacred Heart
 Holy Spouses
 Holy Cross
 Holy Mary of Hope
 St. Joseph
 Mary Morning Star
 Most Holy Redeemer
 (Delegation) Holy Family
 (Delegation) Santo Niño
 (Delegation) Christ of Forgiveness

LANGUAGE FOR FIRST NAMES

At a certain point of the work, I find myself with a dilemma: the original sources of my work reported the English format of most of the names, for confreres and

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for other people. Going on in the research, I had to consult sources in Italian language, so the first names were in Italian. I had to take a decision. Then: I tried to keep the English version for the confreres who worked in English speaking places (at times, I had no means to know what name was used); I kept, when possible, the English names for Superiors General, Popes and other relevant (well known) people. For the others, I kept the English version up to the year 1900 (extended for those who were cited earlier), then I used the name that I have found, trying to quote them in the original language, when possible.

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- “Stigmata 1960-2010. Celebrating 50 years of Stigmatine presence in South Africa”. Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer.
- “Stigmatini. Vademecum Generale, 2019”. Curia Generale. [I have also consulted the previous years, especially 1979, 1990, 1995, 2005].
- “The Stigmatine North American Province” (“American Chronicles”). Joseph Henchey, CSS & Tereza Lopes. Digital version found in www.st-bertoni.com (incomplete to date).

OTHER SOURCES

- Fr. Giovanni Zampieri: personal notes.
- Fr. Geoffrey Deeker personal notes and witnessing.
- Fr. Luigi Mantovani, personal witnessing.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Fr. Bruno Facciotti | Fr. Assuero Mascanzoni |
| Fr. Dino Facciotti | Fr. Anthony Mashaka |
| Fr. Daniele Giacomuzzi | Fr. Claudio Montolli |
| Fr. Livio Guerra | Fr. Sergio Tommasi |
| Fr. Joseph Henchey | Fr. Joseph Wattanasak |
| Mrs. Tereza Lopes | Fr. Giovanni Zampieri |

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- www.confrades.com - In Italian. (It is supposed to be multilingual [by selecting “LINGUA”], but it does not work...)
- www.estigmatinos.com for the Brazilian Province of Holy Cross (in Portuguese language)
- www.st-bertoni.com - “A Tribute to St. Gaspar Bertoni”. In English language, by Fr. Joseph Henchey and collaborators.
- www.stigmatini.it - For the Italian Province of Sacred Heart (in Italian language)
- www.stigmatini.org - By the General Curia, in three languages (but most matters are only in Italian)

[I could also access some digital files on Marani (“MARANIA”) and Lenotti (“LENOTTI”), which I got from Fr. Giovanni Zampieri, but they cannot be properly quoted.]

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1746

- 7 Oct** **Brunora Ravelli**, mother of Gaspar Bertoni was born on this day in Sirmione.

1747

- 29 Jul** **Francis Louis Bertoni**, father of Gaspar Bertoni was born on this day in Verona.

1773

- 13 May** Leopoldine Naudet¹ was born in Florence.

1774

- 1 Mar** Magdalene di Canossa² was born in Verona.

1776

- 30 May** The marriage of Francis Louis Bertoni and Brunora Ravelli was done in two moments, in two different churches: on 30 May their Union was celebrated and on 31 May the Marriage was blessed.

¹ Blessed Leopoldina Naudet was born on 13 May 1773. She went under the spiritual guidance of St. Gaspar Bertoni for many years. She founded the Congregation of the Sisters of the Sacred Family. She died on 17 August 1834 and was beatified on 29 April 2017.

² Saint Magdalene of Canossa was born on 1 March 1774. She founded the Daughters of Charity, called Canossian Sisters. She died on 10 April 1833, was beatified on 7 December 1941 and canonized on 2 October 1988.

1777

- 9 Oct** **Gaspar Louis Denis Bertoni was born**, on this feast of St Denis, to Francis Louis Bertoni and Brunora [Ravelli]. He would have only one sister, Matilda (1783-1786).
- 10 Oct** Gaspar Louis Denis Bertoni was baptized in the church of St. Paul in Campo Marzio by the paternal uncle, Rev. James Bertoni.

1779

- 1 Sep** Matthew Farinati was born³.

1783

- 18 Mar** Matilda Bertoni was born (at Caldiero – East of Verona) – the only sister of Gaspar.
- 28 Sep** Michaelangelo Gramego⁴ was born on this day about 10:00 a.m., the son of Sebastian.
- 29 Sep** Feast of St. Michael the Archangel – Michaelangelo Gramego was baptized by Fr. P. Pompeius.

1785

- 1 Jun** Fr. James Bertoni died – he was the brother of Fr. Bertoni's Grandfather, Gaspar Bertoni (Sr.).

1786

- 11 Nov** Matilda Bertoni, younger sister of Gaspar, died this day at the age of three and a half. He was nine years old at the time. Her existence is not even noted in the first Biography of the Founder, by Fr. Giacobbe.

³ Fr. Matthew Farinati, born 1 September 1779; ordin. 24 September 1803; entrance: 1 January 1817; he contracted a illness while assisting sick people in the prisons; he died at home on 17 September 1820.

⁴ Fr. Michaelangelo Gramego. Born 28 September 1783; ordin. 20 September 1806; entered 4 December 1816; death 30 July 1853.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1789

1789

- 26 Apr** Gaspar Bertoni received First Holy Communion in St. Sebastian's Church. A Marian Oratory for the Public Schools of Verona was established this day and went under the patronage of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

1790

- 10 Mar** Nicholas Mazza was born. He was declared 'Venerable' on 3 June 2013. As a priest, he would promote a missionary movement to Africa. He is the Founder of a Pious Society (now called 'The Pious Society of Don Nicola Mazza'). He was in the priests' study group with Fr. Gaspar; and eventually he took Fr. Gaspar as his confessor.
- 25 Mar** Cajetan Brugnoli⁵, son of Charles was born.
- 5 May** *Wednesday* – John Mary Marani⁶, son of Celestine, was born at 10:00 a.m. in Verona. within the Parish of St. Steven's.
- 8 May** John Marani was baptised at St. Stephen's Parish Verona, three days after his birth.
- 17 Dec** Louis Bragato was born⁷. Two days later he was baptized in the small church of Sts. Firmus and Rusticus, run by the Oratorians of St. Philip Neri.

1791

- 6 Sep** Gaspar Bertoni was confirmed by Bishop Avogadro.

⁵ Fr. Cajetan Brugnoli. Born 25 March 1790; ordin. 24 September 1814; entered 11 October 1817; death 19 November 1858.

⁶ Fr. John Mary Marani. Born 5 May 1790; ordin. 4 June 1814; entered 4 November 1816; he was chosen as first Superior after St. Gaspar's death, with the title of "*Prepositus*"; reconfirmed in 1855, with the title of Superior General. He died on 1 July 1871.

⁷ Fr. Louis Bragato. Born 17 December 1790; ordin. 24 September 1814; entered 15 September 1818 (he left on 14 June 1818, but returned on 30 October 1828); went to Vienna, as confessor of the Emperess, on 6 July 1835; death 13 October 1874.

1792

- 17 Aug** Francis Bertoni gave over the administration of the family estate and promised not to interfere again – a promise he did not keep.

1793

- 11 Jul** Paul Zanolì⁸ was born, son of Felice – he was to be the first Brother in the Congregation.

1794

- 4 Nov** Francis Peter Faber Pacificus Leonard Cartolari⁹ was born, the son of Peter.

1795

- 3 Nov** Gaspar Bertoni started attending the lessons of the first year of Theology, as an external student.

1796

- 1 Jun** French troops entered Verona.
31 Dec Young Gaspar Bertoni was vested in the Seminary Chapel.

1797

- 6 Jan** Gaspar Bertoni was tonsured by Bishop Avogadro at the Bishop's Residence in Verona.
1 Apr *Saturday* – Gaspar Bertoni receives the Ostiariate and Lectorate from Bishop Avogadro.
22 Apr *Easter Monday*. The people of Verona revolted against the French troops in a bloody uprising. It had since been called the “Pasque Veronesi.”
7 May First tree of liberty was planted in Piazza Bra, Verona.

⁸ Bro. Paul Zanolì. Born 11 July 1793; entered (as a lay man) 4 November 1816; died 11 June 1866.

⁹ Fr. Francis Cartolari. Born 4 November 1794; ordin. 18 December 1818; entered 14 May 1822; death 3 July 1846.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1798

- 11 Jun** *Sunday* – Bishop Avogadro conferred the last two Minor orders, Exorcistate and Acolyte, on Gaspar Bertoni.

1798

- 21 Jan** The Venetian states (which included Verona) passed under the dominion of Austria due to the Agreement of Campoformio of 29 October 1797.
- 19 Nov** Modesto Cainer¹⁰ was born.

1799

- 17 Feb** Bishop Avogadro confirmed John Mary Marani.
- 9 Mar** Gaspar Bertoni was ordained Sub Deacon in the Cathedral of Verona by Bishop Avogadro.
- 26 Aug** Death of Pius VI.
- 14 Sep** Feast of the exaltation of the Holy Cross – a Mission was preached in St. Stephen's Parish, Verona, by Canon Louis Pacetti, where he launched the idea of the Marian Oratories – which would take up so much of Fr. Bertoni's time in his early years as a Priest.¹¹

1800

- 14 Mar** Gregory Louis Chiaramonti was elected Pope Pius VII at the Conclave held in Venice.
- 20 Mar** Leopoldine Naudet left for Venice to Congratulate the new Pope, Pius VII.
- 24 Mar** The Bertoni family signed an agreement concerning the family estate, as the father had been causing no small grief in his administration of it.
- 12 Apr** *Holy Saturday*. Gaspar Bertoni was ordained Deacon by Bishop Avogadro in the Chapel at the Bishop's residence.

¹⁰ Fr. Modesto Cainer. Born 19 November 1798; ordin. ?; entered 25 July 1824; death 12 January 1844.

¹¹ In the early days of the Congregation, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross would close the summer Catechism teaching of the so-called Fourth Class – which ran from the feast of the Finding of the Holy Cross in May, until this Feast in September. In the annals of the Stigmatines, Fr. Innocent Venturini was most outstanding in this summer catechism.

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- 8 Jun** Gaspar Bertoni, a Deacon, preached his first sermon in his home parish of St. Paul's and he spoke on humility. It is a virtue needed by saint and sinner alike – it was practiced eminently by St. Aloysius Gonzaga.
- 20 Jul** This was the original date chosen for Fr. Bertoni's ordination – it was postponed as Bishop Avogadro was prevented from coming.¹²
- 20 Sep** *Ember Saturday*¹³ – **In the Cathedral of Verona, Bishop John Andrew Avogadro ordained Gaspar Bertoni a Priest of God!**
- 24 Sep** Feast of Our Lady of Ransom – Fr. Gaspar Bertoni celebrated his First Mass at Caldiero, at Conti Cipolla. Joseph Scudellini, married to his Mother's sister, Rosa [Ravelli], gave the discourse.
- 23 Oct** Fr. Bertoni, a priest of but one month, gave a sermon on the Fear of God. He distinguished between Servile and Filial Fear. He said that Fear of the Lord is necessary not only for the sinner, but also for the just – without it, there could be no salvation.

1801

- 18 Jan** Fr. Bertoni preached this day, which was the 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany, in St. Paul's Parish, on the Holy Name of Jesus. (He was assistant Priest here for the first ten years of his priesthood, 1800 – 1810). He said that the Holy Name of Jesus depicts a loving person; and he urged his listeners to keep in their hearts His image. Christ is the most tender and ardent lover of mankind.

¹² Fr. Henchey put the 7th July as the first possible date for Bertoni's Ordination. The date, instead, was set for Sunday 20 July, and for this purpose he asked for and received two dispensations (one of 13 months, the second of 48 days). Cf. Dalle Vedove, "La Giovinezza del Ven. Gaspare Bertoni e l'ambiente veronese dell'ultimo '700", 1971 (Vol. 1), p. 436ff. (Later on, the 7th of June was indeed sought for as a possible date, but a further dispensation did not come in time.)

¹³ In the liturgical calendar of the Western Christian churches, ember days are four separate sets of three days within the same week—specifically, the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, that are set aside for fasting and prayer. These days were considered especially suitable for the ordination of clergy. The Ember Days are known in Latin as the *quatuor anni tempora*. (We cannot enter here into the etymology of the English word "ember"). The Ember Weeks are these: a) Advent: between the third and fourth Sundays (other calendars exist); b) Lent: between the first and second Sundays; c) between Pentecost and Trinity Sunday; d) the liturgical Third Week of September (practically, after Holy Cross Day - 14 September, the first Wednesday and the following Friday and Saturday).

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- 3 Apr** Fr. Bertoni preached on the Passion of Christ (he used this sermon again on 4 April 1806). He stated that Christ Suffered in his entire humanity, body and soul. He suffered more than any man.
- 20 Apr** Fr. Bertoni preached on devotion – he said that it is an error to believe that devotion can only be achieved by few.
- 14 May** Fr. Bertoni preached on detachment from this world – he stated that a mortified life is not a sad one; this world is not proportional to the human heart.
- 21 Jun** Fr. Bertoni preached on this feast of St. Aloysius, one of his patrons. He spoke on the Saint's love for neighbour – our advantage with God increases in proportion to our love for our neighbour.
- 26 Jul** Fr. Bertoni preached on pride; he said that it was one vice that God resists. He exhorted all to be humble under the powerful hand of Almighty God.
- 22 Nov** Michaelangelo Gramego was approved for Vestition.
- 27 Nov** Sebastian Gramego, the father of Michaelangelo Gramego, died this day at 7:00 a.m. He was buried in the cemetery of the church of Holy Trinity.
- 13 Dec** Fr. Bertoni preached this day in the Church of St. Paul in Campo Marzio, on the Feast of the House of Loreto. He compared the House of the Holy Family to the heart of the Christian sincerely desirous of being the House of God. The only true happiness for us is to have God dwelling within us.
- 20 Dec** Michaelangelo Gramego was vested this day in the Church of Sts. Firmus and Rusticus.

1802

- 17 Jan** It was the 2nd *Sunday after Epiphany* – Fr. Bertoni preached in St. Paul's Parish, Verona. He preached on the Holy Name of Jesus – he said that the Holy Name softens the hard of hearts, comforts the discouraged; and the use of the Holy Name overcome the obstinacy of the sinner.
- 21 Mar** Fr. Bertoni preached on Confession and stated that there can be no comparison in the shame a sinner feels before the confessional where he has come to accuse himself and that a sinner would feel who had never confessed and was accused publicly by the Divine

HISTORICAL NOTES 1803

Judge at the General Judgement. A good confession is an honour to the penitent.

- 17 Apr** *Holy Saturday* – Michael Gramego received tonsure and the first two Minor Orders (Ostiarus and Lector) from Bishop Avogadro.
- 6 Jun** Fr. Gaspar Bertoni, while he was in church ready to attend to confessions, was given, by the Parish Priest Fr. Francis Girardi, the mandate of being “missionary to the boys”, which started on Pentecost Sunday, 20 June 1802.
- 20 Jun** *Pentecost Sunday* – actual date of the beginning of the Marian Oratory established in St. Paul’s Parish by young Fr. Bertoni. This Oratory became the exemplar for many other such organizations in the Diocese of Verona. It grew quickly, expanded gradually to all the male youth of the parish, until the Napoleonic suppression on 27 May 1807.
- 27 Jun** Fr. Bertoni preached on St. Aloysius’ love for God – a lover becomes like his beloved, the soul becomes more unto God’s image the more it loves.
- 25 Sep** *Ember Saturday* – Michaelangelo Gramego received the last two Minor Orders in St. Michael’s church from Bishop Avogadro.
- 26 Sep** Fr. Bertoni preached, shortly after his 2nd anniversary of Ordination, on the dignity of the Priesthood. He said that in this dignity God is honoured – the Priest is the Minister and Ambassador of Christ. Priests need prayer.¹⁴
- 28 Nov** Fr. Bertoni preached on the General Judgment. For the wicked, there can only be a useless remorse and an unchangeable condemnation.

1803

- 1 Jan** Fr. Bertoni preached on the beauty of Divine Grace; its beauty cannot be seen by the human eye but only in man’s acts inspired by it. It is far greater than physical beauty and hence at all costs it must be kept and increased. If it should ever be lost, recover it as soon as possible – “create in me, O Lord, a clean heart.”
- 22 Feb** Fr. Bertoni preached on undertaking the Lenten fast joyfully – he said that any penance we do, will repair any damage that has been inflicted on our souls by sin.

¹⁴ This Sermon may have been used also at the First Mass of Fr. Farinati.

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- 6 Mar** Fr. Bertoni renounced his share in the family inheritance that came to him from his Aunt Paula at the time of his uncle Anthony's death.
- 20 Mar** Fr. Bertoni preached on frequent Communion and analysed the usual excuses offered to its neglect. He said there was no valid reason, as Christ would respond to the needs of man in this sacrament.
- 11 Apr** Fr. Bertoni preached on perseverance – he said that we should be ready for temptation, but that we should not worry about tomorrow. The life of Virtue is the only happy one.
- 5 Jun** Fr. Bertoni preached on the Law of the Gospel; it is the richest state of all and promises eternal happiness.
- 25 Jul** Innocent Venturini¹⁵, son of Andrew, was born.
- 24 Sep** Matthew Farinati was ordained a priest on this day.
- 31 Dec** Fr. Bertoni preached on Divine Blessings – he stated that there is a marvellous Divine Providence in all things.

1804

- 21 Mar** Fr. Bertoni preached on the meaning of true happiness – he said that it was the testimony of a good conscience; sometimes it knows no human delight – happiness is abandonment to God.
- 2 Apr** Fr. Bertoni preached on Freedom from sin and the devil – he stated that man is made to God's Image; sin and the devil try to destroy this image. The devil becomes the tyrant of the human heart and degrades the soul.
- 13 Jul** Angelo Casella¹⁶ was born on this day at Monfumo.
- 16 Sep** Vincent Raimondi¹⁷ was born, the son of Charles.
- 29 Sep** Fr. Bertoni preached on imminent death – it can be close even for the young – comes in every age, place and manner. Death never 'tires' – a sinner's death is unprepared and always unexpected.

¹⁵ Fr. Innocent Venturini. Born 25 July 1803; ordin. 20 September 1828; death 26 February 1894.

¹⁶ Bro. Angelo Casella. Born 13 July 1804; entered 11 November 1832; death 3 April 1835.

¹⁷ Fr. Vincent Raimondi. Born 16 September 1804; entered (as a priest) 17 March 1831; he left (to join the Jesuits) on 8 June 1843; death 12 June 1855.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1805

- 9 Dec** Fr. Bertoni preached on the Coming of Christ - sinners have a special reason to rejoice at His Coming – our misery is more than enough reason to harbour high hopes.
- 26 Dec** Fr. Bertoni delivered a sermon on the death of the ‘just’ and the ‘unjust.’ He stated that even a toothache causes much discomfort – we should think now of the last agony, when our pains may make it impossible to pray – we should do that now.

1805

- 22 Jan** Msgr. Ridolfi, Vicar Gen. of the Diocese of Verona, had to give the programme of Studies for the Seminary to the government. Verona was divided into two; the French controlled right side of the Adige River and the students on this side had to go to the Public Schools; the Austrians controlled the left, and the students there could attend the Seminary.
- 27 Jan** Fr. Bertoni preached on desperation – he stated that all conversion is the result of confidence in God who never rejects sincere repentance. Never lose hope in salvation because the way of penance that assures it is not that hard.
- 13 Apr** *Holy Saturday.* Michael Gramego was ordained Sub Deacon by Bishop Avogadro.
- 22 Apr** Fr. Bertoni preached to the youth of St. Paul’s Parish and urged them to be careful of their eternal salvation in those times.
- 17 Aug** Pius VII accepted the resignation of Bishop Avogadro as Bishop of Verona.
- 15 Sep** Fr. Bertoni preached on the Holy Name of Mary – she is the Mistress of the world, with dominion over the devil.
- 21 Oct** Fr. Bertoni preached on the Purity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- 1 Nov** Fr. Bertoni preached on the Souls in Purgatory; he described it as a torturous prison - purgation is achieved either by fire [the pain of Purgatory] – or, it can also be obtained now, by water [the tears of repentance]. There are many advantages for those who pray for the dead.
- 8 Dec** Fr. Bertoni preached on death this day. He said that the love for this life makes any death bitter. One terrible moment decides all eternity.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1806

- 19 Dec** One of the last acts of the Chancery Office under Bishop Avogadro was the signing of the Decree for John Marani's Vestition.
- 22 Dec** In a sermon on this day, Fr. Bertoni described penance as a most sweet fruit that reconciles one with God – sin destroys the soul, whereas penance reconstructs it.
- 26 Dec** The 'Peace of Presburg' was signed which meant that now both sides of the Adige River in Verona were under French Domination.

1806

- 6 Jan** John Mary Marani was vested in St. Paul's Church by the Pastor, Fr. Girardi.
- 12 Feb** Frs. Bertoni, Allegri and Farinati started a retreat at the Little Sisters of St. Francis of Paola. The young Marani, newly vested, helped somewhat, as did a young lad by the name of John Baptist Ruffoni. This retreat was for young students.¹⁸
- 13 Feb** Fr. Bertoni preached this Thursday morning's meditation at St. Francis of Paola on "The End of Man." Fr. Allegri preached the evening meditation on "Sin".
- 14 Feb** *Friday* – the priests continued the Retreat for the young students. On this date some of the subjects discussed were "Death", "The Necessity for a Guide", "The necessity of Avoiding Mortal Sin".
- 15 Feb** *Saturday*: on this date the Fathers preached on "Hell", "The Examen of Conscience", "The Presence of God", "Mercy".
- 16 Feb** At the Retreat of St. Francis of Paola, Fr. Farinati preached on the Kingdom of Christ; other sermons were on Confession and the Last Day.
- 17 Feb** The Retreat for the Students at the Little Sisters continued this Monday – the sermons were on Meekness as a remedy for anger and the Life of Christ.
- 18 Feb** *The day before Ash Wednesday*. Fr. Bertoni, Fr. Allegri and Fr. Farinati were concluding their retreat to young Students. Fr. Farinati preached on the Most Blessed Sacrament.
- 4 Apr** Fr. Bertoni this day used the same sermon on the Passion that he preached on 3 April 1801.

¹⁸ Seeing Marani wearing the clerical cassock, and seeing his interest and commitment, on that occasion Fr. Bertoni called him, jockingly, "our Father Marani"!

HISTORICAL NOTES 1807

- 4 Apr** John Marani was tonsured this day by Bishop Molin. He was Administrator of the Abbatial church of Asola. This Bishop seemed favourable to the French faction in Verona.
- 5 Apr** Michael Angelo Gramego was ordained Deacon by Bishop Molin, Administrator of Asola, at St George's Church in Verona – John Marani received the four Minor Orders at the same ceremony.
- 8 May** Francis Benciolini¹⁹, son of Peter, was born at 7:00 a.m.
- 10 May** This day was the baptism of Francis Joseph Michaelangelo Benciolini on the Cathedral of Verona. Msgr. Maffei, Canon of the Cathedral, performed the ceremony, by permission of Msgr. Ridolfi, Vicar General.
- 20 Sep** Fr. Michaelangelo Gramego was ordained a Priest by Bishop Scipione²⁰ in St. Stephen's Padua. His Ordination was advanced due to the threat of Napoleon – he still had one more year of theology.
- 3 Oct** Fr. Bertoni preached on the meaning of 'External Cult.' He said that the very soul of all devotion is in the heart. By His Incarnation, Christ Himself experienced all the needs and trials of mankind, save sin – our worship answers a basic human need.
- 1 Nov** Fr. Bertoni preached on the Beatitudes – they are as a ladder that one must ascend to reach heaven.

1807

- 23 Mar** Benedict De Riccabona (the future Bishop of Verona and later of Trent) was born in Cavaleto, Trent.
- 5 Apr** Fr. Bertoni preached on the theme – "Holy Easter and the Spiritual Life". Our life of Glory is hidden with Christ in God.
- 26 May** On this date, there was a decree from Napoleon prohibiting Marian Oratories, Confraternities, Congregations and the building of Churches.
- 17 Jun** One of Napoleon's edicts further explaining the ban of Oratories was signed this date by an agent named Guicciardi

¹⁹ Fr. Francis Benciolini. Born 8 May 1806; ordin. 19 September 1829; entered 11 November 1829; death 19 February 1892.

²⁰ It appears he was Bishop Francesco Scipione de Dondi, who had been consecrated on 20 October 1805 (with no record of initial assignment) and became Bishop of Padua in 1807. [from Wikipedia]

HISTORICAL NOTES 1808

- 3 Jul** Msgr. Ridolfi answered the questionnaire of the government that, to his knowledge, there were no more Oratories in the city of Verona.
- 4 Oct** Fr. Bertoni preached on the Rosary. He said that it was a devotion of most noble origin - we must imitate what the mysteries contain and strive for what they promise. He stated that the Rosary is a devotion approved by the highest Church authority. [Interestingly enough, Fr. Bertoni did not insist much on the Rosary as a required practice – he just believed that a good Religious would offer it daily on his own.]
- 13 Dec** Fr. Bertoni preached again in St. Paul's on this day – in the course of his sermon, he remarked that the youth of that time were being subject to so many difficulties that it was hard for them to keep from sin.

1808

- 23 Jan** The Feast of the Holy Spouses, or the Espousals; Louis Biadego²¹ was born in Verona at 7:00 p.m., the son of Cajetan.
- 20 Mar** Bishop Innocent Liruti took over the See of Verona – there had been no Bishop since Bishop Avogadro resigned in Dec. 1805.
- 8 May** Magdalene di Canossa opened a Community for her Congregation at the Convent of Sts. Joseph and Fidentius, Verona. With her there was also Leopoldine Naudet and her companions. Fr. Bertoni, 30 years of age, was appointed by the Bishop as their Confessor. Bishop Liruti seemed to have had a great deal of confidence in Fr. Bertoni from the start.
- 9 May** Mother Naudet gave her first conference to her Sisters. Mother di Canossa had appointed her Superior at Sts. Joseph and Fidentius before they parted company.
- 1 Jul** The spiritual Diary that has come down to us from Fr. Bertoni started with this date – it actually covers about a five-year period in his early priesthood. His first annotation is about obedience, which should not be done out of fear, but as a virtue.

²¹ Fr. Louis Biadego. Born 23 January 1808; entered 4 October 1828; ordin. 12 February 1832; death 17 February 1842.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1808

- 2 Jul** Fr. Bertoni noted in his spiritual diary that this was a feast of the Sacred Heart – He wrote that at Mass that day, during the consecration, he had strong feelings of gratitude and compunction and at Communion he experienced a strong sentiment of detachment from all creatures.
- 9 Jul** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that to operate a work that is truly God's, it would never be necessary to offend any virtue – God protects all that is done, truly in his name.
- 11 Jul** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that on this date after celebrating Mass, he experienced a lively faith that God was near, coupled with feelings of hope – he offered his sufferings with Christ, for the vexation He still had to suffer.
- 13 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote that we should never abandon our wayward friends as our friendship for them might be the starting point for their conversion.
- 14 Jul** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that one should only act for God's glory – from this sentiment proceeds true detachment from the world.
- 24 Jul** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that time does not return; he resolved to make the best use of what was offered to him.
- 30 Jul** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that each one should choose a Saint with a similar vocation to use as a mirror – in this way, one could find matter for confession daily. (Fr. Bertoni chose St. Ignatius.)
- 3 Aug** Francis Louis Bertoni (Fr. Bertoni's father) and his largest creditor, Julius Corrà, reached some sort of agreement on this date.
- 9 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that murmuring often wears the mask of charity; sometimes under the mask of noble virtues of zeal and charity lurks self-love – we will have to repay God for it.
- 17 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that in matters concerning one's religious vocation, it is better to leave it up to God – it is better to accept the will of God in what happens than try to anticipate it.
- 20 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote that it is a good practice to deal with others on their own level if the intention is to bring them to our own.
- 31 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that great temptations are the means of great holiness when they are met with courage.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1808

- 15 Sep** Fr. Bertoni visited an altar dedicated to St. Ignatius (in the now destroyed church of St. Sebastian) at the beginning of his Annual Retreat. Fr. Bertoni noted on his diary that the Saint seemed to be telling him that he [Fr. Bertoni] must use the same means that he [St. Ignatius] used during his life-time to inspire the soldiers of Christ onward. This was a mystical experience, which does not, however, seem to have been a vision.
- 27 Sep** On this date, Fr. Bertoni wrote that he had experienced a strong desire to associate with the ignominies of our Lord.
- 28 Sep** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that spiritual directors should forbid their penitents from practicing exterior penances, if they did not already make some progress in practicing interior penance. He also expressed a desire for martyrdom.
- 9 Oct** Fr. Bertoni, offering Mass on his 31st birthday, had a mystical experience of the Divine Teacher.
- 11 Oct** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that any religious who does not tend to his own personal perfection, impedes the entire Congregation.
- 12 Oct** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that if one feels himself attracted to high virtue, he should not be impeded by anyone else in the Community who may be of lesser virtue.
- 17 Oct** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that on this day, at the noon visit, he experienced an intense realization of the presence of God.
- 22 Oct** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that on this day he experienced a strong desire to follow our Lord more closely in his poverty.
- 27 Oct** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that at the Examination of Conscience, that day at noon, he experienced a lively realization of the presence of God.
- 16 Nov** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that some try to build a spiritual life without a foundation – he noted that one must always start with an interior spirit.
- 20 Nov** Bishop Liruti dropped in unexpectedly on Fr. Bertoni as he was teaching Catechism to some adults. That night, Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that he should always be ready to appear before the Tribunal of Christ – which could come just as unexpectedly.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1809

- 2 Dec** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary on this date that we must above all take good care that we do not fail God, as we are sure that, on His part, He will never fail us.
- 3 Dec** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary on this date that out of love for us, God shows us the Cross that we are to carry. It is for us to have good will, and He will be with us in carrying our Cross through life.
- 13 Dec** On this date, Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that people of God must expect severe temptations.
- 17 Dec** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that he had been reading the *Spiritual Combat*, by Dominic Scupoli, and the *Imitation of Christ* attributed to Thomas a Kempis – he resolved to flee negligence.
- 20 Dec** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that the Vow of Obedience for Superiors binds them directly to God.
- 23 Dec** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that we are to seek God and not consolations.

1809

- 9 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary about discretion.
- 11 Jan** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that during Mass that day at the Consecration he had a vivid grasp of the presence of Christ as a friend talking to a friend. He said this experience lasted half hour after Mass.
- 23 Jan** Fr. Bertoni cited St. John Chrysostom in his Spiritual Diary: “Few Priests are saved, but many more are lost.” He stated that St. Augustine was of the same view and told it his priests, not to shock them, but because he really believed it in his time. On the same day he also noted that he was going to meditate everyday on Psalm 14 – “Lord, who will dwell in thy tabernacle... or who will rest on thy holy Mountain?”
- 1 Feb** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that, on that day, he had frequent thought about Christ’s life. And again, “During Consecration, a very lively and affectionate sense of Christ’s presence.”
- 4 Feb** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that if Priests do not pray well, they can never speak well of God.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1809

- 11 Feb** Fr. Bertoni cited St. Augustine's "I fear Jesus passing me by" in his Spiritual Diary. His recorded comment on this date was that his greatest fear was to fail to correspond to God's Grace.
- 26 Feb** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that it is our job to make a copy of Jesus Christ in ourselves.
- 12 Mar** *Sunday* – Bishop Liruti conferred Tonsure and the four Minor Orders on Louis Bragato.
- 12 Mar** Donna Dei Conti Martelli was born. She became the 2nd successor to Mother Naudet.
- 27 Mar** Fr. Bertoni cited Dominic Scupoli's "*Spiritual Combat*" in his Spiritual Diary on this date and wrote that temptations return after failure that one might regain the merit lost from the previous failure.
- 22 Apr** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that he who has good will has everything – weak resolutions are like painted hunters or soldiers who appear to be in act but never kill or even wound.
- 16 Jun** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary the he, as a "soldier", had to place himself on the field of combat every morning – he proposed to disavow his own will and to try to do all things according to God's will.
- 23 Jun** It seems that Fr. Bertoni was thinking seriously these days about a future Congregation, as he wrote in his Spiritual Diary on this date that there was needed almost heroic virtue for such an enterprise.
- 6 Jul** Pope Pius VII was arrested and confined by Napoleon's forces.
- 15 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote on this day to Mother Naudet that she should never act according to nature as this interrupts God's work.
- 23 Jul** There is an annotation of Fr. Bertoni's diary of this date that he had been thinking of establishing a Congregation; he wrote that he did not want to overlook anything or to be careless in carrying out any inspiration that God was sending him.
- 24 Jul** Fr. Bertoni noted in his diary that he had to prepare for a terrible war with hell – to attract graces from heaven, he needed a great humility and a great detachment from this world.
- 29 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that if he would have the heart, temptation would cease for him.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1810

- 30 Jul** Fr. Bertoni noted this day in his Diary that resolution is needed in the spiritual life – one must be on guard against half-hearted resolutions.
- 13 Sep** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that anyone who does not want to consider God as just, only knows God by half, or partially.
- 23 Sep** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that simplicity is not enough to lead others to holiness – prudence is also required.
- 29 Sep** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that it is a good thing to suffer for Jesus Christ.

1810

- 6 Feb** Fr. Bertoni's beloved mother, **Brunora Ravelli**, died this day. Few days later, Fr. Bertoni moved from St. Paul's Church to Sts. Firmus and Rusticus.
- 8 Feb** Fr. Bertoni named Joseph Scudellini (who was married to Rosa Ravelli, his mother's sister) as the lawyer to regain the family estate being squandered by his father, Francis Bertoni.
- 18 May** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that it really costs nothing to be devoted to Mary. It is up to us to purify ourselves so that her mediation on our behalf will meet no obstacle.
- 11 Jun** Charles Pacificus Fedelini²², son of Peter, was born at 9:00 a.m. and baptised the same day.
- 15 Jul** On this date, there was a procession for the transferral of the Relics of S. Gualfardo from the Church of the Holy Saviour to that of Sts. Firmus and Rusticus. Fr. Bertoni, Fr. Farinati and Fr. Gramego took part in this ceremony and established friendship that lasted their whole lives.
- 12 Aug** A Fr. Del Buona received a letter from Msgr. Doria, "Maestro di Camera" for Pius VII, containing a blessing for Mother Naudet's group.
- Sept** Fr. Bertoni preached a Spiritual Retreat to the Seminarians.
- 11 Nov** Bishop Liruti remained firm in his refusal of allowing Fr. Matthew Farinati to join the Jesuits.

²² Fr. Charles Fedelini. Born 11 July 1810; entered 24 October 1826; ordin. 20 September 1834; left the Congregation 25 August 1847, because of ill health; he re-entered 16 September 1855; death 30 June 1860.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1811

- 18 Nov** It was the 3rd Sunday of the month, and the feast of the Patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Fr. Bertoni delivered his first Sunday meditation to the Seminarians (this Sunday activity will continue up to Easter Time 1812). He preached that the Church was the House of God, and that Mary was its door, or ‘the Gate of Heaven.’
- 22 Nov** As from the month of November 1810, Fr. Gaspar Bertoni started a series of monthly recollection to the Acolytes, at the Cathedral, which will continue up to the end of 1811.
- 25 Nov** Fr. Bertoni preached to the young Seminarians of the Diocese of Verona. He told them to invoke Mary in any difficulties with their vocations.

1811

- 9 Jan** Mother Naudet made note in her spiritual diary to ask Fr. Bertoni to be her Spiritual Director.
- 11 Jan** Fr. Bertoni became ordinary confessor of Mother Leopoldine Naudet.
- 12 Jan** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that in his endeavour to direct the soul entrusted to him (Mother Naudet), he should not make specific preparation, but he should wait for God’s will to be made clear, and not anticipate it.
- 5 Feb** Mother Naudet noted in her Spiritual Diary how she seemed to be repaying God’s goodness with her ingratitude.
- 7 Feb** Mother Naudet wrote in her Spiritual Diary that she had begun to examine herself hourly as had been suggested to her by Fr. Bertoni. She wrote that she found many defects of hers that distracted her, many faults that were impeding her spiritual progress.
- 8 Feb** Mother Naudet wrote in her Spiritual Diary that the hourly examen that Fr. Bertoni had suggested to her was a great help to her.
- 16 Feb** Mother Naudet wrote in her Spiritual Diary that her task in life was to love and please God in all things.
- 28 Apr** Fr. Bertoni noted in his Spiritual Diary that the expression “Watch and Pray” was in capsule form all the scriptural admonition on the spiritual life. “Watch” meant to be on the alert, which was useless without weapons, and prayer supplied them.
- 15 Jul** A Msgr. Vincent Ruzzenenti, Canon of the Cathedral, and friend of Fr. Bertoni, wrote him this day – On this same date, a Mr.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1812

Antony Micheletti furnished an endowment so that John Marani could continue his studies for the Priesthood.

23 Jul Mother Naudet noted in her Spiritual Diary that her Spiritual Director, Fr. Bertoni, was inspired by God and she vowed that she would obey him.

Aug Fr. Gaspar Bertoni preached a Retreat in the Seminary for priest dedicated to confessions.²³

21 Sep John Marani was ordained a Sub-Deacon in the Basilica of St. Anthony in Padua, by Bishop Francesco Scipione de Dondi.

18 Oct A young man by the name of Cajetan Brugnoli was discharged on this day from Napoleon's Noble Guard. In later years, a number of his comrades in arms perished in Napoleon's disastrous attempt to conquer Russia. In 1854, Bishop Benedict De Riccabona would compare the small Congregation of the Stimmate to Napoleon's Noble Guard, 'small in number, but would inflict the decisive blow for God in battle!'

17 Nov Mother Naudet noted that she had prayed that Mary and Joseph would be the true 'Superiors' of her Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family. She prayed that she would practically unite the active and contemplative lives. It was the Feast of the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

22 Nov Cajetan Brugnoli was vested by his uncle, Fr. Francis Brugnoli, in the Church of St. Peter in Monastero.

1812

14 Mar Louis Bragato was ordained a Sub Deacon in the parish church of St. Eufemia.

26 Mar Mother Naudet's annotations of this date indicate that she experienced some sort of ecstasy – or intense feeling of prayer.

5 Apr Francis Cartolari was vested at St. Firmus Major by the noble canon Penitentiary, Christopher Cartolari, with Bishop Liruti's permission.

²³ Cf. "San Gaspare Bertoni (e l'ambiente veronese)", N. Dalle Vedove, Vol. 3, p.308.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1812

- 30 May** Fr. Bertoni left a rather lengthy account of an experience he had praying before Mass. He said the crucifix seemed to be indicating that he should become intimate to the Heart of Christ.
- 17 Jun** Louis Ferrari²⁴ was born at Lughezzano, son of James; he would one day be a Brother in the Congregation, and confidant of Fr. Marani, Superior General.
- 27 Aug** On this date we have the only letter that has come down to us of Fr. Bertoni to Mother Magdalene di Canossa, who was in Venice. He told her that Fr. Nicholas Galvani had not been feeling well.
- 2 Sep** Fr. Galvani purchased the old Vallombrosian Convent next to the church of Holy Trinity. He gave it in use to some former Nuns, for the care of poor girls. They remained until 1856.
- 19 Sep** *Ember Saturday* – In his private Chapel, Bishop Liruti conferred the Diaconate on John Marani, and Tonsure and the four Minor Orders on Francis Cartolari.
- 7 Oct** Mother Naudet wrote to Fr. Bertoni on this day stating that she was experiencing many difficulties in her spiritual life at this time.
- 16 Oct** This was the birth date of a Francis Stevanoni²⁵ – he later became a Brother in the Congregation, and was one of the four Brothers who were present the day of the Founder's death at the Stimate, June 12, 1853.
- 21 Oct** Fr. Bertoni fell seriously ill.
- 26 Oct** Fr. Bertoni seemed near to death, and dictated his last will. But the following day he started improving. He recovered, but he would often relapse right through life. Later in life he was also plagued by a painful and massive leg ailment (1821-1828).
- 16 Nov** On this day Fr. Bertoni begins his letters to Mother Naudet²⁶. On this first letter he told her that he was convalescing from his recent, serious and painful illness. He told her that there was no need to confess her feelings of lack of faith as she had described them in the previous letter.

²⁴ Bro. Louis Ferrari. Born 17 June 1812; entered 27 August 1839; death 7 March 1888.

²⁵ Bro. Francis Stevanoni. Born 16 October 1812; entered 27 August 1839; death 28 February 1860.

²⁶ The letters of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni to Mother Leopoldina Naudet are recorded in the Founder's Manuscripts, NN. 9092-9657.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1813

- 25 Nov** Fr. Bertoni paid a visit this day to Bishop Liruti. Fr. Bertoni explained to the Bishop that he felt the offered position in the Diocese as Vice-Rector of the Seminary to be alien to his vocation. On this date he was also relieved of the task of Confessor at St. Joseph's. But the Bishop gave him another assignment, namely of taking care of suspended priest who were constrained in the premises of the Seminary.²⁷
- 26 Nov** Fr. Louis Fortis, SJ, assisted Fr. Bertoni during his illness today. He was the Founder's first Spiritual Director in his teen years, and later became Superior General of the restored Jesuits.
- 1 Dec** In a letter on this date, Fr. Bertoni directed Mother Naudet to turn her sights toward heaven – such a vision turns sadness into joy.
- 3 Dec** On this date, Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet. He promised her that he would say some Masses for her, and he had already begun them in honour of St. Francis Xavier.
- 5 Dec** On this date, Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet – he told her that the religious soul must not impede anything that interferes with union with God.
- 11 Dec** In his letter of this date, Fr. Bertoni agreed to review Mother Naudet's Constitutions which she had written. This letter also contains Fr. Bertoni's views on the spiritual life.
- 14 Dec** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet concerning her Constitutions. He told her of his recent illness and felt that God was 'joking' with him. He suggested to her for one part of her rule, that 'Vicar' was a better title than 'Provincial.' He expressed the hope that the French branch of the Sisters, known as the 'Madames of the Sacred Heart',²⁸ would join Mother Naudet.
- 21 Dec** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet on this day and told her that he found her Constitutions praiseworthy.

1813

- 8 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet that a Fr. Anthony Strabui had told him the night before that Fr. Dominic Bellavite, Oratorian, had

²⁷ Cf. "San Gaspare Bertoni (e l'ambiente veronese)", N. Dalle Vedove, Vol. 3, p.420; 424.

²⁸ They were led by Sr. Sophie Marie. They were founded by Fr. Nicholas Paccanari who called them "The Madames of the Faith".

HISTORICAL NOTES 1813

some difficulty with the government over the Congregation of the Daughters of Mary he founded.

- 9 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet to congratulate her on her fine work. He told her that a Maria Gagnere wanted to enter her Congregation (she later was Vicar of Mother Naudet's Congregation when the holy Foundress died, 17 August 1834).
- 12 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet concerning the vocation of three young women who were causing some anxiety – Gertrude Vilchi, Anna Randelli and Clara Canton.
- 13 Jan** Dr. Ravelli, Fr. Bertoni's maternal uncle, prescribed some new medicine for his nephew – he also gave him strict orders not to leave the house before 11:00 a.m. nor before 3:00 p.m. so that Fr. Bertoni would sleep in the morning and after dinner.
- 21 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet that Annetta Randelli, who was sick, could not receive Holy Communion without the prescribed fast – unless there was danger of death. As long as she was ill, Fr. Bertoni promised to come every eight days.
- 3 Feb** Fr. Bertoni was scheduled to hear the Sister's Confessions at 10:00 a.m. this Wednesday at St. Firmus.
- 4 Feb** Fr. Bertoni went to St. Joseph's Convent to speak with the Sisters on this Wednesday after dinner.
- 11 Feb** Fr. Bertoni, in a letter to Mother Naudet²⁹ (without date, but seemingly on this day), remarked that there are really very few who do the will of God.
- 28 Feb** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that he was at the bedside of Bartholomew Ruffoni – he was Fr. Bertoni's Oratory Prefect and a model of holiness.
- 1 Mar** Fr. Bertoni wrote in some haste to Mother Naudet, as he feared some misunderstanding with Mother di Canossa. He Advised Mother Naudet to get Fr. Galvani's advice as well.
- 4 Mar** Mother Naudet asked Fr. Bertoni's advice concerning a good book for her Retreat. Fr. Bertoni suggested "The Spiritual Exercises" of St. Ignatius – he also suggested to her to keep a Spiritual Diary.
- 8 Mar** Mother di Canossa would not let one of her professed Sisters to transfer to Mother Naudet's Congregation. So it was that Christine

²⁹ Founder's Manuscripts, NN. 9178-9180.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1813

Scalfo left religion altogether. Fr. Bertoni wanted to see Fr. Galvani to explain this dispute but was impeded due to the constant care he was giving to the dying Ruffoni. Fr. Farinati was then assigned as Confessor to Mother di Canossa's Congregation.

- 9 Mar** Bartholomew Ruffoni, Fr. Bertoni's choice as prefect of his Marian Oratory died. His life's story was written after his death by Fr. James Raghi and Anthony Campostrini. He was later called the "Dominic Savio of the Oratory. "
- 10 Mar** Fr. Bertoni spoke in the Library with Monsignor Dionisi, Vicar General of the Diocese, concerning the difficulties between Mother di Canossa and Mother Naudet.
- 27 Mar** A former priest, Angelo Allegri, who had known Fr. Bertoni during the assistance to the prison of St. Mary of the Victory in 1804, was condemned to death – he was impenitent for his crime of matricide.
- 3 Apr** "*Sitientes*" *Saturday*³⁰ – Cajetan Brugnoli was tonsured and received the four minor orders.
- 5 Apr** On this date, in his letter to Mother Naudet, Fr. Bertoni praised the work of Fr. John Louis Fusari, long time superior of the Oratory of St. Philip.
- 8 Apr** Fr. Bertoni had hoped to be at St. Joseph's Convent this day but was unable to make it.
- 9 Apr** Fr. Bertoni spoke again with Msgr. Dionisi concerning the differences between Mother Naudet and Mother Di Canossa.
- 10 Apr** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet to explain the reasons why Mother di Canossa would not allow sister Christine Scalfo change to Mother Naudet's Congregation. Fr. Bertoni wrote that Mother di Canossa felt that all Religious Congregations were basically the same and if Sister Scalfo changed, many others would too.
- 13 Apr** Louis Bragato was ordained Deacon by Bishop Liruti.
- 15 Apr** *Holy Thursday* – Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her of some consolation that he had in life.
- 25 Jun** Fr. Gaspar was received by Angelo Allegri, who up to now had not accepted of repenting from his crime, and heard his confession.

³⁰ The Saturday in the 4th week of Lent.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1813

- 26 Jun** This date marks the last entry in Fr. Bertoni's diary that has come down to us.
- 8 Jul** Angelo Allegri, convicted of matricide, was executed in Piazza Navona, Verona. He was ultimately converted and made his Confession to Fr. Bertoni before his execution.
- 13 Jul** Anna Randelli died at the age of 28 – she was one of Mother Naudet's sisters and Fr. Bertoni had shown interest in her vocation.
- 24 Jul** Fr. Bertoni told Mother Naudet in his letter of this date that he had read her papers to the Vicar General of the Diocese and he was most pleased with her ideas and spirit.
- 25 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet on this date and told her that he had written to the Vicar General, who had shown such interest in her Congregation. The letter also contained a number of Fr. Bertoni's ideas on education and in which is found a statement of Fr. Bertoni, often quoted to the students of the Congregation: "It is better to know a little, but well, than a great deal, but confusedly".
- 31 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that studies are a means of extending God's glory.
- 24 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet from Colognola ai Colli, where he was convalescing. He said that he was no longer afraid of pain – and that he was awaiting a 'command' from God.
- 31 Aug** Fr. Bertoni in his letter of this date showed a great fear of being Vice Rector of the Diocesan Seminary. This fact would later be used by the 'Devil's Advocate' in his Cause for Canonization – Fr. Bertoni had already been Spiritual Director. He wanted his Uncle, Dr. Ravelli, to write to Bishop Liruti to tell him that he could not be Vice Rector.
- 18 Sep** *Ember Saturday* – Cajetan Brugnoli was ordained a Sub-Deacon.
- 26 Sep** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet on Abandonment to God – he was glad that she had taken advice from Fr. John Fusari - the Oratorian Superior at St. Philip's.
- 11 Oct** On this date, a layman by the name of Joseph Bellotti signed a bill of purchase of the Stimmate, the *Derelitti*, *St. Teresa's* and a house near the parish of the Holy Trinity. He would one day leave these to Fr. Galvani, who in turn would leave them to Fr. Bertoni - who in turn would put them in Fr. Benciolini's name.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1814

- 27 Nov** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet that he would be at the Convent the following day, so that they could discuss a number of items that she had mentioned.
- 13 Dec** On this date, Fr. Bertoni visited the College of Acolytes in Verona. He himself had once studied there preparing for Priesthood.
- 14 Dec** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet that a Vocation is the work of God. He recommended his 'poor Father' to her prayers.
- 18 Dec** The Church of St. Teresa's opened again for public worship after being closed for some time due to Napoleon's occupation of Verona.
- 26 Dec** **Francis Louis Bertoni**, the father of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni, died. The register at St. Paul's Parish stated: 'He died strengthened by the Most Holy Eucharist.'

1814

- 3 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet concerning a young girl who had entered her congregation. It seemed quite clear that there were some doubts concerning her vocation.
- 16 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet about a vocation, a Miss Angelina Raimondi. In this letter, Fr. Bertoni called Mother Naudet's proposed convent a "cenacle."
- 18 Jan** On this date, Fr. Bertoni soundly defeated a Jansenist in a debate.
- 14 Apr** Catherine Slavier renounced legally what Francis Bertoni (Fr. Bertoni's father) had left her.
- 8 May** A final settlement was reached between Fr. Bertoni and Catherine Slavier concerning the family money that Fr. Bertoni's father had left to her.
- 14 May** Pope Pius VII visited Loreto; Canon Louis Pacetti spoke with him concerning Mother di Canossa; her work pleased the Holy Father very much.
- 24 May** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet that his illness had him back in bed again. On this same day, Pius VII entered Rome in triumph – after having been imprisoned by Napoleon.
- 1 Jun** In his letter, Fr. Bertoni seemed to express a much broader view on education for women than many of his contemporaries; he also gave some views on classroom procedure and concluded with the thought that suffering is the best school.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1815

- 4 Jun** *Ember Saturday* – Bishop Liruti ordained John-Mary Marani a Priest. On this same day, Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that he was confined to bed.
- 5 Jun** *Trinity Sunday* – Fr. Marani, ordained the day before, celebrated his first Mass in St. Paul's Parish. Fr. Bertoni was ill and so could not attend; he wrote to Mother Naudet and offered suggestions on how to write to the Pope. He advised her to keep copies of her correspondence on file.
- 8 Jun** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that he was feeling better but was still unable to say Mass.
- 9 Jun** *Feast of Corpus Christi* – Fr. Bertoni could leave home (that of Joseph Scudellini and his aunt Rosa Ravelli) to hear Mass.
- 10 Jun** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that he also received a copy of Corneille's Tragedies. He stated that he was waiting for Corticelli's Italian Grammar.
- 7 Aug** Napoleon fell – the Jesuits were reinstated. Frs. Gramego and Farinati wanted to go to Rome to join the Jesuits but Bishop Liruti was reluctant to grant permission.
- 24 Sep** Louis Bragato was ordained a priest by Bishop Innocent Liruti; and, with him, also Cajetan Brugnoli was ordained a Priest, who went from Vestition to the Priesthood in two years – receiving all orders from Bishop Liruti.
- 20 Dec** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet – she was afraid that should the Salesian Sisters come to Verona, it might put her very Congregation into some jeopardy.

1815

- 28 Jan** Bishop John Andrew Avogadro, the Bishop who ordained Fr. Bertoni (20 September 1800) died in abject poverty in a Jesuit house in Padua. He had resigned the See of Verona in 1805 and returned to the Society of Jesus of which he was a member.
- 27 Feb** Napoleon slipped away from Elba at noon.
- 1 Mar** Napoleon arrived at Rivara and forbade that any French blood be shed.
- 6 Apr** The date of a letter from Mother Naudet to Pius VII – it is in her handwriting but does not seem to be her style of writing. It seems to have been dictated by Fr. Bertoni.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1816

- 13 Apr** Theodora Campostrini³¹, a penitent of Fr. Bertoni entered the Salesian Sisters of Visitation at Salò (Brescia).
- 4 May** Innocent Venturini joined the Oratory at St. Sebastian's, Verona.
- 6 Jun** French troops under Napoleon moved north toward Belgium.
- 18 Jun** Waterloo, Belgium; the battle raged 9 hours – 50,000 men either killed or wounded; the Duke of Wellington (Gen. Arthur Wellesley) defeated Napoleon and sent his victory dispatch from Waterloo and history has recorded it as the Battle of Waterloo.
- 2 Oct** Fr. Galvani wrote on this day that the Bishop still had not given Fr. Farinati permission to leave the Diocese to join the Jesuits.

1816

- 20 Feb** A Retreat began at Sts. Firmus and Rusticus in preparation for the Oratory that was to be established there the following Sunday, Quinquagesima Sunday.
- 25 Feb** *Quinquagesima Sunday*, is the date of the solemn erection of a Marian Oratory in the Parish of Sts. Firmus and Rusticus. The first four names of this new Oratory were Frs. Bertoni, Mazza, Marani and Gramego. Fr. Marani gave much time to this Oratory until about Nov. 1819.
- 30 Mar** Francis Cartolari was ordained Sub-Deacon.
- 4 May** Fr. Bertoni assisted Canon Louis Pacetti at the historic Mission Preached at Sts. Firmus and Rusticus, Verona. For this work during this Mission, Fr. Bertoni would receive a Papal honour of "Apostolic Missionary."³²
- 26 May** Canon Louis Pacetti and Fr. Bertoni concluded the historic Mission at Sts. Firmus and Rusticus that began on May 4th. During this Mission Fr. Bertoni received the idea of establishing a Congregation.
- 22 Jun** Fr. Gramego received diocesan faculties for men's confessions only.

³¹ Servant of God Teodora Campostrini (death: 1860), religious, foundress of the Little Sisters of Charity of the Sorrowful Mary.

³² Luigi Mantovani, in "Albero Rigoglioso...", p. 23, quotes the words of a witness to that Mission in St. Firmus, who said about Fr. Gaspar: "His teaching was a light, his oratory was a thunder that frightens, but his confessions were rain that brings back life".

HISTORICAL NOTES 1816

- 24 Jun** Louis Gagliardi was born – he composed and directed in later life the music for the Canonical Erection of the Congregation (30 September 1855) and Fr. Marani's Golden Jubilee (12 June 1864); he composed "Su Fratelli" that was also sung at Fr. Benciolini's Golden Jubilee (19 September 1879).
- 27 Jul** This was the date of the death of Mr. Joseph Bellotti (at the age of 31) who left to Fr. Galvani the pious places (the Stimate³³, *St. Teresa's Convent*³⁴, the *Trinità*³⁵, and the *Derelitti*³⁶) – with the promise that schools be conducted and that one Ursula Spina, long a governess in the Bellotti home, be supported until her death.
- 28 Jul** Mother Naudet wrote to Fr. Galvani and offered to buy from him St. Teresa's Convent. Fr. Galvani did not accept the offer.
- 8 Aug** Theodora Campostrini left the Salesian Sisters of Visitation at Salò (Brescia) and returned to Verona hoping she could start her own Convent. She took up residence with Magdalene di Canossa.
- 17 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that Fr. Galvani had offered him the Stimate and the other "pious places". Fr. Marani was urging to accept them. Fr. Bertoni told her also that Fr. Galvani had destined the '*Terese*' for her.
- 30 Aug** Fr. Bertoni visited Fr. Galvani to discuss particulars of the Bellotti property left to Fr. Galvani, who in turn offered its use to Fr. Bertoni.
- 31 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet that a number of young girls wanted to enter her Congregation.

³³ The place of the 'Stimate' comprised of a church dedicated to the Stigmata of St. Francis and an attached building with various rooms. The church was built in 1624 by the lay Confraternity of the Stigmata of St. Francis (from whom resulted the dedication). The church was closed and confiscated and the Confraternity was disbanded by Napoleonic laws in 1808. In 1813 the church became a workshop for repairing carriages. The main altar was sold and taken away.

³⁴ In the Convent of St. Teresa, in 1810 two sisters, Raimondi, former Nuns, started a school for poor girls. In 1813 most rooms were requisitioned by the Army and the church (which was built in 1744) was used for horses and mules. But in 1814 the church was opened again. Again it would be closed between 1859 and 1885.

³⁵ See 2 Sep 1812.

³⁶ The house called *Derelitti* included also the church of S. Maria del Giglio, and was situated within the parish of St. Steven. In 1816, *Derelitti* was given in use to a community of Claretian Sisters, until 1835.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1817

- 1 Sep** Mother Naudet wrote to Fr. Galvani that she could not keep her Monday appointment at 9:00 a.m. She asked if she could meet with him at 3:30 p.m., to talk over the use of St. Teresa's. She told him that Fr. Trevisani was very happy over the proposed solution for the Convent.
- 3 Sep** In the morning, Fr. Bertoni talked with Teresa and Benvenuta Bellotti, sisters of the deceased Joseph – that afternoon at 2:00 p.m., he spoke with Fr. Galvani – all of these conversations were concerning the 'pious places' left by Bellotti to Fr. Galvani.
- 4 Oct** Fr. Bertoni was in Mantua with Monsignor Louis Pacetti, preaching the annual retreat to the Diocesan Clergy there. He spent there two weeks, just shortly prior to coming to the Stimate.
- 4 Nov** **On this Monday, in the morning, Fr. Bertoni, Fr. John-Mary Marani and Brother Paul Zanolì came to the Stimate to take up residence. The beginning of the Congregation.**³⁷
- 9 Nov** Mother Naudet took over the Convent of St. Teresa's in Verona. She was to do a similar work for girls there as Fr. Bertoni was doing for boys at the Stimate.
- 13 Nov** School opens at the Stimate for the first time under Fr. Bertoni's direction. It remained open for 27 years – in this time, there were 70 Priests ordained from its alumni.
- 20 Nov** Pope Pius VII granted a Decree of Praise to the Congregation founded by Mother Magdalene di Canossa.
- 4 Dec** Fr. Michaelangelo Gramego entered the Congregation, a month after Frs. Bertoni and Marani and Bro. Paul Zanolì.

1817

- 1 Jan** A priest by the name of Fr. Matthew Farinati joined the Congregation at the Stimate. He had given up his earlier hope of becoming a Jesuit.
- 11 Jan** Elizabeth Ambrosini, penitent of Fr. Bertoni, joined Mother Naudet at St. Teresa's.
- 22 Mar** Francis Cartolari was ordained a Deacon.

³⁷ They lodged in the care-taker house, behind the church, with a kitchen (ground floor) and two rooms upstairs.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1818

- 25 Mar** Fr. Louis Della Rizza had been living in the house of the Stimate (left side of the church) when Fr. Bertoni took possession of it the previous November. He finally left this day, after the winter.
- 21 Apr** The tiles on the roof of the Stimate were repaired at the cost of 40 napoleons. Also some windows were repaired.
- 6 Jun** Bishop Liruti granted broader faculties for the Priests of the Stimate that Fr. Bertoni had requested.
- 30 Jun** A long ladder for the Stimate was purchased, from a builder named Maceta.
- 20 Aug** Some lumber was purchased on this date to construct benches, or pews, for the Stimate.
- 5 Sep** John Baptist Mary Lenotti³⁸ was born about 2:30 p.m., the son of Anthony. He was baptized this same day in St. Luke's Parish.
- 11 Oct** Fr. Cajetan Brugnoli entered the Congregation.
- 20 Dec** The Sacred Congregation of the Propagation of the faith named Fr. Bertoni an *Apostolic Missionary* on this date. This Decree described the Missionary Obedience, or Manner, with its repeated emphasis on obedience, serving the purposes of the Bishop, of carrying out the end, or purpose for the members of the Congregation – which for a number of decades would be known as the *Congregation of Apostolic Missionaries*.

1818

- 6 Sep** From this date onward, Mass could be celebrated in the little Oratory at the Stimate, dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.
- 15 Sep** Fr. Louis Bragato entered the Congregation
- 15 Oct** This is the date of the Last Will and Testament of Fr. Nicholas Galvani that made Fr. Bertoni the legal owner of the Stimate, the Convent of St. Teresa's, the *Derelitti* and a house near the Holy Trinity church.
- 28 Sep** Works started in the church for the building of the main altar, dedicated to the Holy Spouses.
- 18 Dec** Francis Cartolari was ordained a Priest.

³⁸ Fr. John Baptist Lenotti. Born 5 September 1817; entered 22 April 1834; ordin. 12 March 1842; he was elected the 2nd Superior General of the Congregation on 6 October 1871; death 5 September 1875.

1819

- 23 Feb** Mother Naudet wrote to Fr. Bertoni that these days had been for her days of discouragement.
- 24 May** Fr. Fusari of the Oratory of St. Philip wrote to Mother Naudet and he told her that he was doing his best to persuade his friend, Fr. Bertoni, to continue as her confessor.
- 12 Jun** Bishop Liruti extended for two more years the faculties that he had previously granted to the priests at the Stimate.
- 14 Jun** Fr. Bragato left the congregation on this date, due to a chest ailment. (He re-entered the Congregation on 30 October 1828 – and died as one of his most illustrious members on 13 October 1874.)
- 19 Oct** Fr. Matthew Farinati returned to his native Alcenago in an attempt to regain his health. He had taken Fr. Bertoni's place as Prison Chaplain. In this work he contracted a disease that was to prove fatal. He had been a follower of Fr. Bertoni from early times.
- 18 Dec** Monsignor Louis Pacetti died – on 20 December 1817 he had obtained for Fr. Bertoni the Papal Title of Apostolic Missionary.

1820

- 5 Sep** Louis Ferrari³⁹, a future Cleric in the Congregation, was born, the son of Louis.
- 7 Sep** Louis Ferrari, born two day before, was baptized - he would enter the Congregation and die before Ordination.
- 17 Sep** Fr. Matthew Farinati died today at 3:00 p.m., shortly after having been visited by Fr. Bertoni – whose place he had taken as Prison Chaplain, where he contracted a fatal illness. Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and asked for prayers for him.
- 23 Sep** Innocent Venturini received Tonsure and the first Minor Order of Ostiarius from Bishop Liruti.
- 25 Nov** In the Church of the Stimate, the Altar of St. Catherine was used for the first time. Over the altar, hung a painting by Voltolini, depicting the Betrothal of the Saint. Fr. Marani said the first Mass

³⁹ St. Louis Ferrari. Born 5 September 1820; entered 29 July 1834; death 6 March 1842.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1821

on the new Altar. Fr. Gramego the second – and Fr. Bertoni the third.

- 15 Dec** The Bishop Liruti appointed Fr. Gaspar Bertoni as “Prosynodal Examiner” (Examiner of Vocations).

1821

- 12 Mar** Birth of one F.G. Clementi⁴⁰, who would in 1846 enter the Congregation, but remained only two months.
- 6 Apr** Fr. Gramego took an exam to be approved as teacher of Grammar.
- 7 Apr** Fr. Gramego was approved by the State to teach on this date.
- 8 Apr** Fr. Bertoni took his state examinations to be approved as a teacher for all grades of high School.
- 15 Jun** Fr. Galvani gave the Stimate an annual endowment of 100 lire and asked permission from the government that it be opened for the public worship. He was the legal owner.
- 16 Jun** The Bishop gave his permission to open the church of the Stimate.
- 21 Jun** Bishop Liruti extended for another two years the faculties of the Fathers of the Stimate. These were special faculties he granted in deference of Fr. Bertoni.
- 14 Jul** A government decree was dated this day granting permission to Fr. Galvani, the owner, to have services for the public at the Church of the Stimate.
- 1 Aug** On this day we have the first documentation of a problem to the right leg of Fr. Bertoni, which seemingly started 3 or 4 months earlier, in a letter of Sr. Marianna Eleonora Dionisi, of the Salesian Sisters of Visitation.⁴¹ The ailment lasted for 8 years, during which Fr. Gaspar underwent about 300 surgical treatments. There was some improvement in August 1825, until May 1826; then it went bad again until the end of 1827. At the beginning of 1828 the wounds were healing, and he could resume celebrating Mass on 27 February 1828. For a while he was still weak and suffering, but he was completely healed towards the end of 1828.

⁴⁰ Bro. Francesco Gregorio Clementi. Born 12 March 1821; entered 30 April 1846; left 1 September 1846.

⁴¹ Cf. Dalle Vedove, ‘*S. Gaspare Bertoni*’, 1989, p 198, 221 and passim.

1822

- 24 Jan** Fr. Louis Trevisani, prefect of Studies at the Seminary of Verona died – A Fr. Joseph Monterossi composed a poem in his honour, and in it he referred to Fr. Bertoni, who had worked with Fr. Trevisani at the Seminary as “*uomo divo*.”⁴²
- 14 May** Fr. Francis Cartolari entered the Stimate.
- 13 Sep** The works for the church were completed on this date.
- 3 Oct** The Vigil of the Feast of St. Francis. At 3:00 p.m., the Church of the Stimate was opened once again to the public after being closed for many years. Bishop Liruti, unsolicited, had given permission for the Blessed Sacrament to be reserved in the Church. From this time onward, in the little church there were weekly Friday devotions in honour of the Five Wounds⁴³. Fr. Brugnoli preached on this occasion – and Fr. Gramego celebrated the first Mass on the main altar dedicated to the Espousals of Mary and Joseph.
- 5 Nov** The School at the Stimate and the School at the Convent of St. Teresa’s Convent were investigated by the government in a routine investigation. Fr. Bertoni assisted Mother Naudet in filling out her questionnaire.
- 6 Nov** Mother Naudet had asked for more specific details in answering the questionnaire on her School. Fr. Bertoni wrote in greater detail.
- 8 Nov** In the questionnaire Fr. Bertoni filled out for the investigation of the Stimate on this date, it appeared that the Congregation at that time numbered five Priests, one Brother – and there were 74 Students attending school at the Stimate.
- 27 Nov** On this day, Bishop Liruti celebrated his 80th birthday. In a conversation on this day, he praised Fr. Bertoni as ‘learned and venerable.’ On this same day, the Bishop Liruti sent to the Holy See in Rome his triennial report, in which he mentioned with appreciation about the community of Bertoni and the new School, indirectly giving an official acknowledgement to the Institute.

⁴² ‘man of God’, saintly man.

⁴³ Fr. Marani said: “The instruction to celebrate the liturgy of the Passion every Friday was given by the wise thinking and the affectionate heart of the Ecclesiastic Superior” (i.e. Bishop Liruti). [See the file: “*MARANIA*”, p. 21.]

HISTORICAL NOTES 1823

- 14 Dec** The Emperor Francis I, who had been visiting Verona, left this day. About this same time, Fr. Galvani fell seriously ill and Fr. Bertoni sent Fr. Marani to assist the old Benefactor of the Congregation.

1823

- 6 Jan** Fr. Nicholas Galvani died at 5:40 p.m. The ownership of the Stimate and the other “pious places” was transferred to Fr. Bertoni - he therefore, had to fulfil the conditions outlined in the will of Joseph Bellotti, namely tuition free schools for youth. There were six people living at the Stimate at this time: Frs. Bertoni, Marani, Gramego, Brugnoli and Cartolari, and the lay man Paul Zanolì.
- 16 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his letter of this day to Mother Naudet of the taxes he owed as owner of the Stimate and St. Teresa’s.
- 23 Jan** This was the first public observance of the Feast of the Espousals at the Stimate. 42 Priests came to the Stimate this day to celebrate Mass. Over the main altar hung a painting of the Espousals. Among the visiting priests were Fr. Steeb⁴⁴ and Fr. Mazza, both now in the process of Canonisation. Fr. Brugnoli preached and said he hoped that the Feast of the Espousals would always be religiously observed.
- 28 Jan** Pius VII richly indulgenced the devotion to the Five Wounds and also granted some indulgences for the Feast of the Espousals – but these latter arrived 5 days too late to be gained that year.
- 28 Sep** Cardinal Della Genga was elected to succeed Pope Pius VII – he took the name of Leo XII.
- 5 Oct** Fr. Bertoni was ill at this time, but he responded to Mother Naudet’s letter and agreed that the First Communicants should be enrolled in the Oratory.
- 26 Oct** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet who was seeking approbation for her Congregation. He advised her not to write so soon, as the new Pope, Leo XII, had not as yet been crowned.

⁴⁴ Blessed Carlo Steeb. Founder of the Sisters of Mercy. He died in 1855. Beatified 6 July 1975.

1824

- 6 Feb** The first load of material was brought for the building of the Community convent and for some classrooms for the school.
- 20 Feb** Mother Naudet wrote to Fr. Bertoni asking for guidance and direction.
- 4 Apr** Fr. Bertoni obtained a decree of enrolment for the new oratory at the Holy Trinity parish for the Pastor of that church, Fr. Peter Palamidese.
- 24 Apr** This is the date of the official establishment of an Oratory at the Parish of the Holy Trinity.
- 1 May** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet concerning her hope one-day to purchase St. Dominic's Convent. It could not be done then, but he told her in time it could be done.
- 5 May** Entrance of Bro. Louis Dal Forno.
- 29 Jun** John Baptist Bongiovanni⁴⁵ came to the Congregation as candidate for the Brotherhood, bringing help to Fr. Zanolì in the "sea of labour" in which he was then immersed.
- 25 Jul** Fr. Modesto Cainer entered the Congregation.⁴⁶
- 20 Aug** Fr. Marani preached at the Friday Devotions at the Stimate, beginning to present the Book of Ecclesiasticus. He went on for 5 months. Then Fr. Bertoni continued up to 7 December 1838.
- 28 Sep** Fr. Cartolari received a government diploma to teach.
- 29 Sep** J. B. Bongiovanni left the Stimate to become a Capuchin.
- 20 Nov** Matilda di Canossa, niece of Mother Magdalene di Canossa, entered Mother Naudet's congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family. Years later, Matilda di Canossa became Vicaress General of the same congregation.
- 29 Dec** The Holy Father declared that the year 1825 would be the Holy Year.

⁴⁵ Bro. John Baptist Bongiovanni. Entered 29 June 1824 and left 29 September 1824.

⁴⁶ Breve Cronaca, Vol. I, p.36 gives July 25,1822 as the date of his entrance; while Collectanea Stigmatina, Vol. I, p.458 gives July 25, 1824 as the date.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1825

1825

- 23 Jan** Fr. Brugnoli preached this year at the Stimate for the Feast of the Espousals. He contrasted Joseph and Mary to Adam and Eve, he said they were “coadjutors” in the Redemption. Young Francis Benciolini was present at this service and took notes – at this time he was a student of theology.
- 3 Apr** During these days the emperor visited the Stimate and also St. Teresa’s, both under construction. This was Easter Sunday.
- 26 Jul** Fr. Bertoni was ill at this time.
- 28 Jul** Fr. Bragato could meet with the priests of the Stimate and expressed the intention of re-entering the Congregation. On that occasion he made simple vows in the hands of Fr. Gaspar for 15 days.
- 31 Jul** Again Fr. Bragato indicated his intention of re-entering the Congregation.
- 9 Aug** The Emperor Francis I left Venice where he had been for a visit.
- 15 Aug** Fr. Bragato stated that he had renewed his private vows to “D.G.” (supposedly, this indicated “Don Gaspare”, i.e. Fr. Bertoni). During his years away from the Congregation, he made private vows to his confessor, Fr. Bertoni.
- 16 Oct** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet this day and promised his prayers that she might find a good Spiritual Director.
- 1 Nov** Young Charles Fedelini is enrolled at the Marian Oratory at the Stimate.

1826

- 1 Jan** The Papal Decree “Exultabit Spiritus Noster” of Pope Leo XII extended the Jubilee year another six months. Fr. Bertoni wrote of his satisfaction.
- 13 Jan** Pope Leo XII again severely condemned Jansenism.
- 23 Jan** The old Mass book at the Stimate records that there were 70 Masses celebrated at the Stimate on this day of the Espousals.
- 24 Jan** Date of a letter signed by Msgr. Dionisi commending the Congregation founded by Mother Naudet – it was needed to obtain Papal recognition for her sisters.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1826

- 26 Feb** Fr. Rosmini, age 29, visited Fr. Bertoni for the first time at the request of Mother Magdalene di Canossa.
- 28 Feb** Fr. Venturini received the decree from the government to teach school.
- 14 Mar** The Papal Decree extending the Holy Year was Published in Verona.
- 15 Mar** Fr. Anthony Rosmini from Milan sent to Fr. Bertoni in Verona the plan of the Congregation he wanted to establish.
- 27 Mar** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Fr. Rosmini to congratulate him for the wonderful work he planned for a future Congregation. Fr. Bertoni suggested that Fr. Rosmini began the process of obtaining Papal Approval.
- 8 May** Death of Francis Bongiovanni, a lay man, Doctor of Canon and Civil law. Fr. Bertoni had recommended his services to Mother Naudet in her letters to the Bishop, but he could not settle the difficulties with Fr. Galvani's heirs.
- 3 Jun** After Francis Bongiovanni's death, Fr. Bertoni asked Fr. Guerrieri's⁴⁷ advice, as he was most learned. Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet that he could not cede St. Teresa's Convent to her until he himself owned it.
- 5 Jul** Fr. Bertoni, who was ill at this time, wrote to Mother Naudet, giving some advice for her annual retreat – he asked for her prayers as he himself was experiencing some difficulties.
- 26 Aug** Bishop Liruti assigned Francis Benciolini, in his 2nd year of Theology, to assist at the Church of *Santa Maria della Scala*. This was near Piazza Erbe, and his Uncle, Fr. Cajetan Benciolini, was Pastor there.
- 17 Sep** *Sunday* – Bishop Liruti conferred Tonsure and the four Minor Orders on Francis Benciolini in the Bishop's residence Chapel. Young Benciolini composed a prayer on this date that he wrote in his Spiritual Diary – he also wrote that melancholy was his predominant passion.
- 24 Oct** Charles Fedelini, a boy of 16, entered the Congregation.
- 30 Oct** Charles Fedelini, aged 16, vested at the Stimate.

⁴⁷ This Dominican is often mentioned in Fr. Bertoni's *Epistolario*.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1827

1827

- 18 Mar** The wife of a Joseph Ferrari fell seriously ill and was anointed and received viaticum. Fr. Bertoni told Joseph to be of good hope, as the morrow was the Feast of the St. Joseph who would watch over his loved one.
- 19 Mar** Mrs. Ferrari suddenly improved this day and her husband attributed it to Fr. Bertoni's prayers. In the meantime, Fr. Bertoni was confined to bed again because of his ailment to the right leg.
- 15 Apr** Mother Naudet was on Retreat – she wrote that she had prayed for Fr. Bertoni during her Retreat.
- 11 May** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet this day and spoke of his illness and the operations that he was undergoing about that time.
- 22 May** Fr. Bertoni filled in the government questionnaire on the School at the Stimmate – the statistics were: 33 in elementary school, 78 in high School – there were four classes of Grammar and two of Humanities.
- 27 May** Bishop Liruti Conferred Tonsure and the Four Minor Orders on Charles Fedelini.
- 16 Jul** Msgr. Dionisi signed a document stating that Francis Benciolini, student of IV Theology, advanced in study because of his excellent qualities, notwithstanding his young age, may be promoted to the Holy Orders.
- 20 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and expressed his gratitude for the prayers of the “holy Prince”, Alexander Emmerick; Fr. Bertoni told Mother Naudet that whatever we have, in reality belongs to Christ.
- 11 Aug** Bishop Innocent Liruti died⁴⁸ – the Diocese was ruled by Msgr. Dionisi and the Chapter.
- 10 Oct** Monsignor Dionisi, Vicar General of the Diocese of Verona, signed the Decree of Vestition for the young Cleric of the Congregation, Louis Biadego.

⁴⁸ Breve Cronaca I, p. 42: gives 21 August 1827 as the date of his death; but CS I, p. 106, has 10 August. The *Epistolario*, pp. 215 and 347 has 11 August.

1828

During 1828, Anthony Provolo, not yet a Priest [now *Servant of God*], was helping at the Stimate with some of the teachings.

- 10 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote a letter to Mother Naudet who was experiencing some difficulties in her spiritual life.
- 23 Jan** The Mass book this day recorded 75 Masses celebrated; Father Marani preached. It was a virginal marriage but its offspring was Divine. He contrasted Mary's strength to Joseph's fear and Apostle Thomas' doubts.
- 27 Feb** After 11 months, Fr. Bertoni could again celebrate Mass.
- 9 Mar** Fr. Bertoni celebrated Mass with extreme difficulty. Both legs were very painful but the right leg was swollen and bled.
- 18 Mar** Fr. Bertoni was confined to bed again and his left leg was swollen and very painful to touch. He wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that he would be undergoing more surgery. He told her to copy the procedure of the Madames of the Sacred Heart in obtaining approval from the Holy See.
- 19 Mar** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her of the repeated lancing of his leg by Dr. Gregori who ordered him to stay in bed. He received Holy Communion in his bed this day.
- 22 Mar** In the Cathedral of Mantua, Innocent Venturini was ordained Sub Deacon by Bishop Giuseppe Maria Bozzi.
- 31 Mar** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her of his happiness that a Santa Capannini had entered the Congregation of Mother Naudet. Fr. Bertoni in this letter suggested that she had three classes of members in her Congregation.
- 8 Apr** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and praised three authors in his letter: De Maistre, Lammenais, and Bonald. (Joseph De Maistre had written a book on the Papacy at that time, that was well received; Lammenais would be condemned by the Church in 1834.⁴⁹)
- 30 Apr** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet to tell her that he did not think that the plan of a Charles Pozzi for the area close to the Stimate

⁴⁹ Fr. Lenotti, in one of his exhortations, had cited the example of Lammenais (who had died on 27 February 1854), and asked who would have thought that so ardent and gifted and apologist would have come to such an end! Such is the way of pride.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1828

and St. Teresa's was very practical, so close to two religious houses.

- 1 May** Mother Naudet mentioned for the first time the name she would call her Congregation – “The Devoted Sisters of the Holy Family.”
- 3 May** Fr. Bertoni was confined to bed again but he wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that he liked very much her observations on the Holy Family. He also treated of some renovations at St. Teresa's in this letter
- 15 May** *Ascension Thursday* – Fr. Bertoni was able to say Mass on this Feast.
- 27 May** On this day, Mark Bassi⁵⁰ was born in Verona.
- 31 May** Bishop Bozzi in the Cathedral of Mantua ordained Innocent Venturini a Deacon.
- 23 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Cardinal Castiglioni asking for his sanction on some renovations Fr. Bertoni had made. He had neglected to ask permission for them previously – Card. Castiglioni was the Cardinal Penitentiary.
- 19 Aug** Cardinal Castiglioni answered Fr. Bertoni's letter of the previous July 23rd in which he acquiesced to all that Fr. Bertoni had done.
- 28 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that God distributes His graces in His own time. Fr. Bertoni told her also that he had great difficulty in offering Mass, because his leg was quite swollen, and very painful.
- 6 Sep** Mother Naudet sent a letter to Fr. Rozaven – a Jesuit in Russia. He was Vicar Provincial in France, and then a General Councillor under the Father General, Fr. Louis Fortis (Fr. Bertoni's spiritual director as a young man). Fr. Bertoni reviewed Mother Naudet's letter before she sent it.
- 20 Sep** *Ember Saturday* – Innocent Venturini was ordained a Priest in the Cathedral of Mantua by Bishop Bozzi. Louis Biadego was tonsured and received all four Minor Orders at the same ceremony.
- 21 Sep** Fr. Venturini celebrated his First Mass at the Holy Trinity.
- 23 Sep** Fr. Venturini, ordained 3 days earlier, celebrated Mass for the first time at the Stimate.

⁵⁰ Fr. Mark Bassi. Born 27 May 1828; ordin. 1852; entered 14 April 1856; death 18 September 1896.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1829

- 4 Oct** Louis Biadego, a cleric in Minor Orders, entered the Stimmate. He left his home at 4:00 a.m. On this day, as he was leaving, his father told him that he did not know where the rest of his belongings were, and that his mother was already out in the fields! His father told his son to give Fr. Bertoni and Fr. Marani his best regards – and ‘to all the others who will have to put up with your company!’
- 30 Oct** Fr. Louis Bragato returned to the Congregation. He had entered earlier but left due to poor health.
- 31 Oct** A Fr. Maggi took Fr. Bertoni’s place as Confessor to Mother Naudet.
- 19 Nov** Fr. Giacobbe’s father died.
- 10 Dec** Joseph Reali⁵¹ was born at Corrido, Como. He would one day enter the Congregation and die as a Professed Brother.
- 15 Dec** Bishop Joseph Grasser, present Bishop of Treviso, was named Bishop of Verona.
- 16 Dec** Fr. Bertoni spoke on this day of his hopes of finishing soon the construction at the Stimmate, and he feared for the safety of Bro. Zanoli, who worked so very hard on the renovation.
- 29 Dec** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that Fr. Marani was still suffering – he suffered many years from a stomach ailment and also from gall stones.

1829

- 23 Jan** On this day, Fr. Bragato preached on the Espousals. This marriage produced a marvellous fruit which brought about the redemption of the world.
- 3 Feb** Fr. Bertoni celebrated Mass on this day – but then not again for a month.
- 10 Feb** Pope Leo XII died.
- 15 Feb** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that God is the Master and we are His servants; he also jotted some observations on a plan that she had sent for his perusal.
- 25 Feb** A Fr. Guerrieri visited Fr. Bertoni to talk on details of ceding the convents of St. Teresa’s to Mother Naudet’s Sisters for their

⁵¹ Bro. Joseph Reali: born 10 December 1828; entrance 1 January 1855; profession 8 December 1857; death 15 November 1868.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1829

perpetual use. Fr. Bertoni frequently consulted this Fr. Guerrieri. It was said that he was a bit too speculative for practical matters but was frequently consulted by the religious of his time for their spiritual lives – he was a Dominican.

- 3 Mar** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet to tell her of Fr. Guerrieri's visit to him.
- 4 Mar** Fr. Bertoni celebrated again Mass, as he was ill for the past month.
- 19 Mar** The bells of the Stimmate rang out for six minutes at 6:00 a.m. and 12 minutes at noon.
- 21 Mar** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that Msgr. Dionisi would speak to the new Bishop (Grasser) as soon as he would arrive in the Diocese.
- 28 Mar** Bishop Grasser, who had taken over the See of Verona 4 days earlier, was mentioned in Fr. Bertoni's letter to Mother Naudet as being much esteemed by the government.
- 4 Apr** Bishop Grasser ordained Francis Benciolini Sub-Deacon, with the Canonical title of Patrimony being supplied by his uncle, Fr. Cajetan Benciolini (+ 31 December 1839)
- 11 Apr** This was the date of the Papal prescript that raised the Feast of St. Francis to a double of the 2nd class – mention of this was one day made in Fr. Zara's chronicle.
- 19 Apr** Fr. Bertoni wrote on this date that he was able to speak more freely to Bishop Grasser than he was to his Predecessor, Bishop Liruti. This was Easter Sunday.
- 8 May** Departure of Bro. Louis Dal Forno.
- 22 May** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that Bishop Grasser's visit was delayed; Fr. Bertoni recommended to her a book by the Dominican Fr. Anfossi, in defence of Pius VI's Bull.
- 4 Jun** Fr. Guerrieri was of the opinion that Fr. Bertoni should cede the Convent of St. Teresa's to Mother Naudet for as long as her Congregation lasts.
- 9 Jun** Francis Solari⁵² entered, "one month after the departure of Louis Dal Forno", the chronicler notes.
- 13 Jun** Bishop Grasser ordained Louis Biadego a Sub-Deacon in the Cathedral of Verona this Ember Saturday.

⁵² Bro. Francis Solari. Entered 9 June 1829. Left 4 April 1843.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1830

- 2 Jul** Fr. Bertoni had reviewed Mother Naudet's corrected version of her Rules and wrote to her on this day, telling her that she had omitted a correction he had made – he just wanted to know if her omission was intentional, and if it was, he would not object.
- 3 Aug** Countess Isabella Settala, daughter of a Count, entered Mother Naudet's Congregation.
- 30 Sep** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet to tell her that he was glad that the Countess Settala had entered her congregation. He asked her to have the 'holy Prince d'Hohenloe' pray for Fr. Marani, who had been suffering for about a year now.
- 11 Nov** Fr. Francis Benciolini, a priest of two months, entered the Congregation, 'with the consent of his entire family,' The Chronicle noted that he had a very 'frank way about him, a German air!'
- 19 Nov** Fr. Benciolini was enrolled in a school to obtain civil certification to teach Elementary School.
- 27 Dec** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet that a legal document was being drawn up by a Count Vener that would grant the Sisters of the Holy Family the perpetual use of St Teresa's Convent.

1830

- 16 Jan** This was the date of a rescript of Pope Pius VIII granting a Plenary Indulgence for the feast of the Espousals.
- 19 Jan** Fr. Bertoni explained in his letter of this date to Mother Naudet the reasons for the delay in the legal matters concerning the use by her Congregation of the Convent of St. Teresa's which she owned. He promised the papers within a month.
- 31 Jan** The papers granting Mother Naudet and her Congregation the permanent use of St. Teresa's Convent were finally in order – Fr. Bertoni asked in return a "few Hail Mary's".
- 4 Feb** Fr. Bertoni wrote to a Fr. Cavanis - actually they were two by this name who were brothers – Fr. Anthony Angel and Fr. Mark Anthony. They were of the nobility and had founded schools of Charity in Venice.
- 6 Mar** Bishop Grasser ordained Louis Biadego a Deacon on this day.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1831

- 15 Mar** Fr. Bertoni gave the Convent St. Teresa to Mother Naudet for her perpetual use. (These conditions were not kept in later years by the sisters and eventually they left St. Teresa's.)
- 14 Apr** On this day, in legal form, Fr. Bertoni ceded the use (not ownership) of St. Teresa's Convent to the Sisters of the Holy Family.
- 19 Apr** The document ceding St. Teresa's to the Sisters of the Holy Family was registered this day.
- 21 May** The oratory at the Stimate became an aggregate of the Congregation of the Sacred Heart in Rome with all its indulgences.
- 4 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet in a cheerful mood as he was most pleased with the progress her Congregation was making.
- 8 Jul** Fr. Benciolini completed his one year Education Course and was approved to teach – he had attained first honours.
- 12 Sep** An ordained Priest, Fr. Innocent Venturini, entered the Congregation.
- 13 Oct** A Dr. Vanni noted that Fr. Francis Benciolini had better than average health. Dr. Vanni proved to be a prophet! Fr. Benciolini died on 19 February 1892, at the age of 86!
- 30 Dec** Fr. Bertoni wrote this day that he was glad that the epidemic of small pox that had scourged Verona was now over.

1831

- 23 Jan** The Feast of the Espousals this year occurred on a Sunday when most Priests were busy with Sunday Masses but there were 36 Masses recorded at the Stimate.
- 30 Jan** The inspector General of Schools for the province of Venice signed a certificate stating that Fr. Benciolini had passed his courses with first honours and that he was approved as a teacher.
- 19 Feb** Paul Lenotti, uncle of the young John, Joseph and Francis, who were staying at the Stimate, was enrolled as a member of the Marian Oratory – he was 31 years of age.
- 26 Feb** John Lenotti, age, 14, and his brother Joseph, age 12, were enrolled as members of the Marian Oratory at the Stimate.
- 1 Mar** Fr. Bertoni, owner of St. Teresa's, gave Mother Naudet permission to make some renovations to the Convent.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1831

- 2 Mar** Fr. Bertoni send further permissions for renovations to Mother Naudet for the Convent of St. Teresa's.
- 8 Mar** Mother Naudet bought the old Monastery of St. Dominic's and her group moved into it within this year.
- 17 Mar** Fr. Vincent Raimondi entered the Congregation. (For a number of years he went on teaching Patrology at the Diocesan Seminary). He would leave in 1843 to become a Jesuit.
- 2 Jun** Feast of Corpus Christi – Louis Zocca⁵³ entered the Congregation; he was described as “a man of good will”.
- 28 Jun** Fr. Bertoni cautioned Leopoldine Naudet on this date against joining with some Sisters of now defunct Congregations as each of them was imbued with the spirit of her Foundress which would make union difficult.
- 29 Jun** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet concerning a passage between the Stimate and St. Teresa's which he wanted closed off.
- 3 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that the trees that separated their adjoining communities would not always be in bloom and so he suggested the construction of a wall.
- 16 Aug** He was appointed by Bishop Grasser to preach a triduum for the cholera, in the cathedral.⁵⁴
- 18 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet to tell her that the construction going on at St. Teresa's was jeopardizing a wall at the Stimate.
- 19 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her of his difficulty of finding any competent professional advice in their construction difficulties.
- 20 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote again to Mother Naudet, as he was very concerned about the construction at St. Teresa's coming so close to the wall at the Stimate.
- 29 Oct** Fr. Anthony Rosmini celebrated Mass at the Stimate.

⁵³ Bro. Louis Zocca. Entered 2 June 1831. Left 6 July 1834.

⁵⁴ Cf. “San Gaspare Bertoni (e l'ambiente veronese)”, N. Dalle Vedove, Vol. 5, p.283; 285.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1832

1832

- 5 Jan** Charles Salocher⁵⁵ was born.
- 23 Jan** There were 75 Masses recorded at the Stimate this day.
- 12 Feb** Louis Biadego was ordained on this 6th Sunday after the Epiphany in the chapel of Bishop Grasser's residence.
- 13 Feb** Fr. Biadego celebrated his first Mass at the Stimate.
- 29 Feb** The year 1832 was a "Leap Year" and on this date a Fr. Peter Reigler, follower of Rosmini, celebrated Mass at the Stimate.
- 16 Jun** Bishop Grasser ordained Charles Fedelini a Sub-Deacon.
- 18 Jul** Fr. Bertoni, after having studied them, wrote to Fr. Rosmini to congratulate him for his Constitutions. Fr. Bertoni told Fr. Rosmini that all at the Stimate were most edified with the group that had stayed at the Stimate.
- 11 Nov** Young Angelo Casella entered the Congregation. It was the Feast of St. Martin, and nearly all the men at the Stimate were 'sick' at the time!
- 21 Nov** Donna dei Conti Martelli entered the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family. She had been a penitent of Fr. Bertoni. In 1840, she would become the 2nd Superior General of the Sisters of the Holy Family.
- 22 Dec** Bishop Joseph Grasser ordained Charles Fedelini a Deacon.

1833

- 23 Jan** Fr. Bragato preached on the Espousals today – he said theirs was the happiest marriage ever on the face of earth.
- Mar** A bell tower was built, side of the church of the Stimate, and it was completed with the top dome in March 1833.
- 10 Apr** Mother Magdalene di Canossa, sister of Boniface, and aunt of the future Cardinal Louis di Canossa of Verona, died this day.
- 5 May** Mother Naudet's Congregation received approval from the Government – this was the condition Fr. Bertoni had placed in

⁵⁵ Bro. Charles Salocher: born 5 January 1832; he entered the Congregation on 1 November 1853, left on 1 January 1854 and re-entered in 1871; profession 17 July 1874; he served in Parma (1877); death 2 November 1903.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1833

granting the perpetual use of St. Teresa's, namely that the Congregation be approved.

- 25 May** Fr. Venturini received the faculties to hear confessions of both men and women.
- 20 Jun** Fr. Cainer's "Memorie" (a chronicle of events in the Church of the Stimmate) began this day. His first entry is about the bells of the Stimmate: the first casting of the bells for the Stimmate was done this day – expected to be "as perfect as those at the Trinità".
- 22 Jun** Some flaws were noted in the bells for the steeples of the Stimmate. So the work was to be done again.
- 11 Jul** Fr. Venturini went to the Convent of Sts. Joseph and Fidentius for the memorial service for the deceased Mother Magdalene di Canossa.
- 20 Jul** Mother Naudet's Congregation received approval from the Bishop.⁵⁶
- 14 Aug** The Bishop Grasser appointed Fr. Gaspar Bertoni as "Prosynodal Examiner", together with Fr. Nicholas Mazza.
- 5 Sep** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that these were busy days for him. He said he was happy to hear Pope Gregory's encouraging words to new Congregations, and that next to the words of the Holy Father, his own observations were not very significant.
- 10 Sep** Fr. Bertoni and Fr. Bragato were scheduled to give the Retreat at the Seminary. Fr. Bertoni, however, was very uncomfortable with a fever, teeth infection and general discomfort – Fr. Bragato went alone. He was assisted there by two other priests – Fr. Joseph Gilardoni and Fr. Joseph Venturi.
- 21 Sep** Second casting for the bells of the Stimmate.
- 23 Sep** The Marchesini brothers⁵⁷ returned the bells to the Stimmate on their cart – the Brothers at the Stimmate assisted the Marchesini's in unloading their cart and in installing the bells.
- 24 Sep** Work went on from midnight until 7:00 a.m. on the installation of the bells at the Stimmate – Bishop Grasser came for Mass at 10:00

⁵⁶ *Epistolario* [p. 287] gives 20 July 1833 as the date. *Breve Cronaca*, I, [p. 45] gives 20 October 1833.

⁵⁷ Analyzing cross references, it appears that they were Steven Marchesini and Louis Marchesini. See also footnote for 2 Jan 1856.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1834

a.m. for their blessing. The Mass followed, on this Feast of our Lady of Ransom.

- 28 Sep** The bells at the Stimate, one of which had been named for St. Michael, rang out on the Vigil of the Feast.
- 30 Sep** Angelo Casella became a member of the Oratory at the Stimate – he was 29.
- 2 Oct** After supper on this day, Fr. Bertoni gave a short Domestic Exhortation to the Community in the refectory at the Stimate.
- 11 Nov** Fr. Bertoni was bleeding profusely, so he was unable to attend the opening of school this day.
- 14 Nov** Fr. Anthony Rosmini celebrated Mass at the Seminary.
- 25 Nov** The new bells at the Stimate rang out on this Feast of St. Catherine of Siena. Each bell was in honour of a different saint. Fr. Bertoni was ordered to bed – at noon he underwent a bleeding, and by night fall he had a high fever, that caused some alarm.
- 8 Dec** Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrated at the Stimate. The little Oratory of the Immaculate Conception was left open all day with four candles burning. The bells rang out from the Stimate.
- 20 Dec** On this date, the Sisters of the Holy Family, founded by Mother Naudet, received approval from Rome.
- 21 Dec** Gaetano Giacobbe⁵⁸ was ordained a Priest this day – the future first Biographer of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni.

1834

- 3 Jan** Friday: a brass lamp had been struck for the main altar at the Stimate, but proved to be unsatisfactory.
- 20 Jan** The Feast of St. Sebastian. The bells of the Stimate rang out at 9:00 a.m., at noon, at 4:00 p.m. and at 6:00 p.m. as reminder to the faithful of Triduum for the Espousals being conducted at the Stimate.
- 22 Jan** The bells of the Stimate rang out on this eve of the Feast of the Espousals.

⁵⁸ Fr. Gaetano Giacobbe: born 28 March 1809; he became the Parish Priest of the Holy Trinity in 1843 and chose Fr. Gaspar Bertoni as his confessor. He would become the first biographer of Fr. Gaspar. He died on 31 December 1898.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1834

- 23 Jan** The Mass Book recorded 77 Masses on this day – more than on any other single day in Fr. Bertoni’s lifetime. The bells of the Stimate rang for 5 minutes at 5:00 a.m. (!), at 9:00 a.m. for 10 minutes and after dinner every half-hour for five minutes. The crowd was so big that the small church could not handle it. Frs. Gramego and Brugnoli were blessing at the main altar and Fr. Marani in the little oratory of the Immaculate Conception.
- 15 Feb** The bells of the Stimate rang out, as was customary on Saturday nights, and on the eves of Feasts.
- 16 Feb** The bells of the Stimate rang out “in tono minore” for four minutes on this Sunday morning, as was the custom. It was the first Sunday of Lent.
- 6 Mar** The bells of the Stimate rang out this Thursday evening to remind the faithful that the morrow would be First Friday.
- 7 Mar** (Feast of St. Thomas). It was the first Friday of the Month and the Feast of the Five Wounds this year. The bells of the Stimate rang out “in tono minore” following the pattern of the Sundays of Lent.
- 12 Mar** A serious accident was narrowly avoided at the Stimate, under construction, when a staging collapsed.⁵⁹
- 15 Mar** A brass lamp was struck for the second time for the altar at the Stimate but the work was still unsatisfactory.
- 18 Mar** At about 6:00 p.m. the bells of the Stimate rang out on the vigil of the morrow’s feast of St. Joseph.
- 12 Apr** All six bells at the Stimate rang out in honour of San Zeno.
- 20 Apr** Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph – young John Lenotti asked his mother permission to enter the Congregation at the Stimate, were he had been going to school – his father was already dead at this time.
- 22 Apr** John Lenotti entered the Congregation this date, arriving at the Stimate at 7:30 a.m. The Chronicle notes that he was a “timid rabbit”. Fr. Zara noted years later in the Chronicle, 5 September 1875, on the death of Fr. Lenotti, by then Superior General, that the “timid rabbit” had become a “giant.”
- 30 Apr** A doctor Bisetti came to the Stimate to bleed Fr. Bertoni. Fr. Bertoni was in some pain and this was the remedy of the times.

⁵⁹ To be noted that *Collectanea Stigmatina* I, p. 268, gives 1834 as the date – whereas the same volume, p. 504, gives 1835.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1834

- 19 Jun** Fr. Oberrauch wrote to Fr. Rosmini and told him that Fr. Bertoni's advice to him concerning the acceptance of the parish at Rovereto was most wise and funded on good reasons.
- 21 Jun** Special services were held at the Stimate in honour of St. Aloysius – it was a special service for men that began at 9:45 a.m. with a review of the saint's life; at 10:15, the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin and a sermon by Fr. Bragato; at 5:00 p.m. a lesson from the Saint's life and solemn Vespers, after which the Student Lenotti made a narration about a miracle of St. Aloysius.
- 24 Jun** Fr. Cainer went to St. John's in Valle to say Mass – he left the house at 7:00 a.m. to avoid the confusion in the streets, customary in the streets of Verona for the Feast of St. John the Baptist.
- 3 Jul** Fr. Bertoni gave Mother Naudet certain permissions regarding the building and property of St. Teresa's.
- 4 Jul** Fr. Bertoni sent Mother Naudet a brief note on finances, thanking her for money she had sent.
- 6 Jul** Louis Zocca left the Congregation "for good, and with tears in his eyes".
- 9 Jul** Fr. Mark Cavanis (who was also a Count) visited Fr. Bertoni.
- 29 Jul** The young man Louis Ferrari, of 14 years, entered the Congregation;⁶⁰ he took the room of Louis Zocca who had left 18 days earlier. [NB. Another Louis Ferrari would enter as a brother in 1839].
- 17 Aug** Mother Leopoldine Naudet died this day. Fr. Bertoni wrote a letter of condolence to Sister Sophia Gagnere. The Sisters referred to this letter as 'precious.'
- 25 Aug** Cardinal Odescalchi in a letter of this date, had words of praise for Fr. Bragato – the Cardinal, at this time, was Secretary of State.⁶¹
- 20 Sep** Charles Fedelini was ordained this Ember Saturday by Bishop Grasser. John Lenotti was tonsured and received the first two Minor Orders.

⁶⁰ *Breve Cronaca*, Vol. I, p.46 gives 24 July 1834 as the date of his entrance. *Collectanea Stigmatina*, Vol. I, p.462 gives 29 July 1834; as does *C.S.*, III. p.17.

⁶¹ Fr. Henchey had put this note on the 25 August 1843. Certainly a mistake, since Card. Odescalchi left the Secretariat of State in 1838 and died in 1841. I'm guessing it was a swap of numbers, so I put it in the year 1834.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1835

- 21 Sep** Fr. Fedelini celebrated his First Mass at the Stimate this day – as did another young Priest, Fr. Louis Angeli.
- 22 Sep** Another newly ordained Priest, Fr. Francis Girardelli, celebrated his First Mass at the Stimate on this day.
- 28 Sep** Stud. Louis Ferrari made a Consecration to Mary.
- 4 Oct** The annual celebration of the Feast of St. Francis occurred at the Stimate on this day. Fr. Francis Benciolini preached the sermon - 41 Masses were celebrated at the Stimate.
- 31 Oct** The Priests at the Stimate swapped rooms. Some of the Priests present at the time were Frs. Cainer, Cartolari and Raimondi.
- 8 Nov** On this day Paolo Gaetano Solari⁶², Francis Solari's brother, entered the Congregation as a brother.
- 8 Nov** Fr. Bertoni wrote a letter to Sister Bussetti, who had been elected to succeed Mother Naudet as Superior of the Sisters of the Holy Family.
- 14 Nov** Fr. Rosmini returned to the Stimate again on this date, and offered Mass. He used Fr. Bertoni's room to write a 'small book'.⁶³
- 16 Nov** Fr. Brugnoli went to Sts. Firmus and Rusticus 'at the bridge' to offer Mass, at the request of Fr. Albertini.
- 18 Nov** A number of complaints had been received at the Chancery Office concerning the bell ringing at the Stimate. Bishop Grasser defended the Fathers there in his response to the complaint.
- 30 Nov** Fr. Bertoni offered some advice to Sister Bussetti, who succeeded Mother Naudet in the government of the Sisters of the Holy Family.
- 9 Dec** Fr. Bertoni preached a Retreat to Seminarians who were about to receive Holy Orders in the Oratory dedicated to St. Stanislaus.
- 12 Dec** Fr. Bertoni fell ill on this day, and the retreat for Seminarians was continued by Fr. Marani.

1835

- 18 Jan** It was the 2nd Sunday after Epiphany. Msgr. Castori (Vicar of Bishop Grasser of Verona, who had a sister Carmelite Nun who was once stationed at St. Teresa's convent) came to the Stimate

⁶² Bro. Paolo Gaetano Solari. Entered 8 November 1834. Left in 1843.

⁶³ Fr. Joseph Henchey suggests that this book could be: "*The Five Wounds of the Church*".

HISTORICAL NOTES 1835

to vest the young student Louis Ferrari who was only 14½. The Msgr. stated that he hoped he could vest 50 young Stigmatines (He had vested John Lenotti on May 8, 1834) – and Ferrari was the second and last Stigmatine he vested.

- 28 Jan** Fr. Arrighi of Lonato sent a young man to the Stimate as a candidate for the Brotherhood by the name of Angelo Papa⁶⁴. On arrival at the Stimate, young Papa, a tailor was examined by Doctor Vasani and was judged fit for religious life.
- 13 Feb** Elizabeth Ambrosini, penitent of Fr. Bertoni, made her perpetual profession on her deathbed, addressed to the late Mother Naudet.
- 25 Feb** Sister Elizabeth Ambrosini died a Sister of the Holy Family.
- 2 Mar** The Emperor Francis I, always a champion of religion, died.
- 7 Mar** At 6:00 p.m. the bells of the Stimate tolled for one half hour in honour of the deceased Emperor, Francis.
- 10 Mar** After dinner, all from the Stimate went to the Cathedral of Verona for the Memorial service in honour of the deceased Sovereign Francis.
- 29 Mar** Bro. Angelo Casella went to bed on this night suffering from a very serious “inflammation”.
- 3 Apr** Bro. Angelo Casella died today – he was the first member of the Congregation to die in the house. He was buried in the city cemetery at the “Pilgrim’s Gate”.
- 4 Apr** John Lenotti received his last two Minor Orders, Exorcist and Acolyte, on this “*Sitientes*” Saturday.
- 27 Apr** Angelo Papa left the Congregation “to become a Monk.”
- 4 May** The works of the great Jesuit Theologian, Fr. Francis Suarez arrived at the Stimate. It was the Balleoniana edition, 23 volumes. Fr. Suarez influenced Fr. Bertoni a great deal.
- 7 May** Fr. Santi, Vice Director of Studies at the Diocesan Seminary of Verona, gave a report on Fr. Fedelini’s two years of Philosophy and four years of Theology there. Fr. Bertoni asked Fr. Vincent Raimondi to teach Gregorian Chant to the students on Thursdays and Sundays.

⁶⁴ Bro. Angelo Papa. Entered 28 January 1835. Left 27 April 1835.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1835

- 15 May** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Bussetti, the Superior of the Sisters of the Holy Family, and he approved the design for the main altar at St. Teresa's.
- 18 May** Fr. Bertoni wrote to bishop Grasser to tell him that the Capuchin on penance made his 30-day Retreat well.
- 2 Jun** Fr. Bertoni and Fr. Marani began a retreat for 20 young men about to receive Holy Orders. One of them, a young man by the name of Sartori, made his retreat privately under Fr. Brugnoli.
- 1 Jul** Bishop Grasser came to the Stimate – there underwent secret conversations between him, and Frs. Bertoni and Bragato. He had come to find a confessor for the Imperial Court.
- 5 Jul** Fr. Bertoni assembled the community at the Stimate and announced to them that Fr. Bragato would soon be going off to Prague as Confessor at the Imperial Court to the Empress Marianna Carolina Pia of Savoy.
- 6 Jul** Fr. Bragato left Verona for his new duties on the "Veloce".
- 11 Jul** Fr. Bragato wrote from Innsbruck to the Stimate.
- 13 Jul** Fr. Bragato's letter from Innsbruck arrived at the Stimate.
- 14 Jul** Fr. Bragato arrived in Vienna at 4:30 a.m. to take up his new duties at the Imperial Court.
- 16 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Sister Bussetti, Superior of the Sisters of the Holy Family, granting all her requests concerning construction at St. Teresa's.
- 20 Jul** Fr. Bragato's first letter from Vienna to the Stimate arrived this evening at 6:30 p.m.
- 24 Jul** Fr. Gramego became seriously ill.
- 26 Aug** Fr. Gramego was out of danger, but needed a long convalescence.
- 17 Sep** Titular Feast of the Church of the Stimate, the Stigmata of St. Francis – 78 Priests came to celebrate Mass – Fr. Raimondi preached.
- 24 Sep** Fr. Cajetan Benciolini – uncle of Fr. Francis – signed his will.
- 13 Oct** The last recorded Mass for Fr. Bertoni for several months.
- 21 Oct** On this date, Fr. Bertoni wrote to Fr. Bragato, Confessor of the Imperial Court of Vienna to the Empress, Marianna. This letter was dictated by Fr. Bertoni but was actually written by Fr. Gramego. There was much sickness at the Stimate at this time. Fr. Bertoni told Fr. Bragato of Fr. Benciolini's excellent preaching.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1836

- 14 Nov** Fr. Bragato was promoted to the title of ‘Honorary Chaplain’ at the Imperial Court of Vienna. He wrote back and said that the only ‘uniform’ that he would ever wear would be the habit of the Congregation.
- 4 Dec** On this date, Fr. Bertoni began preaching a course of the Spiritual exercises for some young seminarians about to receive Holy Orders
- 27 Dec** A young Priest, Fr. Louis Benasutti, offered his First Mass in the Oratory at the Stimate. He had once been a student there at the Stimate as a boy.

1836

- 10 Jan** Mother Gagnere, of the Sisters of the Holy Family died. She never seemed to recover from her depressive sadness after the death of Mother Naudet 17 months earlier.
- 1 Mar** The House of Derelitti, next to S. Maria del Giglio, was made filial house of the Stimate. Fr. Marani was its Superior and Bro. Zanoli was sent to help him. Fr. Marani came to the Stimate for five days a week for School and gave theology conferences at the Derelitti for 10 or 12 priests, as Fr. Bertoni used to do years before at St. Firmus.
- 3 Mar** Fr. Benciolini received the necessary faculties from the Diocese of Verona with the promise that he would make the annual retreat in September
- 23 Mar** Fr. Cainer went to bed and was laid up for a month.
- 1 Apr** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Bussetti, Mother General of the Sisters of the Holy Family, and offered her some suggestions in her renovations to protect the Cloister at St Teresa’s. He also wished her a happy Easter.
- 2 May** Marietta Lenotti, sister of John, died.
- 19 May** Fr. Cainer was able to say Mass again – he and Fr. Bertoni had long sieges of illness at the same time.
- 4 Jun** Fr. Bertoni thanked Fr. Bragato for having the “holy prince” (i.e. prince d’Holenlohe, or Alexander Leopold Emmerick) pray for him.
- 10 Jun** The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – Fr. Bertoni said Mass for the first time in many months. Fr. Marani celebrated at St.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1837

Sebastian's in fulfilment of a Novena that had been suggested to him by the holy Prince d'Holenlohe.

- 30 Jul** Fr. Innocent Venturini's father died this day – Fr. Venturini prayed to St. Joseph for him.
- 22 Sep** The work of the Abbé di Condillac was put on the Index this day. [Surprisingly, Fr. Bertoni had recommended another work of his to Mother Naudet in a Letter, dated 25 July 1813].
- 4 Oct** It was also the Feast of the Most Holy Rosary this year – 18 Masses were celebrated at the Stimate. Fr. Benciolini preached.
- 28 Dec** A Fr. Louis Pacchera, newly ordained, came back to the Stimate where he had gone to school as a boy, to offer his First Mass as a Priest.

1837

- 23 Jan** The Jesuits returned to Verona.
- 17 Feb** This date was the last entry in Fr. Cainer's Chronicle called the "Memorie".
- 21 Mar** Fr. Bertoni offered the Jesuits of Verona lodging at the Stimate (there were already 11 priests, 2 students and several Brothers living there at the time). He also offered them the direction of his school at the Stimate.
- 11 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Sister Bussetti, Superior of the Sisters of the Holy Family and asked for her prayers – this was also the date of the Papal Rescript granting special indulgences for special Feast Days of the Congregation: Jan 23rd, Sept. 17th and Oct. 4th.⁶⁵
- 10 Aug** Some property in Sezano that once belonged to the Order of Olivetani, was put up for sale. Bishop Grasser stated that once any property was owned by the Church, it should be retained by it – Fr. Bertoni took this as a command, and set about to purchase it .
- 30 Aug** Fr. Benciolini's father, Peter, died on this day.
- 22 Nov** Public sale was held for the property at Sezano. A Dr. Lawrence Maggi represented Fr. Bertoni at this sale and offered 140,000 Lire for the property.

⁶⁵ 23 January: The Espousals of Mary and Joseph; 17 September: the Stigmata of St. Francis; 4 October: St. Francis.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1838

- 1 Dec** On this day, Fr. Bertoni wrote a letter to Fr. Bragato who was at the Imperial Court in Vienna. Fr. Bertoni wrote in glowing terms of Fr. Marani's competent, busy and varied apostolate – a good idea of Fr. Bertoni's ideal for the *Apostolic Missionary*. Fr. Marani was giving evening conferences to the clergy – hearing confessions – teaching catechism – examining vocations in the seminary. Fr. Bertoni also sent a book to Fr. Bragato for the March devotions in honour of St. Joseph. He told him also about the death of a great friend of the community, Steven Marchesini⁶⁶.
- 5 Dec** On this date, 140,500 Lire [500 Lire more than the previous offer] was proposed for the purchase of Sezano. This was done in the name of Fr. Bertoni – but, still no sale.
- 7 Dec** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Sister Bussetti, Mother General of the Sisters of the Holy Family, expressing his best wishes for the holiday seasons.

1838

- 22 Mar** Doctor Maggi (acting for Fr. Bertoni) offered 160,000 Austrian Lire for the purchase of Sezano.
- 3 Apr** Bishop Grasser made a Pastoral visitation to the Stimmate this day.
- 5 Apr** Fr. Biadego, a priest of 6 years, received his first faculties for confessions, good for six months, with the customary provision of making the Retreat in September.
- 20 Apr** The urn containing the relics of S. Zeno was opened in the presence of the Diocesan Commission appointed by Bishop Grasser.
- 7 Aug** Fr. Bertoni completed payment for Sezano through Dr. Lawrence Maggi with 110,000 Austrian lire.
- 9 Aug** Fr. Bertoni offered all the properties of the Congregation (all estates around Sezano, and even the library of the Stimmate) to Pope Gregory XVI. An eye witness stated that when the Pope received this offer, he remarked with tears in his eyes that the conduct of such priests in the Church gave him courage to continue.

⁶⁶ See footnote for 2 Jan 1856.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1839

- 28 Aug** The Sezano deal was closed on this date – it now belonged to Fr. Bertoni and the Congregation – and still does.⁶⁷
- 26 Sep** The Emperor Ferdinand was crowned at Milan, as King of Lombardo-Veneto.
- 28 Sep** Together with Fr. Bragato, the newly crowned Emperor and Empress visited the Jesuit Novitiate in Verona – he had asked Fr. Bragato to have Fr. Bertoni pray for them.
- 10 Oct** Ursula [Rabbi] Marani, the Mother of Fr. John Marani, died today.
- 7 Dec** After fourteen consecutive years, on 7 December 1838, Fr. Bertoni, made his last sermon for the Friday Devotions at the Stimate, on the Book of Ecclesiasticus, which he took over from Fr. Marani. Fr. Fedelini would continue on it for 8 years.
- 7 Dec** Pope Gregory XVI responded to Fr. Bertoni's letter of 9 August 1838, in which the Founder offered the Holy Father all the properties owned by the Congregation. The Pope answered, thanking Fr. Bertoni for the gracious offer, though he declined it.

1839

In the year 1839, the Austrian priest Luois Schlör published in German language the book *'The philanthropy of faith, i.e. the life of the Church of Verona in recent times'*, with an encouraging page on Fr. Gaspar Bertoni and the priests of the Stimate.

- 11 Apr** Fr. Francis Fedelini received the faculties of hearing Confessions.
- 16 May** Fr. Gramego celebrated Mass for the last time for ten months; he was suffering from a mouth fistula.
- 6 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Matilda di Canossa, vicar of the Sisters of the Holy Family, as she wanted to build a school near the wall of the Stimate.
- 16 Aug** Festivities honouring St. Zeno, Patron of the diocese, began in Verona. At the Cathedral a Capuchin preached the morning service and a Jesuit in the evening.
- 19 Aug** Fr. Bertoni preached at the Cathedral at the solemn Novena in honour of Saint Zeno, Patron of Verona.

⁶⁷ At the time of purchase, besides the old Olivetan Convent and the surrounding vineyard – still retained nowadays – there were many other properties, with various administrators, which Bertoni was controlling personally.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1840

- 25 Aug** Solemn Feast of San Zeno celebrated in Verona.
- 27 Aug** Louis Ferrari and Francis Stevanoni, both 27, entered the Congregation on this date to be Brothers.
- 22 Nov** Bishop Joseph Grasser died. He was the first Bishop of Verona younger than the Founder. He was assisted by Fr. Bertoni, and Fr. Odescalchi, SJ. [Fr. Odescalchi had been the Cardinal Vicar of Pope Gregory XVI, and resigned the Cardinalate to enter the Jesuit Novitiate in November 1838].
- 31 Dec** Fr. Cajetan Benciolini, uncle of Fr. Francis Benciolini, died on this day.

1840

- 29 Jan** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Fr. Bragato and told him he was grateful for the crosses that God saw fit to send him.
- 2 Feb** Fr. Odescalchi, former Cardinal Vicar of the Holy Father, pronounced his first vows as a Jesuit.
- 8 Mar** Fr. Gramego's name appeared in the Mass book for the first time since the previous May. He was visited by the doctor several times.
- 14 Mar** Louis Gagliardi was ordained a Priest – he later composed some special music for the Canonical Erection of the Congregation of in 1855.
- 29 Mar** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Fr. Bragato at Prague and sent his best regards from the Community at the Stimate.
- 20 Apr** On this date Fr. Bertoni sent his second letter to Pope Gregory XVI asking for permission to negotiate concerning some property and books.
- 28 May** Fr. Odescalchi, SJ, former Cardinal Vicar of the Holy Father, in a letter to an old friend, Cardinal Patrizi, refers to Fr. Bertoni as “an excellent priest.”
- 21 Jun** Fr. Odescalchi, S:J: wrote to Msgr. Anton Mary Traversi (close friend of Pope Gregory XVI) and told him about Fr. Bertoni's “devoted affection” for the Holy See.
- 6 Jul** Fr. Bragato returned at the Stimate to spend his annual vacation at the Stimate.
- 2 Aug** This was the last day of Fr. Bragato's annual vacation at the Stimate.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1841

- 14 Aug** Fr. Bragato wrote again from Vienna – there was a very frequent correspondence between Verona and Vienna these days; Fr. Marani, unfortunately, would in later years destroy all the letters for fear of inspections of the Italian government which could suspect of connections with Austria; though some of them were saved from the fire.⁶⁸
- 23 Aug** Another letter from Fr. Bragato arrived for Fr. Bertoni at the Stimate.
- 27 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Fr. Bragato this day and said that a Priest should be so familiar with God that he could be able to ‘incline God’s good pleasure.’
- 26 Sep** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Fr. Bragato and told him that he preached daily – perhaps a Domestic Exhortation each day to the Community, in the Oratory of the Transfiguration near his room at the Stimate. He also spoke about the two Feasts of St. Francis at the Stimate – September 17th and October 4th.
- 31 Dec** A Dr. Manzoni came to the Stimate for the first time to treat the ailing student, Louis Ferrari.

1841

- 30 Apr** Fr. Bragato was in the entourage of the Empress who was passing through Verona – he spent two nights at the Stimate.
- 11 May** On this date Fr. Bertoni wrote a letter to Fr. Bragato and asked him to pray for a work that he was writing so slowly (“drop by drop”) and carefully. It was the book of the Constitutions.⁶⁹
- 29 May** James Campedelli, 3rd Aspirant from Lughezzano, Verona, was sent to the Stimate by a Fr. Zampieri, Pastor there. He left after three months.
- 26 Jun** Fr. Bragato, being in Verona with the Imperial Party, made a brief half hour visit at the Stimate.
- 27 Jun** Fr. Bragato and the Imperial Party left for Vienna at 8:00 a.m.
- 1 Jul** Fr. Bertoni wrote to the Superior of the Sisters of the Holy Family – there was a promise of mutual prayer.

⁶⁸ See 25 October 1866.

⁶⁹ Fr. Stofella, in the booklet of the *Original Constitutions*, p. 16, rightly gives 11 May 1841 as the date for this letter. Another date was also suggested for this letter by Fr. Joseph Fiorio, in his *Breve Cronaca*, I, p. 64 / *Brief Chronicle*, p. 62; he says: 5 November 1841.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1842

- 15 Jul** Pope Gregory XVI gave permission for the opening of the Oratory of the Transfiguration at the Stimate.
- 17 Aug** Fr. Odescalchi, S.J., retired Cardinal Vicar of the Holy Father, died in Modena.
- 25 Aug** James Campedelli left the Congregation.
- 12 Sep** *Sunday dedicated to the Most Holy Name of Mary* – the new Bishop Peter Aurelius Mutti conferred Tonsure and the Four Minor Orders to Louis Ferrari [in six short months, he would be dead!]
- 17 Sep** Fr. Anthony Rosmini preached the Annual Retreat at the Diocesan Seminary of Verona – John Lenotti took part in this Retreat in preparation for his Ordination to the Sub-Diaconate. He left a number of resolutions in his Spiritual Diary that have come down to us – he resolved to ask permission to help the Brothers once a week as a Priest in the kitchen. [During his administration as Superior General, he did this himself occasionally and also recommended all Priests to do the same]. He also resolved to be devoted to Joseph and Mary, under the title of the Sorrowful Mother.
- 18 Sep** John Lenotti was ordained a Sub-Deacon.
- 20 Sep** Bishop Mutti had given permission for another House Chapel at the Stimate which was frequently used by Fr. Bertoni during his long, last years of confinement. He celebrated Mass there on this day, his 41st anniversary of ordination.
- 18 Dec** *Ember Saturday* – in Bishop Mutti's residence chapel, John Lenotti was ordained a Deacon.
- 26 Dec** On this Feast of St. Stephen, Fr. Biadego was very seriously ill – he suffered a bad spell in the morning, and another one in the evening.
- 27 Dec** Fr. Biadego was dying – and he stated that he was at peace and the end would soon come for him.

1842

- 15 Feb** Fr. Biadego received Viaticum.
- 16 Feb** Fr. Biadego was visited by Fr. Fenzi, Pastor of Holy Trinity (predecessor of Fr. Giacobbe); Fr. Biadego was near death.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1842

- 17 Feb** Fr. Louis Biadego died this afternoon about 5:00 p.m. at the age of 34.
- 18 Feb** Fr. Brugnoli commented on the death of Fr. Biadego and the loss to the Congregation.
- 1 Mar** A young student Louis Ferrari fell seriously ill. The doctor came and visited Fr. Gramego, too, who had suffered for a long time with a painful mouth infection.
- 5 Mar** Dr. Menzoni paid his last visit to the dying student, Louis Ferrari. Since December of 1840 he had made 115 visits in a vain effort to save his life. During this day, Fr. Bertoni visited the dying boy for a little while.
- 6 Mar** *Laetare Sunday* – at 2:00 a.m. the young Student Louis Ferrari, died. He was much admired by his friend John Lenotti, who would be ordained within a week. Ferrari had been with the Congregation only 8 years.
- 12 Mar** “*Sitientes*” *Saturday* – John Lenotti was ordained priest by Bishop Mutti in his Residence Chapel.
- 13 Mar** *Passion Sunday*: Fr. John Lenotti, newly ordained, celebrated his first Mass at the Stimate. It was attended by his family, friends and a good number of students studying at the Stimate. Fr. Bertoni’s name did not appear in the Mass Book this day – nor did it ever again. He would not see any other First Mass of a Member of the Congregation in his lifetime.
- 14 Mar** Fr. John Lenotti celebrated one of his first Masses in the Family parish of St. Luke’s.
- 15 Mar** From this day onwards, Fr. Lenotti’s name appeared regularly in the Mass Book at the Stimate. He looked poorly at this time and Fr. Bertoni had him consult a doctor.
- 12 Jun** Fr. Cainer celebrated Mass this day but not again for two months.
- 14 Aug** Fr. Cainer celebrated Mass this day for the first time in many weeks.
- 15 Nov** The last school year at the Stimate during Fr. Bertoni’s life time began this day.
- 9 Dec** Fr. Cainer said Mass this day but experienced some difficulty - he would not be able to say Mass again for about six more months.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1843

1843

- 4 Apr** Bro. Francis Solari left the congregation after 13 years of Service – the House Chronicle noted “May God bless him.”. About a month later, also his brother, Bro. Paolo Solari, would leave the Congregation.
- 3 May** Fr. Cainer started to say Mass again this day, after many months.
- 8 Jun** Fr. Vincent Raimondi left the Congregation. In 1846 he would enter the Jesuits.
- 6 Jul** The priest Gaetano Giacobbe was appointed as Parish Priest of Holy Trinity parish. He made himself very close to Fr. Gaspar Bertoni; and he would become his first biographer.⁷⁰
- 14 Aug** This was the date of the will of Teresa Borghetti Cartolari, the mother of Fr. Francis Cartolari – she made the Stimmate, the Institute of S. Silvestro and the Deaf and Dumb Institute co-beneficiaries.
- 10 Sep** This was the last recorded Mass of Fr. Cainer at the Stimmate.
- 22 Sep** Fr. Bragato was called back by the Empress due to some difficulty she was experiencing.
- 22 Nov** The date of the will of Anthony Lenotti, father of Fr. John Lenotti. He divided the family inheritance among his sons and daughters. The oldest of the three sisters, Marietta, was already deceased.

1844

- 12 Jan** Fr. Cainer died at 2:00 a.m. He had worked very hard for Fr. Bertoni in building up a library at the Stimmate.
- 15 Jan** Fr. Benciolini, as was the custom of those times, started the series of Gregorian Masses for the deceased confrere Fr. Cainer.
- 23 Jan** Fr. Venturini preached on the Espousals - he said that God Himself hid in this Mystery. He stated that the soul is espoused to Christ and the fruit of this union is joy of the heart.

⁷⁰ Cf. “San Gaspare Bertoni (e l’ambiente veronese)”, N. Dalle Vedove, Vol. 6, p.229; 285.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1845

- 3 Mar** Fr. Gaspar wrote a letter to Pope Gregory XVI, explaining about the Friday services held in the church of the Stimate and asking for some indulgences.⁷¹
- 23 Apr** Pope Gregory XVI granted an increase of indulgences for devotion to the Five Wounds, that could be gained on six First Fridays of the year; the months would be determined by the Local Ordinary.
- 27 Apr** Fr. Francis Ravelli, S.J., wrote from Rome to his cousin Fr. Bertoni, with high words of praise for Fr. Cainer, recently deceased.
- 24 May** Fr. Mark Cavanis and his brother Antony, also a priest, met with Fr. Gaspar as friends. They founded Schools of Charity in Venice.
- 27 May** The Diocesan Decree granting a Plenary Indulgence for Devotions to the Five Wounds for the First Fridays of January, March, May, July, September and November [the odd numbered months]. This was the response from the Holy See of 23 April 1844.
- 29 May** Fr. Mark Cavanis celebrated Mass at the Stimate.
- 4 Jul** The Bishop (of Cesarea) Aristace Azarian, Abbot of the Mechitarist Monks in Vienna, a very good friend of Fr. Bragato, after paying a visit to the Noviciate of the Jesuits, decided to visit also Fr. Gaspar Bertoni at the Stimate. With him was the Prior of the same Convent of Vienna.
- 8 Nov** A man by the name of Stephen Debboni died at Caldiero. He had been caretaker of the Bertoni property there and he left two daughters 'of marriageable age, and other children' – who had no means of support.
- 18 Nov** A Vincent Ruffo wrote to Fr. Bertoni interceding for the family of the late Stephen Debboni, who had died 10 days earlier. Fr. Bertoni answered immediately and told Mr. Ruffo that the widow could stay on the property there, and could keep one half of all the produce of the farm.

1845

- 10 Jan** Fr. Bertoni sent a request to the Municipality, Arts Section, for some alterations to the church of the Stimate: to raise the roof and to reshape the façade.

⁷¹ MS. No. 9746.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1846

- 17 Apr** The will of Teresa Borghetti Cartolari was made public. She was the mother of Fr. Francis Cartolari. She left a large share of her goods to the Stimmate and the institute of S. Silvestro.
- 13 May** The nine priests at the Stimmate unanimously agreed to reject the substantial sum left to them by Teresa Cartolari.
- 15 Jun** The government of Lombardo–Veneto approved Fr. Charles Fedelini for the chair of Moral Theology in the Diocesan Seminary.
- 11 Aug** A priest on penance was sent to Fr. Bertoni to make an eight day retreat.
- 18 Aug** A Msgr. Polidoro wrote to Fr. Bertoni and told him that the priest who was performing his penance had gone to confession.
- 19 Aug** Fr. Bertoni wrote to bishop Mutti that the priest he has sent to him at the Stimmate had made his 8 day Retreat very well.
- 3 Dec** A young man by the name of Louis Toffaloni died on this date at the age of 18. He had been a member of Fr. Bertoni's Oratory, and was mourned by Fr. Fedelini.

1846

- 18 Mar** *Vigil of St. Joseph* - John B. Bandoria⁷² aged 39, a tailor entered the Stimmate.
- 30 Apr** Francesco Gregorio Clementi entered as a brother. He would leave after about four months.
- 18 May** The will of the Benciolini family was settled – Fr. Francis received 12,600 Lire as his share; his sister Teresa was already dead.
- 8 Jun** Fr. Lenotti seemed to have some fear of preaching – Fr. Bertoni suggested three simple rules for him: just before going out to preach, remain quiet, without studying; while preaching, try to imagine that it is God who listens; rest a while after preaching to regain your strength and reflect on what you have preached to others. (In these days, sermons took between 45 minutes to 1 hour).
- 9 Jun** On this day the Bishop Mutti made an official visit to the community of Fr. Gaspar at the Stimmate. On that occasion, the

⁷² Bro. John B. Bandoria. Born 1 February 1808; entered 18 Mar 1846. Death 6 September 1853.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1847

Bishop gave the permission to erect the “Via Crucis” (Way of the Cross) in the church of the Stimate.⁷³

- 12 Jun** Bishop Mutti made a Pastoral Visitation at the Stimate and found everything satisfactory.
- 21 Jun** Louis Morando⁷⁴ was born.
- 29 Jun** Fr. Cartolari became “painfully ill”.
- 3 Jul** After five days of intense pain, Fr. Cartolari died this day at the age of nearly 52. He was sorely missed at the Stimate. In his will, he left a large share of his holdings to the Stimate – which was to be declined.
- 5 Jul** Fr. Bertoni and three other designate priests of the Stimate signed an act of renunciation of everything that Fr. Cartolari had left them, in favour of the deceased priest’s brother, Anthony. After signing, Fr. Gaspar assembled all the community to the domestic chapel and made a sermon of encouragement about loving poverty; then the Te Deum was sung. Few days later, Bertoni wrote about the event to Bragato, and he said: “we managed to get rid of Fr. Cartolari’s garbage and retain the heritage of his virtues”.⁷⁵
- 1 Sep** Bro. Francesco Gregorio Clementi left the Congregation.
- 30 Oct** Fr. Lenotti preached at the Friday Devotions at the Stimate for the first time. His text was from the Book of Ecclesiasticus 50:9, taking over from where his predecessor (Fr. Fedelini) left.
- 2 Dec** On this date, Celestine Marani – Fr. Marani’s father - died at the age of 86 in St. Paul’s Parish.

1847

- 9 Jan** Fr. Venturini received the faculties for giving Apostolic Benediction at the end of his Missions.
- 15 Jan** Fr. Lenotti spoke at the regular Friday Devotions at the Stimate and his theme was prayer.

⁷³ Cf. “San Gaspare Bertoni (e l’ambiente veronese)”, N. Dalle Vedove, Vol. 6, p.337.

⁷⁴ Bish. Louis Morando: born on 21 June 1846, made his profession on 21 June 1862 ordained on 30 November 1869; became Bishop of Brindisi-Ostuni in 1906, until death; died on 20 August 1909.

⁷⁵ Cf. Dalle Vedove, “San Gaspare Bertoni e l’Istituto delle ‘Stimate’ nella prima metà dell’800 veronese”, 1991, p.346.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1847

- 22 Jan** Fr. Lenotti preached at the Stimate on the joy of the heart in these days just prior to Lent. He went on to say that the days just before Lent for so many were days of intensified sin. They may have a thousand pleasures during these days, but some day they will have a thousand thorns and much bitterness.
- 22 Feb** The Sac. Congr. of indulgences extended the indulgences for the Portiuncula (that can be gained from noon Aug. 1st through Aug 2nd) to “*toties quoties*”, i.e. it can be gained as often as conditions for it are fulfilled.
- 29 May** Giovanni Campedelli entered as a brother. He will leave few months later.
- 25 Jun** Fr. Lenotti preached that the only true contentment this world can offer is to those who serve God – worldly people have a life-long Mardi Gras, followed by an eternal Lent.
- 2 Jul** A Maria Pizzioli entered the Sisters of the Holy Family during Fr. Marani’s second year as their Spiritual Director.
- 12 Jul** Pius IX approved the decision of the S. Congr. of Indulgences of 22 February 1847, to extend the indulgences of the Portiuncula.
- 1 Aug** Fr. Lenotti began assisting Fr. Fedelini with Sunday services for the Oratory at the Stimate.
- 15 Aug** *Feast of the Assumption* – Fr. Lenotti delivered a sermon to the members of the Oratory – he told the young men that when they prayed, they had to imagine that Mary was kneeling alongside of them praying as well; then their prayer would always be humble and confident.
- 21 Aug** Because of Fr. Fedelini’s failing health, Fr. Bertoni was afraid that he would leave the Congregation. On this same day, a theatre near the Stimate caused some consternation, that it would prove in time to be a distraction to the students studying there.
- 25 Aug** Fr. Fedelini left the Congregation this day due to ill health – he was 37 years of age, and had spent 21 years at the Stimate. Fr. Bertoni, when he came to bid farewell, urged him not to resign as Professor of Moral at the Seminary. [Fr. Fedelini would one day return to the Congregation after Fr. Bertoni’s death, and himself would die as a member of the Congregation]. On this day, also Bro. Giovanni Campedelli left the Congregation.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1848

- 22 Oct** At the regular Friday devotions at the Stimate, Fr. Lenotti concluded his series of Sermons on the Book of Ecclesiasticus (which he had begun on 30 October 1846).
- 29 Oct** At the Friday devotions at the Stimate, Fr. Lenotti preached on the Book of Ecclesiastes.
- 1 Nov** Fr. Lenotti preached to the members of the Oratory and urged them to imitate the Saints of God.
- 7 Nov** Fr. Lenotti preached to the young boys of the Oratory. He continued the explanation of St. Matthew's Gospel where his predecessor, Fr. Fedelini, had left off.
- 11 Dec** Fr. Lenotti preached to the faithful who came regularly to the Friday night Devotions at the Stimate.

1848

During the year 1848, the Bishop Mutti gave the Priests of the Stimate the assignment to give Retreats to prisoners. Fr. Marani was assigned to this, together with Fr. Innocent Venturini. This service went on for many years, by them or by other confreres, even after the conclusion of the Bishop's mandate. Because of the regularity and the zeal, it came to appear as a normal Stigmatine ministry.

- 1 Jan** Fr. Lenotti preached at the Stimate and told the congregation that the Word of God is omnipotent.
- 3 Jan** Fr. Roothan, Superior General of the Jesuits, signed a document approving Fr. Fedelini's Marian Congregation at the Seminary of Verona.
- 23 Jan** Fr. Marani preached on the Espousals - he stated that virginity is not good in itself as an end, but only in so far as it is useful to attain the Supreme Good. Through the Espousals it is easier to understand Christ as man.
- 17 Mar** This day marks the last Friday devotions for a while. Due to political turmoil, it was suspended for one year.
- 23 Mar** The Dominicans of S. Sabina in Rome ceded the Church of San Nicola dei Prefetti to the Confraternity of the Crucified. (This Church would belong to the Congregation in 1891 – and this Confraternity caused no small difficulty to the Fathers).

HISTORICAL NOTES 1849

- 11 Apr** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Fr. Bragato to congratulate him for turning down the “mitre.” This does not seem to have meant the Episcopacy, but rather an Abbatial Mitre.
- 13 Jun** Fr. Benciolini and Fr. Venturini were released from house arrest in the seminary after nine days due to the intervention of Mashall Radetzky.
- 25 Jun** Pius IX issued two decrees: “Romani Pontifices” and “Regulari Disciplinae” which treated specifically with the steps one would take in the Religious Life (these steps were lacking in Fr. Bertoni’s rules, which he was writing at this very time).⁷⁶
- 6 Jul** Bishop Peter Mutti granted an indulgence of 40 days for an image of the Blessed Mother that Fr. Fedelini had.
- 9 Jul** Fr. Lenotti preached at the regular services at the Stimate – he remarked that he never had to ask for the attention of those who came regularly to these devotions.

1849

- 21 Jan** Fr. Venturini gave a sermon this *Sunday on the Holy Family* in preparation for the Feast of the Espousals. Mary is the cause our joy – their marriage was a joy.
- 23 Jan** Fr. Marani preached on the Espousals and stated that marriage was honoured by these two saints – it was the perfect marriage.
- 3 Mar** Fr. Francis Ravelli, S.J., cousin of Fr. Bertoni, died at the age of 55.
- 10 Aug** This was the date of Fr. Brugnolli’s will – he stated that when he came to the Stimate, he had nothing so whatever he had now, he left to the Stimate, except for stipends for 200 Masses to be celebrated within 3 months from his death.

1850

- 6 Mar** Austrian troops came to live in the ground-floor of the Stimate – they were to remain for four years. During their stay at the Stimate, they presented an apostolate to Bro. Zanolli, himself an old soldier, who brought a number of them back to the sacraments

⁷⁶ Years later, in the rules that were presented to the 2nd Gen. Chapter (11 September 1871), these two decrees became a prescribed reading for the Superior General.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1851

as Fr. Lenotti stated long years later in one of his domestic exhortations.

- 27 Apr** Melchiade Vivari⁷⁷ was born at Fai, Trent.
- 7 Jul** Anthony Caucigh⁷⁸ was born just outside of Propotischis, Friul, high in the mountains, 45 minutes (walking distance) from Castelmonte.
- 20 Sep** Golden Jubilee of Fr. Bertoni - characteristic of the man, there was no external commemoration.
- 19 Dec** Frs. Lenotti and Fedelini left for a two-week Mission at Avio, Trent. It was the first Mission preached by the Fathers of the Congregation in the 'Tyrol.'

1851

- 23 Jan** Fr. Lenotti preached on the Feast this year and said the distinctive characteristic of this marriage was a most singular and special holiness.
- 25 Mar** *Feast of the Annunciation* – Fr. Marani gave first communion to two young sisters by the name of Heller at the 7:00 a.m. Mass. At 8:30 there was a Mass and the young girls sang during it. They were being trained by the Sisters of the Holy Family.
- 4 Apr** Fr. Lenotti gave the last of his almost 200 sermons at the Friday Devotions at the Stimate. (Many of these sermons are still retained in the archives at the Stimate.)
- 11 Jun** Fr. Bertoni dictated a letter to Bishop Mutti which Fr. Lenotti wrote - the Bishop had sent Fr. Bertoni a book on Religion for his perusal and in this letter he gave his critique of it.
- 24 Oct** At the Friday Devotions at the Stimate, Fr. Lenotti preached at the services on the Book of Wisdom.
- 21 Nov** A Papal Decree was emanated, proclaiming the following year to be the 'Holy Year of Jubilee'. The Pope was unable to proclaim 1850 as the 'Holy Year', as he had to flee Rome.

⁷⁷ Fr. Melchiade Vivari: born 27 April 1850; entered 17 October 1865; ordin. 23 December 1876; death 26 April 1909.

⁷⁸ Nov. Anthony Caucigh. Born 7 July 1850; entered 6 September 1862; vested 6 January 1865; death (as a Novice) 11 August 1866.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1852

1852

- 28 Jan** Fr. Bertoni sent a letter to Bishop Mutti, which is in Fr. Lenotti's handwriting. From Fr. Bertoni's signature at the end of the letter, it is clear that he was a sick man.
- 7 Dec** A newly ordained Priest, Fr. Mark Bassi, celebrated one of his first Masses at the Stimate.

1853

- 3 May** The Canon Polidoro wrote to Mons. Aristace Azarian, in Vienna: "The health of the M. Rev. Fr. Gaspar Bertoni is going badly".
- 12 Jun** **Father Gaspar Bertoni died.**
A number of the priests at the Stimate were on their way to teach the "Fourth Class" (Catechism) in the Parishes of Verona this Sunday afternoon. Fr. Marani had been attending the dying Fr. Bertoni and then handed the Ritual and stole to Fr. Brugnoli (after conferring the Last Sacraments) and started out for St. Luke's Parish where he was to teach. Then he decided to come back to Fr. Bertoni and sent word to the Pastor of St. Luke's – when he re-entered Fr. Bertoni's room, he saw that the "Father and Teacher" had already flown into the Lord's bosom. Fr. Brugnoli was still reading the prayers for the dying. Then Fr. Marani with tears said to him "Don't you see that Fr. Gaspar is dead?" Fr. Gramego came into the room and looked at the still form of Fr. Bertoni and was recorded saying "It is now my turn to follow him soon." (He died six weeks later).⁷⁹ The same evening the priests of the community gathered together and elected the new leader, **Fr. Giovanni Maria Marani**, with the title of "*Prepositus*".
- 13 Jun** This was a long and busy day. The funerals of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni were scheduled for late afternoon. In the morning, his body, dressed with the "missionary habit", was exposed in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. Many people came to pay respect to the deceased priest. Still in the morning, there were summoned a painter, Francesco Lovato, to fix his features, and a sculptor, Grazioso Spazzi, to take the mould mask of his face. Fr. Marani went to the Sisters of the Holy Family and gave them a talk on the

⁷⁹ Cfr. "*Albero rigoglioso...*", p.50.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1853

passing of Fr. Bertoni – he frequently broke down during the talk. Fr. Fedelini who had left the Congregation, wrote to Fr. Marani on this day and asked if he should return to the Congregation. Towards sunset, with a procession that took a longer route, the body of Fr. Gaspar was taken to the parish church of the Holy Trinity. Many people were present. The Parish Priest, Fr. Gaetano Giacobbe, penitent of Fr. Gaspar, said some words from the heart, addressing Fr. Gaspar as “a humble person, a model of ministry, man of profound science joined to holiness, hiding his virtues. Who humbles himself, will be exalted!”. After his moving words, the body was taken to a side chapel, since the burial was scheduled for the following morning. Then two person of high rank moved matters so that the burial would be postponed, hoping to get the permission to bring the body of Fr. Gaspar to the be buried into the church of the Stimmate. So they got the permission for the following day, but this made the body to remain at the Holy Trinity parish for a long time.

- 14 Jun** Fr. Bragato arrived late, but he could still pay homage to Fr. Bertoni’s body, in the mortuary chapel of Holy Trinity.
- 17 Jun** Fr. Lenotti did not preach at the regular Friday devotion at the Stimmate – perhaps Fr. Marani preached – he had the reputation of being able to preach without formal preparation, with the same effect as “one who had studied”.
- 18 Jun** In the paper “Collettore dell’Adige” Fr. Fedelini authored a eulogy of Fr. Bertoni – he wrote: “we have lost a treasure”. Fr. Fedelini had not as yet re-entered the Congregation.
- 24 Jun** Fr. Lenotti resumed his regular Friday preaching assignment at the Stimmate – he was also made the Chronicler of the Congregation which task he fulfilled until shortly before his election as Superior General (July 1871).
- 14 Jul** Still waiting for the permission to transfer Fr. Gaspar’s body to the Stimmate, there came the injunction to enfold the coffin with zinc, which was done on this day.
- 28 Jul** Four Masses were celebrated for the dying Fr. Gramego.
- 30 Jul** Fr. Gramego died.
- 1 Aug** Fr. Benciolini started a series of Gregorian Masses for the deceased Fr. Gramego.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1853

- 4 Aug** The Provincial authorities at Venice denied Fr. Marani's request to have Fr. Bertoni's body returned to the Stimate, so Fr. Marani appealed to Vienna.
- 7 Aug** Fr. Bragato wrote to Fr. Marani and told him that he hoped that he was still considered at the Stimate as "a most obedient and affectionate son and brother", despite his 18 years absence from the community.
- 30 Aug** Fr. Benciolini finished the Gregorian Masses on this day for Fr. Gramego.
- 6 Sep** Brother John Bandoria died – it was said of him: 'he worked well, but lived little!' The entire Congregation at this juncture numbered 6 Priests, and three Brothers.
- 22 Sep** Fr. Marani made a second appeal to have Fr. Bertoni's body returned to the Stimate after his previous petition of 4th August was refused.
- 26 Sep** Fr. Marani purchased a lot in the local cemetery for the deceased of the Congregation.
- 1 Nov** Charles Salocher entered the Congregation, but had to leave a few months later due to illness.
- 23 Nov** All the deceased of the Congregation at this time were transferred to the lot in the city cemetery purchased by Fr. Marani. The deceased reinterred on this day were: Bro. Casella; Fr. Biadego; Cleric Louis Ferrari; Fr. Gramego and Bro. Bandoria. Fr. Cainer and Fr. Cartolari had been buried in their family lots. The body of Fr. Bertoni was still at the Holy Trinity, as the permission to move him had not yet arrived. He would be brought to the Stimate on 30 July 1854.
- 7 Dec** Bishop Peter Aurelius Mutti, OSB, Patriarch of Venice, and former Bishop of Verona, wrote a letter of recommendation to the Holy See in behalf of the Congregation at Fr. Marani's request.
- 12 Dec** The 'Report' that Fr. Marani had drawn up for presentation to the Holy See to obtain the Decree of Praise, bore this date.
- 14 Dec** Fr. Marani sent a rather bulky array of documents to the Holy See, petitioning the Decree of Praise for the Congregation.
- 23 Dec** In seeking approval from the government for the Congregation, Fr. Marani sent his array of documents to Fr. Bragato, at Prague, to be reviewed before presentation to Francis Joseph I.

1854

- 1 Jan** Charles Salocher left the Congregation due to ill health (he re-entered as a brother in 1871, made perpetual profession on 17 July 1874 and died at Santa Maria dei Miracoli in Rome on 2 November 1904). - On this day however, four other Brothers were vested with the religious habit – Vestition at this time in history made one a member of the Congregation.
- 2 Feb** Msgr. Michael Viale-Prelà, Apostolic Nuncio in Vienna⁸⁰, received from Fr. Marani the request for approbation and forwarded it to the Sacred Congregation for Bishops and Regulars.⁸¹ It seems that, then, the files got lost somewhere.
- 10 Feb** The civil authorities examined on this day the request for Fr. Bertoni's body to be returned to the Church of the Stimmate.
- 23 Feb** Fr. Marani, Father Prepositus, had sent Fr. Bertoni's Constitutions to a friend, Fr. J. Fusari, S.J. – who said he had admired the spirit in which they had been written. Fr. Fusari suggested that they be sent to a Fr. Mignardi who could give a better critical view of them.
- 18 Mar** The Imperial Government answered the Congregation's request to return Fr. Bertoni's body to the Stimmate. Before granting permission, the government asked for more information.
- 19 Mar** Fr. Marani, Father Prepositus, responded to a questionnaire sent to him by the authorities in Venice. He stated that the Schools at the Stimmate would conform exactly to the state requirement.
- 7 Apr** The mitred Prevost of Bolzano, Benedict De Riccabona, was named Bishop of Verona.
- 31 May** Fr. Marani went to Bolzano to see Bishop-elect Benedict De Riccabona before his departure for Rome. He left with him a copy of Fr. Bertoni's Constitutions.
- 12 Jun** A letter arrived at the Stimmate from Fr. Bragato urging Fr. Marani to hasten to Rome to make good use of Bishop De Riccabona's presence there.
- 20 Jun** A civil Decree bore this date, that permitted Fr. Bertoni's body to be returned to the Stimmate for interment.

⁸⁰ Note that in 1854 the town of Verona was still under Austrian Government (until 1866).

⁸¹ cf. "*Dal convento...*", p.22

HISTORICAL NOTES 1854

- 23 Jun** Friday, Fr. Marani, Father Prepositus, and Bro. Louis Ferrari started their journey towards Rome. From Bologna to Rome the train made 350 miles (550 km) in 54 hours.
- 28 Jun** Fr. Marani and Bro. Louis Ferrari arrived in Rome on the vigil of St. Peter; they took up lodging with a Canon Raffaele Bertinelli.
- 29 Jun** Fr. Marani and Bro. Ferrari saw Pius IX at the Papal Mass on the Feast of St. Peter – they wrote that the scene was so magnificent that they could not express it.
- 8 Jul** Bishop De Riccabona was questioned by the S. Congr. of Bishops and Regulars in Rome concerning the Congregation of the Stimate that was seeking for Papal approval.
- 12 Jul** Permission was received to return Fr. Bertoni's body from the cemetery next to the Holy Trinity, and to place it in a second lead or zinc casket for entombment at the Stimate.
- 16 Jul** Benedict De Riccabona was consecrated Bishop in Rome.
- 21 Jul** The decree permitting the exhumation of Fr. Bertoni's body arrived. His body was to be brought back to the Stimate.
- 22 Jul** Bishop De Riccabona wrote an enthusiastic letter of recommendation in behalf of the Congregation. He said that he only knew Fr. Bertoni by reputation but that his Congregation had done much good in the Diocese of Verona.
- 24 Jul** The soldiers who had been occupying the Stimate for nearly four years left this date. This order was given to them in the government decree that gave civil approval to the Congregation.⁸²
- 30 Jul** Fr. Bertoni's body was returned to the Stimate and laid to rest in the centre aisle of the Church. Fr. Giacobbe gave a moving sermon on this occasion. Fr. Marani, Father Prepositus, was away in Rome.
- 1 Aug** Pius IX signed a rescript allowing for an extended period for the jubilee indulgences.
- 10 Aug** Fr. Marani visited with the Under-Secretary of the S. Congr. of Bishops and Regulars in Rome, Fr. Gaggiotti, and was assured that the documents he had brought from Verona were being scrutinized

⁸² Collectanea Stigmatina, Vol. I, p.87 gives June 23, 1854 as the date of the soldiers' departure; the same source gives on p. 512, July 24, 1854 as the date.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1854

by a Fr. John Perrone⁸³, S.J., a Consultor, who would give his opinion in due time. The Under-Secretary was very concerned at Fr. Marani's sickish appearance. He seemed very uncomfortable.

- 22 Aug** Fr. Marani in Rome obtained from the Sacred Congregation of Indulgences a favour for the Main Altar of the Church of *Santa Maria del Giglio*, making of it a 'privileged altar.'
- 12 Sep** The High Altar at the Stimate became 'Privileged.'
- 20 Sep** Bishop De Riccabona, newly consecrated, visited the Stimate for the first time – he noted the small number of members, but compared them to Napoleon's 'Noble Guard', that would inflict the decisive blow for God in battle.
- 22 Sep** Pius IX made it known that he wanted to be informed personally about any new institute and every religious order seeking approval. At the Stimate, this was welcomed as encouraging news.
- 24 Oct** Fr. Marani, Father Prepositus, and Bro. Louis Ferrari, had a Private audience with Pope Pius IX. Fr. Marani spoke candidly to the Holy Father about the Congregation. The Pope asked Fr. Marani if Bro. Ferrari also went out on the Missions with the Priests. Fr. Marani answered that they did not, so the Pope said that the Brothers of the Congregation should be the Masters of every trade. It was during this Audience that Pius IX stated that the little Congregation of the Stimate was 'his' Congregation, and he expressed the often quoted wish "Crescat Pusillus Grex!" (May the Little Flock grow!)
- 25 Oct** Fr. Marani, Father Prepositus, wrote from Rome to Fr. Brugnoli back at the Stimate – as Fr. Brugnoli was the oldest – to tell the Community of the happiness that he and Bro. Ferrari experiences the day before in their audience with the Pope.
- 31 Oct** Fr. Marani and Bro. Ferrari left Rome after their successful visit there to obtain the Decree of Praise for the Congregation. It would be granted on 16 April 1855.
- 1 Nov** Fr. Marani and Bro. Louis Ferrari arrived back in Verona after their stay of almost 4 months in Rome.

⁸³ Fr. John Perrone (1794-1876), Jesuit and professor of Dogmatic Theology at Collegio Romano, member of various Roman Congregations and of the Commission chosen by Pope Pius IX (1848) for defining the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1855

- 7 Nov** Fr. Marani wrote to Bishop De Riccabona informing him that Fr. Da Prato and another Diocesan Priest, Fr. Ruzzanenti, wanted to enter the Congregation.
- 17 Nov** There was a solemn commemorative service held at the Stimate this day for Fr. Bertoni, who had died 17 months earlier. There was a terrible wind and rain that day – the service was held that Friday morning. Forty Masses were celebrated at the Stimate. Monsignor Marchi, Vicar General of the Diocese, celebrated a Solemn Mass.
- 19 Nov** Bishop De Riccabona wrote to Fr. Marani and expressed some pride that two of his Priests were about to enter the Congregation. He said that he was especially sorry to lose Fr. Richard Da Prato, but that he gave his permission for both to enter.
- 26 Nov** On this Sunday evening, the former Canon, Fr. Richard Da Prato⁸⁴, and Fr. Anthony Ruzzanenti⁸⁵ entered the Congregation.
- 8 Dec** On this day began the first formal novitiate, set for two years on the pattern of Jesuits. Previously, members on entrance, just donned the habit, and then they were members of the Congregation. Fr. Richard Da Prato was part of this Novitiate.

1855

- 1 Jan** A Brother candidate, Joseph Realì, entered the Congregation. The Chronicle described him as having a “good heart and good shoulders”
- 15 Jan** Birth of Paul Gradinati⁸⁶.
- 17 Jan** Fr. Anthony Bresciani, S.J., in Rome, wrote to Fr. Marani, Father Prepositus, with words of high praise for Fr. Bertoni and the constitutions he wrote.
- 24 Jan** Fr. Bragato wrote to Fr. Fedelini from Prague; Fr. Bragato told him that Fr. Fedelini’s devotion to Mary was a help to Fr. Bragato in Prague – and asked for his continued prayers.

⁸⁴ Fr. Richard Da Prato: born 18 July 1812; entered as a priest on 26 November 1854; profession 7 November 1856; death on 17 October 1872.

⁸⁵ Antonio Ruzzanenti would be dismissed on 25 April 1856 “for poor health”.

⁸⁶ Fr. Paul Gradinati: born 15 January 1855, ordin. 19 January 1879, death 2 June 1907.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1855

- Feb** Fr. Marani and Fr. Lenotti preached Spiritual Exercises for the laity at Badia Polesine (Rovigo).⁸⁷
- 28 Feb** A decree was issued by the Magistrate's office to the effect that the Congregation could apply for approbation from the Holy See. This was necessary in these times.
- 3 Mar** Fr. Bresciani, S.J., Fr. Alfieri and Fr. John Perrone, S.J., were in agreement after discussing Fr. Bertoni's Original Constitutions that Fr. Perrone should issue a favourable opinion concerning them to the Sacred Congregations of Bishops and Regulars of which he was a Consultor.
- 4 Mar** Fr. Perrone, Consultor to the S Congregation of Bishops and Regulars, gave his official view of Fr. Bertoni's Constitutions and his Congregation. As for the Constitutions, they had been written in a spirit of prayer but did need emendation as to their Juridical section. The Congregation, however, although small, should be granted a Decree of Praise that would serve as an encouragement to the members.
- 16 Mar** This year the *Liturgical Feast of the Five wounds*, or Sacred Stigmata, occurred on this date. This same day the S. Congr. of Bishops and Regulars, ratified by Pope Pius IX, issued the Decree of praise for the Congregation. Bishop De Riccabona, who was in Rome at this time, remarked about the coincidence in favour of the Congregation of the Stimate (he called it: "Providence", which *omnia suaviter disponit* – organizes delightfully everything).
- 17 Mar** Bishop De Riccabona wrote to the Stimate from Rome to tell the news of the granting of the Decree of Praise.
- 21 Mar** *Feast of St. Benedict* – the letter of Bishop Riccabona arrived at the Stimate with the news that the Holy Father Pius IX had granted the Decree of Praise. Canon Bertinelli wrote from Rome and said that since the Congregation was so small with so few members, the granting of the decree so soon should be considered as Fr. Bertoni's first miracle.
- 25 Mar** *Passion Sunday* – Fr. Marani and Bro. Zanoli went to Treviso for a Mission. Fr. Marani, Father Prepositus, frequently took Brothers with him on his trips.

⁸⁷ It was towards the end of February, closing in March 1855. Cf. CS 1, p. 514 and "Memorie Lenotti".

HISTORICAL NOTES 1855

- Apr** Fr. Marani, Father Prepositus, and Fr. Lenotti preached Spiritual Exercises to the St. Clare Nuns, Verona, named ‘Maddalene’.
- 16 Apr** The **Decree of Praise**, granted to the Congregation by Pope Pius IX, bears this date.
- 17 Apr** Frs. Marani and Lenotti preached a three day retreat for young boys at Lugagnano, in preparation for the Formal erection of an Oratory there.
- 23 Apr** *Monday* – The granted Decree of Praise mailed by the Bishop De Riccabona from Rome, arrived to the Stimate on this day. Fr. Marani wrote to his friend in Rome, Canon Bertinelli, to tell him of the happiness at the Stimate at the reception of this news.
- 29 May** A law was promulgated by the Italian government, which will have unfortunate consequences to the Stigmatines and to other institutions in Verona, after the town became part of the Italian state in 1866: the law called ‘Cavour-Rattazzi’, by which the state would confiscate all properties of the Religious Orders, since they were judged of no social utility.
- 12 Jun** Fr. Raimondi, S.J., former member of the Stimate, died on the second anniversary of Fr. Bertoni.
- 1 Jul** Fr. Da Prato left in the morning and Fr. Lenotti in the evening for Caselle and S. Massimo (west of Verona) to care for the cholera victims.
- 2 Jul** Frs. Lenotti and Da Prato went to Peschiera (on the Garda lake) to assist the cholera victims – Fr. Lenotti told of a local woman who refused to attend the Mission for fear of contracting the disease; she contracted it anyway and was dead in two hours.
- 14 Jul** The Imperial Government gave its approval to the Congregation at the Stimate – this was required in addition to the Church approval.
- 28 Jul** A happy day at the Stimate – the news of the Sovereign’s approval of the Congregation was received.
- 30 Jul** Frs. Lenotti and Da Prato returned from Peschiera where they had been assisting cholera victims. The 1st anniversary of Fr. Bertoni’s body being returned to the Stimate was noted.
- 7 Sep** The official document of the civil approval of the Congregation was received today at the Stimate – it was signed by “Ferrari, Podestà; Castelli; Jordis, Delegate”.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1855

- 12 Sep** Fr. Venturini wrote in his Spiritual Diary that this day for him was one of consolation – he wrote of his gratitude to Fr. Bertoni.
- 16 Sep** Fr. Fedelini returned to the Congregation, ‘his nest’, on this Feast of the Sorrowful Mother. He took up again the work of the Oratory.
- 17 Sep** Fr. Fedelini received the habit of the Congregation and began his Novitiate - Louis Falzi⁸⁸ entered as a Brother.
Titular Feast of the Church of the Stimate, the Stigmata of St. Francis – 78 Priests came to celebrate Mass – Fr. Raimondi preached.
- 23 Sep** *Sunday* – at 3:00 p.m., 5 Priests [Frs. Marani, Benciolini, Brugnoli, Venturini and Lenotti] elected **Fr. Marani Superior *Prepositus*, or General**⁸⁹. After the Election, the entire Community was assembled and told of the proceedings.
- 30 Sep** This was one of the more important dates in Stigmatine History. It was the *18th Sunday after Pentecost* – At 8:00 a.m., Bishop De Riccabona came to the Stimate for the special ceremony called the **Canonical Erection** of the Congregation. He was accompanied by his Vicar, Monsignor Marchi, and his Master of Ceremonies a Fr. Valbusa. The *Veni Creator* was sung - the Bishop then celebrated Mass – at its conclusion, he incensed the exposed Blessed Sacrament and went to the Chair that was prepared in the Sanctuary. Fr. Marani then knelt before the Blessed Sacrament, and recited his Religious Profession - then sat at a chair placed before the Altar for him, and received the religious Profession of the 5 Priests and 3 Brothers.
- Oct** Fr. Marani, Superior General⁹⁰, and Fr. Lenotti preached Spiritual Exercises to the Tertiary Srs. of St. Bernardino, Verona, with four sermons a day.
- 12 Nov** Canon Bertinelli, the host of Fr. Marani and Bro. Ferrari during their lengthy stay in Rome [June - November 1854], wrote to Fr. Marani this day. He told Fr. Marani that he did not have the heart to tell him of the many obstacles that he faced in coming to Rome

⁸⁸ Bro. Louis Falzi: born 28 February 1825; entered 17 Sept 1855; ‘vested’ (equal to profession) 9 December 1855; death 12 April 1906.

⁸⁹ The election which was done immediately after the death of the Founder had to be rectified, since it was only a verbal election.

⁹⁰ In 1855 Fr. Marani had been officially elected ‘Superior General, but he always preferred to be called ‘Prepositus’. – After 1855, here we use for him the title of Superior General.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1856

to obtain the Decree of Praise for so small a Congregation. He told Fr. Marani that Cardinal Frasoni still spoke of Fr. Marani and of the wonderful impression he had made in Rome.

9 Dec This day was the Vestition of Bro. Louis Falzi and two Students.

26 Dec Four of the five Priests at the Stimmate left Verona by train to preach the Mission at Caravaggio (BG), not far from Milan. They were: Frs. Marani, Lenotti, Benciolini and Venturini. Their efforts proved so successful that the Congregation was offered a foundation there, which had to be refused because of lack of members.

1856

1 Jan Two Capuchin Priests from Milan arrived at Caravaggio to assist the 18 Confessors hearing the Confessions at the Mission that was being preached there by the four Priests from the Stimmate. Fr. Brugnoli had stayed behind with the three Novices.

2 Jan Tuesday evening, Fr. Marani wrote from Caravaggio to the Novice Fr. Richard Da Prato. He spoke of his sorrow on hearing of Fr. Fedelini's accident but was relieved to know that he was not seriously injured. He told Fr. Da Prato that they were all kept busy every night at Caravaggio until 11:00 p.m. and told him to be "prepared". He sent regards to Fr. Ruzzanenti and to a young man, Joseph Marchesini⁹¹ about his father, Louis Marchesini⁹², very great friend of Bertoni and of the Stimmate, who died this very day in Verona.

6 Jan The Mission that began on 27 December 1855 at Caravaggio ended on this day. All showed them the appreciation for the success of the Mission: they were escorted along the town, receiving from the

⁹¹ Fr. Joseph Marchesini: born 5 September 1833; entered 22 November 1856; novitiate 28 February 1857; ordained 21 March 1862; death 15 May 1903.

⁹² It appears that this Louis Marchesini could be one of the "two brothers Marchesini" mentioned on the 23 September 1833, while the other would be Steven Marchesini (see footnote to 1 December 1837). Louis was the father of Fr. Joseph Marchesini and John Marchesini (cf. 2 Apr 1856), and the grandfather of the other Louis Marchesini, mentioned on the 19 May 1903.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1856

population affectionate greetings; they were also offered precious liturgical vestments, which they did not accept.⁹³

- 7 Jan** Monday; the bells in the steeple rang out this morning at Caravaggio (Bergamo) and the Parish assembled to bid farewell to the four Priests who had just concluded the Mission there. Three of the Priests went directly back to Verona but Fr. Marani, had to go to Milan to purchase vestments for the Church.
- 9 Jan** Fr. Marani returned from Milan, where he had gone after the Mission at Caravaggio to procure some vestments.
- 12 Jan** Fr. Marani went alone to preach the Mission at Lughezzano (on the Lessini mountains, north of Verona).
- 14 Jan** Fr. Marani summoned the Novice Fr. Da Prato, to help with confessions at Lughezzano.
- 21 Jan** The Mission at Lughezzano ended. Brothers Ferrari and Stevanoni had come to Lughezzano, their hometown, for the closing of the Mission – this seems to have been an effort to promote vocations. As the Missionaries and the Brothers left, the bells of the Church sounded – Despite the heavy, cold rain, about 18 people accompanied them as far as Bellorio.
- 31 Jan** Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., and Fr. Benciolini preached a short Mission at St. George's Parish in Verona.
- 2 Feb** Fr. Lenotti preached the Forty Hours' Devotion in the Church of St. John "*Lupatoto*" in Verona.
- 5 Feb** Frs. Marani and Benciolini finished their Mission at St. George's and Fr. Lenotti finished at St. John's.
- 17 Feb** Bishop De Riccabona wrote to the Congregation at the Stimmate asking them to establish a house in his native Diocese of Trent. A letter was also received this same day from Msgr. Gasparini, Pastor of Trabilene about the same matter.
- 2 Mar** Fr. Marani started a Retreat for the Seminarians at the Diocesan Seminary.
- 8 Mar** *Passion Sunday*: Fr. Marani concluded the Retreat at the Seminary. Fr. Benciolini was preaching at a Mission at the Parish of St. Thomas of Canterbury in Verona.

⁹³ "*Dal convento...*", p.55. *Cronaca Lenotti*, p. 23-25.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1856

- 15 Mar** Frs. Benciolini, Venturini and Lenotti concluded the Mission at St. Thomas of Canterbury Parish in Verona.
- 16 Mar** Charles Bissoli⁹⁴ entered at the Stimmate.
- 1 Apr** Fr. Marani was ill, so Fr. Lenotti went to Cremona to preach a Retreat to the Camillians.
- 2 Apr** John B. Marchesini⁹⁵ entered the Congregation – he later left the congregation (1857), married and had a son, who, in 1903, would contest his uncle's will (i.e. Fr. Joseph Marchesini, who had made Fr. Stephen Rosa⁹⁶ his heir). The Marchesini family was very well to do.
- 13 Apr** *Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph* – the Sub Deacon Charles Bissoli, was vested with the habit of the congregation.
- 14 Apr** Fr. Mark Bassi entered the Congregation – Fr. Lenotti noted in the Chronicle that his name reminded the older Fathers of Fr. Bertoni's frequent saying: "bassi, bassi..." ("stay low, stay low", inviting to a sense of humility).
- 17 Apr** Frs. Marani and Lenotti preached a three-day Retreat for boys at Lugagnano (west of Verona) in preparation for the erection of an Oratory there.
- 21 Apr** Frs. Marani and Lenotti concluded the three day Retreat at Lugagnano, and the Oratory there was established.
- 23 Apr** A priest, John Baptist from Villafranca, concluded well his 10 days Retreat at the Stimmate.
- 24 Apr** Fr. Marani went to Desenzano, on the Garda lake, to preach to the young men of the Oratory.
- 25 Apr** Fr. Ruzzanenti, who had entered the Congregation with the former Canon, Fr. Richard Da Prato, left the Congregation due to poor health.
- 27 Apr** Fr. Marani and some of the Novices went to Lugagnano to erect a Pious Union to combat Blasphemy – the usual conclusion of a Mission preached by the Congregation.

⁹⁴ Fr. Charles Bissoli: entrance (as a Sub-Deacon) 16 March 1856; vested the habit 13 April 1856; ordination 19 September 1856; left 29 March 1858 for problems of health.

⁹⁵ John Marchesini is the brother of Joseph (who also entered in 1856, and became a priest in the Congregation).

⁹⁶ See footnote on 20 Dec 1884.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1856

- 6 May** Frs. Marani and Lenotti left to preach the annual Retreat to the Seminarians at Treviso. They preached four sermons a day to the Seminarians and two others daily to young students. The Seminarians were very attentive and one of them expressed the desire of entering the Congregation.
- 11 May** Fr. Marani preached at the Cathedral of Treviso for the Feast of Pentecost.
- 12 May** Fr. Marani again preached in the Cathedral of Treviso. The Novice, Fr. Da Prato arrived to help him with Confessions.
- 16 May** Frs. Marani and Lenotti concluded the Retreat at Treviso for the Seminarians. It was Friday, and Fr. Marani left for Verona alone – Fr. Lenotti stayed behind to terminate the Retreat for the young students.
- 17 May** Frs. Marani and Benciolini started an eight-day retreat for the Sisters of St. Clare in Verona; Fr. Lenotti finished his Retreat for the young students at the Diocesan Seminary of Treviso.
- 25 May** Frs. Marani and Benciolini concluded the Retreat for the St. Clare Sisters in Verona on this Sunday. After the Retreat Fr. Marani went to Vicenza to the De Lorenzi Organ Co. to purchase an organ for the Stimate.
- 11 Jun** *Sunday* – Frs. Marani and Benciolini began a Retreat for young girls at St. Anastasia's (at its conclusion they gave a two-day Retreat to the young girls at the Cannossian Sisters at St. Zeno). Fr. Benciolini noted in his Spiritual diary the practice of St. Paul of the Cross of praying to the Guardian Angels before preaching.
- 6 Jul** A priest, Nicola Toblioni, had a some days of Retreat at the Stimate.
- 7 Jul** Fr. Marani left for Reichstadt⁹⁷ (near Prague) to visit Fr. Bragato.
- 9 Jul** Fr. Marani met Bishop De Riccabona in Reichstadt – the Bishop told him that the Bishop of Mantova had expressed the desire to have the Congregation in his Diocese.
- 16 Jul** Fr. Lenotti left for Milan to preach a Retreat to the Sisters at a hospital there.

⁹⁷ Reichstadt [nowadays Zákupy, Czech Republic], is situated about 70 km north of Prague. Its castle, as from 1848 became the vacation residence of Ferdinand I of Habsburg-Lorena. After his abdication as Emperor of Austria (1848), Ferdinand Ist went to live in Prague.

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- 17 Jul** Fr. Marani away in Reichstadt, wrote to the community at the Stimate. In the course of this letter, he stated that Fr. Galvani had made Fr. Bertoni the owner of the Stimate and the other “pious places”. (Bishop di Canossa, when he sided with the Sisters of the Holy Family in their dispute with Fr. Benciolini, who became the owner at Fr. Bertoni’s death, was saying that Fr. Bertoni only had the use of these places – and, hence, Fr. Benciolini did not have the rights of ownership.)
- 19 Jul** An Oblate came to help with the Confessions at the hospital, in Milan, where Fr. Lenotti was preaching a Retreat.
- 1 Aug** An organ that had been purchased at the De Lorenzi company in Vicenza was installed at the Stimate.
- 21 Aug** Fr. Marani returned to Verona from Reichstadt.
- 27 Aug** The Vice Rector of Belluno Seminary came to the Stimate for a six days Retreat.
- 30 Aug** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti began a Mission at Stelle, quite close to Sezano - Fr. Marani was present for the opening, then left.
- 8 Sep** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti concluded the Mission at Stelle – Fr. Marani joined them again for the closing.
- 17 Sep** Fr. Charles Fedelini pronounced his First Vows – he was dispensed from the 2nd year of Novitiate, as he had been a member before.
- 19 Sep** Charles Bissoli was ordained - he had once been with Fr. Mazza. He had entered the Congregation as a Sub-Deacon.
- 20 Sep** Charles Bissoli celebrated his First Mass at the Stimate.
- 22 Sep** The Novices with Fr. Lenotti and Brother Paul Zanoli went to Sezano, to spend a month in the autumn. The Bishop had given the faculty of establishing there a House Chapel. On this same day, Fr. Marani went to the Imperial Villa at Stra (Venice), so that Fr. Bragato could spend his annual vacation with his Confreres.
- 26 Sep** Fr. Bragato arrived at the Stimate from Stra for his annual vacation.
- 30 Sep** Fr. Bragato, while on vacation, went out to Sezano to visit the Novices and remained there four days – he enjoyed the company of the students and often took part in their recreation.
- 7 Oct** From 7 to 14 October, Fr. Lenotti preached a private retreat to four Priests who had come to the Stimate to make their annual Retreat. One of these Priests was Fr. Vincent Vignola, one of five

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blood brothers, all of whom were Priests. Later on, Fr. Vincent Vignola entered the Congregation and some time later, he was followed by one of his brothers, Fr. Peter Vignola⁹⁸ (who went on to be elected the 3rd Superior General of the Congregation [with Fr. Vincent's deciding vote in the Chapter]).

- 24 Oct** Frs. Benciolini and Fedelini [who had not yet starting teaching at the Seminary for the new School Year] left the Stimmate to preach a Mission at Cerro (on the Lessini mountains, north of Verona, near Lughezzano).
- 22 Nov** Entrance of Joseph Marchesini.
- 23 Nov** Fr. Marani preached a Retreat to the Sisters Converted of St. Sylvester, Verona.
- 10 Nov** Fr. Marani, Superior General, and Fr. Lenotti, Novice Master, began a Retreat in Cremona for the 'Madames.'
- 28 Nov** Fr. Vincent Vignola⁹⁹ entered the Congregation.
- 8 Dec** Fr. Da Prato made his Religious Profession.
- 12 Dec** Fr. Bragato wrote to Fr. Marani from Vienna – to encourage him in his work.
- 16 Dec** Fr. Cajetan Brugnoli celebrated his last recorded Mass.

1857

- 2 Jan** Frs. Lenotti and Fedelini had just completed a two-week mission at Avio, Trent (from 19 December). The Clergy and some people accompanied the two priests as far as Vo.
- 23 Jan** Fr. Lenotti wrote in the Chronicle this day that the Feast was celebrated with more solemnity than usual. Bishop De Riccabona came at 7:00 a.m. for Mass and there were 49 Masses celebrated. In the evening Msgr. Marchi gave benediction vested in a new cope – “the new organ sounded beautiful.”
- 24 Jan** Fr. Benciolini, with Fr. Lenotti e Fr. V. Vignola, preached a Mission at Vigasio a “town of about 19000 souls” that exceeded all expectations. The old people of the town said they had never seen anything like it there.

⁹⁸ Information on footnote of 20 January 1859.

⁹⁹ Fr. Vincent Vignola: born 25 October 1821; entered (as a priest) 28 November 1856; death 20 April 1889.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1857

- 1 Feb** Fr. John Rigoni¹⁰⁰, Pastor at Cerea and Vicar at St. John in Valle, entered the Congregation.
- 2 Feb** The Mission at Vigasio ended this day – the Local Pastor and two town officials accompanied the departing missionaries.
- 12 Feb** Fr. Benciolini and the Novice Fr. Vincent Vignola preached a very fruitful Mission at St. Peter of “Morubio”.
- 28 Feb** The *Trinità* became the Noviciate of the Congregation for the first time. There were 13 Novices: 4 priests, 7 students, 2 brothers. Fr. Lenotti was Novice Master – and Bro. Zanolli carried on a number of tasks.
- 11 Mar** Just before St. Joseph’s feast, Fr. Fedelini preached a week Retreat to the Fatebenefratelli, Verona.
- 14 Mar** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti preached a Mission at S. Nicolò, Verona.
- 17 Jun** Fr. Marani went to Stra to take Fr. Bragato’s place at the Imperial Court.¹⁰¹ Fr. Bragato went to Bologna to see Pius IX who was visiting there – Fr. Marani asked him to obtain some favours from the Pope: that the members of the Congregation might give the Papal Blessing at the close of their Missions; that they might be able to bless rosaries and the like with special indulgences – and also the favour that the members of the Congregation might say Mass one hour before dawn if there was a good reason.
- 30 Jun** Pius IX, in his own hand, signed Fr. Marani’s requests presented to him at Bologna on the 17th of June 1857.
- 2 Jul** Fr. Marani returned to Verona from Stra after a two week stay there.
- 3 Aug** A number of priests were leaving for the Missions in Africa and they came to the Stimate to make their Retreat before leaving, upon suggestion of Fr. Nicola Mazza. They were: Frs. John

¹⁰⁰ Fr. John Rigoni: born 22 March 1820, ordained before entering (seemingly on 22 September 1844), entered on 1 February 1857, death 2 April 1900.

¹⁰¹ From Stra, he went to Verona on 22 June and returned there on 23. (Cronaca Lenotti, p. 40-41).

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Beltrami, Daniel Comboni¹⁰², Alexander Del Bosco, Angelo Melotti and Francis Oliboni.

- 9 Aug** Fr. Marani was staying at the Derelitti to make more room at the Stimmate for the priests on retreat. Fr. Daniel Comboni, one of the retreatants, came to consult Fr. Marani. He seemed somewhat afraid of him but was encouraged by Fr. Benciolini. Fr. Marani put him at ease and was a great help to him – long years later, as Prefect Apostolic to Central Africa, Msgr. Comboni remembered this day.
- 12 Aug** The Missionaries concluded their Retreat at the Stimmate and were now set for Africa. These men made a deep impression on Fr. Lenotti.
- 18 Aug** Fr. Marani went to the Imperial Villa at Stra, until the 24 August. But he returned to Stra again on the 26 August.
- 5 Sep** Fr. Marani left the Imperial Villa at Stra.
- 10 Sep** Frs. Marani and Lenotti went to Avesa (VR) to preach a Mission. The Novice Fr. Rigoni also came. After the opening, Fr. Marani left.
- 11 Sep** Fr. Benciolini was summoned to help the Fathers at the Mission of Avesa. Fr. Rigoni preached the morning sermon – Fr. Lenotti preached an examen of conscience at about 5:30 p.m., and Fr. Benciolini delivered the evening reflection.
- 18 Sep** Fr. Marani returned to Avesa to help Frs. Lenotti and Rigoni the last two days of the Mission there.
- 20 Sep** The Mission at Avesa ended – as Frs. Marani, Rigoni and Lenotti left, they were accompanied by a military band, the ringing of Church bells – and fire crackers!
- 2 Oct** Fr. Marani took Fr. Bragato's place at the Imperial Palace at Stra so that Fr. Bragato might spend his annual vacation with the Students at Sezano. He stayed until 13 October.
- 3 Oct** Fr. Bragato went to Sezano. On this date, he blessed a statue.
- Nov** In November 1857, Fr. Marani, Superior General, and Fr. Vincenzo Vignola preached Spiritual Exercises to the 'Maddalene', Verona.

¹⁰² St. Daniel Comboni (1831-1881), served the Missions in Africa and became a Bishop and Vicar Apostolic of Central Africa. He founded the Congregation of the Missionaries of Africa and was proclaimed a Saint on 5 October 2003.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1858

- 28 Nov** Frs. Benciolini, Lenotti and Vincent Vignola left Verona to preach a Mission in Bovolone (20 km south of Verona).
- 30 Nov** Fr. Marani, Superior General, together with Fr. Rigoni joined the Mission at Bovolone.
- 7 Dec** Fr. Benciolini wrote that the Fathers heard Confessions at Bovolone from almost 4:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m.!
- 8 Dec** Perpetual Profession was made today by Bro. Joseph Realì.
- 16 Dec** Fr. Marani, assisted by Frs. Rigoni and Benciolini, preached the Christmas Novena at Grezzana, near Sezano, that began this night.

1858

- 14 Jan** Frs. Lenotti and Vincent Vignola started a Novena in honour of the Espousals at Garda. Due to intense cold, Fr. Sandrinelli, the Pastor, would allow only two sermons a day.
- 23 Jan** The Feast was celebrated much like last year – Bishop De Riccabona came for morning Mass and Msgr. Marchi, his vicar gave the evening Benediction. A life of Fr. Bertoni written by Fr. Giacobbe was distributed to the people. The novena at Garda preached by Frs. Lenotti and V. Vignola ended.
- 24 Jan** Fr. Sandrinelli, Pastor at Garda, wrote to Fr. Marani to thank him for the novena to the Espousals Frs. Vignola and Lenotti preached there. He said that he had been having great deal of trouble in his parish but that the atmosphere was much better since the Novena.
- 11 Feb** Frs. Marani and Benciolini went to Zevio to preach a Mission for young girls.
- 25 Feb** A Fr. Dal Bosco wrote to Fr. Marani from Khartum, Egypt. He said that he and his companions were still cherished by the happy memories of the Retreat that they had made at the Stimate the previous Summer. He said that Africa was vast and that there was much work for Catholic Missionaries there.
- 4 Mar** Frs. Lenotti and V. Vignola preached a Mission at Ara Coeli in Vicenza – Fr. Marani helped at some of the services. The Frs. visited the shrine at Monte Berico.
- 15 Mar** Frs. Lenotti and Vignola finished this morning their successful Mission at Ara Coeli in Vicenza.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1858

- 16 Mar** Having completed the Mission yesterday at Vicenza, Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., left this day for Caravaggio to look into the offer of the local Shrine to the congregation.
- 18 Mar** After returning from an inspection trip to Caravaggio, Fr. Marani and Frs. Benciolini, Lenotti and Rigoni went to Fossolovara (near Stra) to Preach a Mission.
- 29 Mar** A priest Novice, Fr. Bissoli, left the Congregation – the Chronicle said that he showed signs of being an excellent religious and was most exemplary.
- 7 Apr** Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., went to Rovereto to see about accepting a house in Sacco, just outside Rovereto. After some deliberation, Fr. Marani refused both Sacco and Caravaggio.
- 24 Apr** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti preached the annual retreat to the Seminarians at Vicenza.
- 2 May** Fr. Anthony Graziani, Rector of the Seminary of Vicenza, wrote to Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., to thank him for the retreat that Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti had just preached at the Seminary.
- 4 May** On this date, Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., wrote to Pope Pius IX and he sent the holy Father the life of Fr. Bertoni written by Fr. Giacobbe.
- 21 May** Frs. Marani, V. Vignola and Rigoni returned to Fossolovara where they had preached a Mission, to establish a Pious Union to combat Blasphemy.
- 25 May** Fr. Marani and Fr. V. Vignola went to Padua to arrange with the Bishop for a Mission at the Cathedral. They stayed overnight and returned to Verona the next day.
- 4 Jun** Frs. Lenotti and Benciolini went to Montorio to preach a Mission. When it was over, they travelled through many little villages of Valle di Tregnago for a number of Missions.
- 14 Jun** Fr. Marani at this time was ill – most of the Fathers were out, preaching extensively through the mountains: in Giazza, Campofontana, San Bartolomeo, Bolca, Castelnuovo, Vestena Vecchia e Nuova, preparing these parishes for the Bishop's visit.
- 28 Jun** Pius the IX wrote to Fr. Marani – he thanked him for the Life of Fr. Bertoni by Giacobbe. He expressed happiness on learning that "his" little Congregation had grown somewhat – The Pope sent his Apostolic Blessing to Fr. Marani and the Congregation.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1858

- 22 Jul** Frs. Lenotti, Rigoni, Benciolini and V. Vignola returned to the Stimmate after 39 straight days of preaching in little villages on the mountains, preparing for the Bishop's visitation. The last places where they preached were: S. Rocco di Piegara, Roveré di Velo, Tregnago, Cogollo, Badia, Selva di Progno, Mizzole, Pigozzo, Castagné, Trezzolano, Moruri, Canello and Salina.
- 26 Jul** Fr. Marani was anointed a second time as he was seriously ill with a fever.
- 29 Jul** From 29 July to 9 August 1858, Fr. Lenotti, Fr. Rigoni and Fr. Benciolini conducted a mission at the Cathedral in Padua that was attended by the Bishop and the Canons. The Bishop was most effusive in his thanks and appreciation.¹⁰³
- 20 Aug** The fathers began a Mission at Holy Cross Parish in Padua; the Capuchins had a House nearby, and were a great help in hearing Confessions.
- 1 Sep** The Mission at Holy Cross Parish in Padua ended – the Bishop asked Fr. Lenotti to preach in the Cathedral for the Jubilee services being conducted there.
- 11 Sep** Bishop Manfredi of Padua wrote to Fr. Marani to tell him that the work of his Diocese accomplished the previous months in two separate Missions by Frs. Lenotti, Benciolini and Rigoni was much appreciated. He asked Fr. Marani to tell the preachers of his undying gratitude.
- 24 Sep** Fr. Finazzi, Pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Padua, wrote to Fr. Marani to thank him for the fine work of Frs. Lenotti, Benciolini and Rigoni who had preached a Mission in his parish the previous month.
- Oct** On the occasion of the Jubilee Year, in the month of October 1958, the Ordinary of Treviso, Bishop Giovanni Antonio Farina, asked for two Priests for a Mission his Cathedral. Frs. Rigoni and Benciolini were assigned.
- 7 Nov** Fr. Lenotti, Novice Master, gave a Domestic Exhortation to the Novices, telling them to pray often for the Congregation that was suffering so much at that time. Fr. Marani, the Superior General,

¹⁰³ Cronaca Lenotti, p. 47.

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had been seriously ill; Fr. Brugnoli was dying and Brother Fortunato Marini¹⁰⁴ had just died at the age of 21.

- 10 Nov** Frs. Lenotti and Vincent Vignola began a Mission at Villa Lagarina, Trent.
- 19 Nov** Fr. Cajetan Brugnoli passed away on this day.
- 21 Nov** A Fr. Peter Slenzi, Pastor at Villa Lagarina, wrote to Fr. Marani and told him that Fr. Lenotti and Fr. Vincent Vignola were tireless Confessors in the Mission they had just completed in his Parish, and that they had won many sheep back into the fold.
- 30 Nov** Fr. Lenotti gave a Novena in preparation for the Immaculate Conception to the Novices. He asked them to pray that Fr. Marani, Superior General, soon be restored to health and that the Congregation might be blessed with more vocations.
- 26 Dec** A Fr. Achetti wrote to Fr. Marani to thank him for the wonderful Mission that Frs. Lenotti and Vincent Vignola had preached in his parish of St. Peter's in Cariano. Fr. Achetti wrote that the two Priests proved to be most assiduous and charitable Confessors in handling the long lines that came to them.

1859

- 20 Jan** On January 20 1859, Fr. Peter Vignola¹⁰⁵ entered (the brother of Fr. Vincent); he was the ex-Pastor of St. Firmus' Major.¹⁰⁶
- 23 Jan** Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., was sick in bed – an offer came to him of opening a house for the Congregation in Lessengrande, near Trieste; Fr. Marani however had to refuse it.
- 18 Mar** Holy Thursday – Fr. Marani celebrated the Mass in the Church of the Stimmate, first time in many months. He was no longer able to keep his busy preaching schedule as he did in his first years as Superior General.
- 16 May** Because of a war against Austria by Italy, which was aiming at annexing all Italian territories, there was a requisition of some

¹⁰⁴ St. Fortunato Marini: born 19 September 1837; profession 10 October 1858 (when the novitiate was not finished, granted as he was seriously sick); death 18 October 1858.

¹⁰⁵ Fr. Peter Vignola: born 21 January 1812. He entered, already a priest, on 20 January 1859. He would become the 3rd Superior General, elected on the 26 September 1875 and held this post for almost 16 years. Death 23 August 1891.

¹⁰⁶ Brief Cronaca, p. 94.

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religious building for military use. For this reason, the Sisters of Holy Family, on this date, were given a 48-hour notice to vacate St. Teresa's. During the same year, also the house of Derelitti was used by soldiers, until 1863.

- 1 Aug** The cleric Louis Salvi¹⁰⁷, who had entered some four months earlier, died as a Novice.
- 22 Sep** Fr. Marani appealed to Bishop De Riccabona, at this time Bishop of Verona, to declare null and void Fr. Bertoni's contract with the Sisters of the Holy Family for the perpetual use of St. Teresa's, as he said it was against Canon Law to have a female religious community so close to a male community – the Bishop, however, did not act.
- 2 Feb** Fr. Peter Vignola on 2 February was vested with the religious habit.¹⁰⁸
- 18 Oct** Fr. Marani had been invited by the Patriarch of Venice, Angelo Ramazzotti, to represent his Congregation at the 1st *Provincial Council*, which was held in Venice, at the Basilica of St. Mark, as from 18 October 1859. He took part to all sessions, together with Fr. Charles Fedelini¹⁰⁹.
- 21 Nov** Feast of the Presentation – Frs. Benciolini and Peter Vignola preached this day at Noventa, near Vicenza.
- 17 Dec** St. Teresa's Convent at this time had been used as a hospital. The government was then using it as a barracks for the soldiers. Fr. Marani was taking legal action to have them ousted.

1860

- 21 Jan** Fr. Venturini expressed the hope this day that God would call him home on the Feast of the Espousals.
- 23 Jan** Fr. Venturini promised obedience – even in teaching catechism. He was beginning to feel his years and felt that obedience was placing too much of a strain on him, but on this Feast of the Espousals, he promised continued effort.

¹⁰⁷ Stud. Novice Louis Salvi. Born 5 April 1841; entered 1859; death 1 August 1859.

¹⁰⁸ Brief Cronaca, p. 94.

¹⁰⁹ “*Dal convento...*”, p. 49. Cronaca Stimante, p. 50.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1860

- 24 Jan** Frs. Lenotti and Peter Vignola left for a Mission at Soave for teenagers.
- 2 Feb** The Mission at Soave preached by Frs. Lenotti and Peter Vignola was in full swing today. The first Mass was at 7:30 a.m. and there was a High Mass at 10:00 a.m. At 2:00 p.m. the boys assembled in one church of the town and the girls in another for services.
- 4 Feb** The Mass book at the Stimmate contains the names of Fr. Lenotti and Fr. Peter Vignola. They had returned from the Mission at Soave.
- 8 Feb** Fr. Anthony Sperti wrote to Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., and told him he hoped the Congregation would accept the offered parish of Rocco, in the Diocese of Belluno, and also the Orphanage. Fr. Sperti thanked Fr. Marani for his advice and that he would try in the future never to anticipate the will of God but would accept it when it was made known, as Fr. Bertoni had taught in his lifetime.
- 24 Feb** Beginning on the 24 February 1860, Fr. Lenotti and Fr. Peter Vignola conducted a retreat to the seminarians of Padua.¹¹⁰
- 4 Mar** The Bishop of Padua, Bishop Manfredini wrote to Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., to thank him for the fine Retreat just preached to the Seminarians there by Frs. Lenotti and Peter Vignola. The Rector of the Seminary, Fr. Lawrence Sartori, wrote in a similar vein.
- 5 Mar** A Fr. Cajetan Modena, Camillian, who had assisted in the confessions at the Retreat for the Seminarians, preached in Padua by Frs. Lenotti and Peter Vignola, wrote this day to Fr. Marani. He said that the older professors at the Seminary told him that it was the best Retreat they had had since the Jesuits preached 20 years earlier.
- 14 Mar** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti left Verona for the Mission at Noventa di Piave (VE). People came from as far as 20 miles around to make the Mission.
- 25 Mar** *Passion Sunday* – Frs. Benciolini, Lenotti and Vincent Vignola finished the strenuous Mission at Noventa di Piave.
- 21 May** Fr. Venturini received permission on this day to celebrate the same votive Mass daily in honour of the Blessed Virgin due to his eyesight.

¹¹⁰ Cronaca Lenotti, p. 55

HISTORICAL NOTES 1861

- 6 Jun** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti preached a Retreat to the Daughters of Mary.
- 30 Jun** *Saturday* – Fr. Charles Fedelini died at 9:00 a.m. this day dedicated to Mary – it was noted that he had been most devoted to her through life.
- 2 Jul** *Feast of the Visitation* – Fr. Charles Fedelini was laid to rest on this feast of the Blessed Mother.
- 29 Jul** A Month's Mind Mass was celebrated for Fr. Charles Fedelini at the Stimate – Fr. Giacobbe eulogized him as "the never to be forgotten Director of the Oratory".
- 25 Aug** Frs. Lenotti and Peter Vignola preached the Annual Retreat to the Clergy of the Diocese of Feltre (BL). After this, they then preached to the Clergy of the Diocese of Belluno. Bishop John Renier was most exuberant in his praise of the Fathers. Fr. Lenotti expressed the hope that Fr. Sperti's offer to the Congregation to come to Belluno would be accepted. [However, it was not. But the Fathers of the Congregation did serve the Diocese some 50 years later, by taking the direction of the Diocesan Seminary.]
- 29 Nov** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti prepared for the Mission at Saint Ambrogio (VR). In the ten years that he was Novice Master, Fr. Lenotti preached over 30 Missions – and about the same number of Retreats to Sisters and to the Clergy, as well as many other Retreats to various other groups.

1861

- 3 Jan** Frs. Lenotti and Rigoni celebrated Mass again this day at the Stimate. They had been at Soave with Fr. Benciolini for a Mission.
- 23 Jan** Bishop De Riccabona celebrated his last Espousals at the Stimate.
- 24 Jan** On the first anniversary of the Mission preached at Soave (VR), Frs. Rigoni and Benciolini returned there to establish a Pious Union to Combat Blasphemy – this was an early practice of the Congregation of that time.
- 14 Jun** Pius IX answered Fr. Marani's petition in the affirmative, allowing the members of the Congregation to be ordained with the canonical title "mensa communis".

HISTORICAL NOTES 1862

- 26 Jun** Bishop De Riccabona took over the see of Trent on the Feast of the Patron St. Vigilius, in the Cathedral dedicated to this Saint in Trent.
- 30 Sep** The transcript of school marks that Anthony Caucigh brought with him to the Congregation bore this date – in Latin he had received *cum laude*. [This is somewhat surprising, as later on, his Vestition would be delayed one month by Fr. Marani, Superior General, due to a rather poor showing in Latin – he was vested on 6 January 1865.]
- 29 Oct** Tuesday – Frs. Lenotti, Rigoni and Peter Vignola left Verona for the Mission in Vigasio (VR).
- 7 Nov** Anthony Caucigh was enrolled at the Seminary of Udine.
- 13 Dec** From 13 to 26 December 1861, the Stigmatines gave a Parish Mission in Galliera Veneta (PD), a place to where Fr. Bragato was going often from Stra (VE). The preachers were: Fr. Benciolini, Fr. Lenotti and Fr. Bassi. Also Fr. Marani went there, but he had to leave soon for Verona for health problems; he could join them again, though, for the last 6 days. Also a priest from Bassano helped them.

1862

- 23 Jan** Bishop Louis di Canossa (who would become a Cardinal in 1876) took over the Diocese of Verona as Bishop De Riccabona had been transferred to Trent.
- 23 Jan** Fr. Benciolini ceded the property Fr. Bertoni had left in his name, to the Congregation so that the Congregation would have some possessions and so that future members would be ordained with the title “*mensa communis*”.
- 24 Jan** The Fathers of the Congregation went to Lazise (VR, on the Garda Lake) to preach a Mission there. The parish was divided due to a long-standing disagreement between the local Pastor and the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament. One of the leaders of the organisation was a well-educated man, of about 35, “with a long, red beard.” He was adamant in his opposition. A Msgr. Turri, when consulted, has sided with the Pastor – It took quite long time to find a way for peace!
- 2 Feb** The Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, long at odds with the local Pastor at Lazise, had a meeting, in which some of their

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difficulties were ironed out. That evening the Missionaries from Verona preached on Mary, the Queen of Peace.

4 Feb The turbulent Mission at Lazise came to a close. The Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, now restored to the good graces of the local Pastor, took part in the final activities – as did a band from the neighbouring town of Bardolino. This town and Lazise had long been feuding – it seems peace was restored!

5 Mar *Ash Wednesday* – Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti returned to Galliera Veneta, to form a Pious Union to combat Blasphemy, to leave the visible memorial to the Mission they had preached there the previous December. Fr. Marani also went along to hear Confessions.

21 Jun Fr. Louis Bragato celebrated his “name day” at the Stimmate by assisting at the Profession of a young man also celebrating his name day – Louis Morando.

19 Aug Frs. Lenotti and Benciolini began two separate Retreats for the clergy of the Diocese of Udine. In these two Retreats they would preach to over 350 Priests, including Arch-Bishop Joseph Louis Trevisanato, Bishop of Udine, who had been named Patriarch of Venice and was spending his last days before moving to Venice.

26 Aug Monsignor Gaspardis¹¹¹ wrote to Fr. Marani and told him that Frs. Lenotti and Benciolini had made a lasting impression in Udine.

27 Aug The Diocesan Retreat ended at Udine – Fr. Benciolini told the Priests that they were all Ambassadors of Jesus Christ. He said that he had had the custom of going to chapel to recite the *Miserere* the last day of Retreats he preached, to ask pardon for faults he committed during the Retreat.

5 Sep The Fathers finished preaching the two Retreats at Udine. A Monsignor Frangipani wrote to Fr. Marani to tell him the wonderful work the Fathers had done at Udine.

6 Sep Anthony Caucigh entered the Stimmate, coming from Udine with Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti who had preached to the Diocesan Clergy.

8 Sep *Feast of the ‘Madonna del Popolo’* - celebrated in Verona with solemnity on the day of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

¹¹¹ Msgr. John Baptist Gaspardis was a friend of Fr. Bragato, whom he assisted in Praga for long periods.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1863

- 28 Sep** Canon Orlandi sent a letter of recommendation and stated that Anthony Caucigh's father had given his son permission to enter the Stimmate.
- 10 Oct** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti returned to Galliera Veneta, where they had preached a Mission, to establish a Pious Union to combat Blasphemy.
- 31 Oct** Frs. Benciolini and Bassi preached a successful Mission at Ala in the Tyrol.
- 4 Nov** The Novitiate was transferred from the Stimmate to the *Trinità* for the second time. Fr. Marani, Superior General, blessed the House that had been renovated. Fr. Vincent Vignola celebrated the Mass. The *Trinità* had been vacant for the past three years due to the work going on there. There were three Professed Students: Charles Zara¹¹², Francis Sogaro¹¹³ and Louis Morando [these last two would pass away as Consecrated Bishops]. There were four Novice Students: Andrew Sterza¹¹⁴, Joseph De Vai, Joseph Sembianti¹¹⁵ and one other. There were also several Brothers there: Bro. Zanolì, infirmarian and laundry; Bro. Nicora¹¹⁶, porter and tailor; Bro. Reali, cook. Among the Aspirants were Anthony Caucigh, Pius Gurisatti¹¹⁷ and James Marini¹¹⁸.

1863

¹¹² Fr. Charles Zara: born on 2 July 1843, ordained on 16 March 1867, died on 20 June 1883.

¹¹³ Bish. Francis Sogaro: as a priest, he would leave the Congregation in August 1874 because he felt called to be a Missionary. He became Bishop on 17 September 1885. He would become the successor of Daniele Comboni.

¹¹⁴ Fr. Andrew Sterza: born 4 May 1847, ordained 3 June 1871, death 26 January 1898.

¹¹⁵ Fr. Joseph Sembianti [unknown the birth] was in Novitiate on November 1862; ordin. 15 August 1865; he was given the title of *Apostolic Missionary* by Fr. Lenotti on 21 February 1873; General Councillor from 26 September 1875; opened a new house at Bassano on 1 February 1877; re-elected General Councillor on 6 February 1881; on 25 September 1890 permission was granted to him [and to Fr. Dominic Vicentini] to leave for the Foreign Missions. He later became Vicar General of the Scalabrini Fathers.

¹¹⁶ Bro. Anthony Nicora. Born 27 January 1835; entered 1860; prof. 1862; death 27 January 1921.

¹¹⁷ See footnote on 6 Jan 1965.

¹¹⁸ See footnote on 6 Jan 1965.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1864

- 6 Jan** Just after the Feast of the Epiphany, Frs. Benciolini and Bassi went to Alpo (VR) to preach a Mission and the forty Hours' Devotion.
- 13 May** The 2nd Centenary of the "Madonna of the Noviciate" at the *Trinità* – Fr. Vincent Vignola preached; the Fathers came up for dinner from the Stimmate, but Fr. Marani did not attend as he was ill.
- 17 May** Frs. Benciolini and Rigoni left for Rovereto (TN) to preach a Retreat there.
- 23 May** The Sisters of the Holy Family with their Lawyer, Canon Cadognola, drew up a new agreement with the government concerning the rent to be paid to them for the use of St. Teresa's. Fr. Benciolini thought this contract was very illegal, as the Sisters were not the owners of the Convent – he was!
- 21 Jun** Fr. Bragato again this year celebrated his "name day" at the Stimmate by vesting two young students – Lawrence Pizzini¹¹⁹ and Bartholomew Perazzani¹²⁰. Fr. Marani was too ill to conduct the service.
- 21 Sep** A Retreat to the priests of Trent was preached in September 1863, by Fr. Lenotti and Fr. Pietro Vignola.¹²¹
- 6 Oct** Frs. Benciolini and Bassi preached to the Tertiaries at San Bernardino's Parish in Verona.
- 30 Oct** The Sisters of the Holy Family rented the Convent of St. Teresa's to the government for use as a military barracks.
- 10 Dec** The Novitiate Chapel at the *Trinità* was finished on this day, and Bishop di Canossa celebrated Mass for the Novices.

1864

- 5 Jan** Frs. Benciolini, Lenotti, and Bassi began a mission at Barbarano, Vicenza. Despite the heavy snow and the cold wind, the mission went on well.
- 22 Jan** Fr. Spegorin, Pastor at Barbarano (Vicenza) wrote to Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., to thank him for the Missions of Frs. Benciolini, Lenotti

¹¹⁹ Fr. Lawrence Pizzini: born 16 June 1848, vested: 21 June 1863; profession: 21 June 1865; ordin. 29 March 1873; death: 12 August 1876.

¹²⁰ Fr. Bartholomew Perazzani: born 2 February 1849; vested: 21 June 1863; profession: 21 June 1865; ordin. 7 June 1873; death 6 February 1906.

¹²¹ Cronaca Lenotti, p. 75

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and Bassi had preached there. The Pastor said that, despite the inclemency of the weather, the attendance was good.

- 23 Jan** Bishop di Canossa came to the Stimate to celebrate the Espousals with the Community. Fr. Vignola noted that there were many rumours in Clerical circles concerning the poor relationship existing between the Bishop and Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen.
- 26 Feb** Fr. Innocent Venturini died at 9:00 a.m. He was eulogised by Fr. Joseph Venti in the paper “Cronaca Camilliana” – his death was sorely felt at the Stimate.
- 2 Mar** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti began a Mission at Rovereto (TN) in St. Mary’s Church. People came from the surrounding towns and confessions were heard every night until 11:30 p.m.
- 12 Mar** Francis Sogaro was ordained a Priest – he was a product of the schools at the Stimate and the Chronicle noted that his ordination made up somewhat for the death of Fr. Venturini a few weeks before. (He would one day be an Archbishop, after leaving the Congregation, and died as president of the Academy of Noble Ecclesiastics in Rome).
- 13 Mar** The Mission at St. Mary’s Church in Rovereto concluded. An estimated 5,000 flocked into the square for the Papal Blessing. Memorial cards of the Mission were distributed.
- 15 Mar** There was a dispute between Fr. Benciolini and the Sisters concerning St. Teresa’s Convent and its use. Bishop di Canossa (whose two sisters were Sisters of the Holy Family) took counsel with a lawyer, by the name of Alexander Zoppi, and sided with the Sisters.
- 20 Apr** Fr. Benciolini wrote to Bishop di Canossa telling him that he did not agree with Lawyer Zoppi’s opinion concerning the Sisters’ use of the Convent of St. Teresa’s as they did not own it. The Bishop, however, had agreed with Lawyer Zoppi’s defence of the Sisters. So candidly Benciolini told the Bishop that he had consulted a Canonist, Bishop Zanelli of Treviso and he wanted to know if he could take the Sisters to Court. The Bishop (di Canossa) said “No.”
- 6 May** Fr. Benciolini, “always obedient to Fr. Marani” wrote to Bishop di Canossa to ask if it would be all right if he appealed his case with the Sisters to the Holy See.
- 12 May** Fr. Benciolini had second thoughts about writing to the Holy See and going over the head of the Bishop. He wrote to Bishop Di

HISTORICAL NOTES 1864

Canossa before receiving an answer from his previous letter to see if a Diocesan Tribunal could be set up to handle the dispute.

- 13 May** Fr. Lenotti preached on this Commemoration of the “Madonna of the Noviciate” and said it was a memorable day for them, as the Noviciate was under the protection of the Mother of God.
- 15 May** *Pentecost Sunday* – just before Pentecost Frs. Benciolini and Bassi preached a retreat at the Seminary of Padua.
- 21 May** Bishop di Canossa answered Fr. Benciolini’s many letters and told him there would be no Tribunal to settle his dispute with the Sisters over their use of the Convent of St. Teresa’s and that he would have to send his plea to the Holy See.
- 4 Jun** This date marked the 50th Anniversary of Fr. Marani’s Ordination. But the actual celebration was postponed to the 12th June.
- 12 Jun** The Golden Jubilee of Fr. Marani’s Ordination was observed this day – Fr. Bragato came and assisted at the Solemn Mass (but he never mentioned that on the same year - 24 September - fell also his 50th anniversary). Maestro Gagliardi composed and conducted the music at the evening Academia. Count Fietta and his wife, the Countess, had a painting of Fr. Marani done: this painting is still retained – the Countess also presented Fr. Marani with a reliquary of St. Rose of Viterbo.
- 20 Jul** The study of St. Thomas by the Novices of the Congregation began this Wednesday (this practice was stopped when Fr. Lenotti became Sup. Gen. in 1871).
- 20 Aug** Fr. Benciolini presented his litigation with the Sisters of the Holy Family to the Holy See. It was then referred back to Bishop di Canossa, who had already sided with the Sisters. The Bishop wrote to Rome that he was surprised that the Fathers at the Stimmate were so insistent on their rights! In his view, the use of the *Terese* by the Municipality was a temporary matter.
- 31 Aug** The Way of The Cross was erected at the Novitiate at the *Trinità* by a Fr. Bernardino, OFM – it was a Wednesday.
- 21 Sep** Fr. Benciolini preached a Retreat to the “English Madames” at Rovereto (TN).
- 8 Dec** This was the original date chosen for Anthony Caucigh’s Vestition – it was delayed a month, though, at Fr. Marani’s direction, because of a rather poor showing he had made in Latin.

1865

In 1865 [no date was found], Fr. Lenotti and Fr. Pietro Vignola preached Spiritual Exercises to the Sisters of Charity, at St. Sylvester, Verona.

Sometimes in the year 1865, Fr. Marani took the decision of demolishing the small and dilapidated church of Santa Maria del Giglio, attached to Derelitti, and started to build a new one. The works were stopped because of the confiscation of the property by the Government in 1867. Fr. Lenotti would conclude the building in 1873.

6 Jan Anthony Caucigh was vested as a Novice. He was at this time 14 and half and had been with the Congregation for 2 years and four months. His novices companions were Lawrence Pizzini, Bartholomew Perazzani, Dominic Vicentini¹²², Pius Gurisatti¹²³, M. Lenaro¹²⁴, James Marini¹²⁵, A. Caresia¹²⁶, T. Vicentini¹²⁷, Richard Tabarelli¹²⁸, James Zadra¹²⁹, C. Nardelli¹³⁰, and Bellino Carrara¹³¹.

¹²² Fr. Dominic Vicentini [no news about his birth] was ordained about August 1871; he worked in Trent, Parma; on 25 September 1890 permission was granted to him [and to Fr. Joseph Sembianti] to leave for the Foreign Missions. He later became Superior General of the Scalabrini Fathers. And it is through Fr. Dominic that: *Tibagy è nostro! Tibagy is ours!* - the first foundation in Brazil (cf. 6 Dec 1910).

¹²³ Fr. Pio Gurisatti: born 22 April 1848; ordination 29 March 1873; Sup. Gen (*4th*) 24 September 1891 (*for a ten year term*); death 5 December 1921.

¹²⁴ M. Lenaro [No further information was found].

¹²⁵ Fr. James Marini: born 9 December 1849; ordination 29 March 1873; he has been Procurator General from 1880 to 1899; death 30 December 1925.

¹²⁶ Bro. Amadio Caresia. Born 7 January 1839; prof. 1866; death 26 January 1868.

¹²⁷ T. Vicentini [No further information was found].

¹²⁸ Fr. Richard Tabarelli: born on 22 February 1850, profession on 12 May 1867, ordained on 20 December 1873; named Consultor to the S. Congregation of Bishops and Regulars on 12 April 1882; appointed Postulator on 21 August 1899; death 11 October 1909.

¹²⁹ Bro. James Zadra. Born 19 August 1833; profess. 1867; he served in Parma and Bassano; death 23 December 1916.

¹³⁰ C. Nardeli [No further information was found].

¹³¹ Fr. Bellino Carrara: he was a novice in 1865; profess. 12 May 1867; ordin. 7 June 1873; left 20 June 1883 to join the Jesuits.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1865

- 6 Jan** Fr. Joseph Riolfati, Pastor and Dean at Riva (TN), wrote to Fr. Marani Sup. Gen., to thank him for the excellent Novena for Christmas preached by Frs. Lenotti, Bassi, and Peter Vignola. Fr. Riolfati said that in his 30 years in that Parish he had never seen anything that could compare with the work of these three.
- 17 Feb** Frs. Benciolini, Lenotti and Da Prato made a promise to St. Joseph that they would celebrate 100 Masses each annually in the Saint's honour that some day the Congregation might receive Papal approval. Fr. Marani had received the Decree of Praise ten years earlier but nothing seemed to happen since.
- 27 Feb** Frs. Lenotti, Benciolini and Da Prato petitioned Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., to renew negotiations with the Holy See to obtain Papal Approbation from the Holy See.
- 26 Feb** Frs. Lenotti and P. Vignola returned from a very short Mission at Gavello (Rovigo).
- 1 Mar** Frs. Benciolini and Bassi preached a Mission at Bottighe, Diocese of Adria, Venice.
- 9 May** Papal Bull of Beatification of a Jesuit Student, John Berchmans, always a favourite among the students of the Congregation.
- 28 May** The ceremony of the Beatification of John Berchmans took place in Rome on this day. Anthony Caucigh began to read his biography.
- 16 Jun** Bro. Horace Negro¹³², at the Stimate for a mere six years, died this day at the age of 31. He was described as a man of great humility, wisdom and prayer – his death deeply grieved the aging Superior General, Fr. Marani.
- 21 Jun** Lawrence Pizzini and Bartholomew Perazzani completed their two years of Novitiate and pronounced their First Vows.
- 27 Jul** “Change of the guard” – Fr. Da Prato became Novice Master.
- 25 Aug** Charles Zara became a Deacon – he had received almost all of his education at the Stimate.
- 18 Sep** Fr. Lenotti went to Udine to preach the Annual Retreat to a group of Sisters called the *Converted*. While he was there. Fr. Fecchia, Spiritual Director of the Handmaids of Charity, wrote to Fr.

¹³² Bro. Horace Negro. Born 3 October 1833; profess. 1861; death 16 June 1865.

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Marani to see if Fr. Lenotti would also give a Retreat to the Handmaids - Fr. Marani so arranged.

- 30 Sep** Fr. Marani, Superior General, wrote to the Provincial of the Camillian Fathers, Fr. Louis Artini, and dated his letter: 'The 10th Anniversary of our Canonical Erection' – he asked for Fr. Artini's prayers that he might rule the congregation according to the ideals of Fr. Bertoni.
- 17 Oct** Melchiade Vivari entered the Congregation – most of his life as a Priest he expressed the hope to go one day to the Foreign Missions, but this favour was never granted to him. He could only go to Lisbon [1899-1901], where he translated some books from German into Italian.
- 19 Oct** Fr. Fecchia, Spiritual Director of the Handmaids of Charity, who conducted the Hospital in Udine, wrote to Fr. Marani to thank him for sending Fr. Lenotti to preach the annual retreat to the Sisters there. He stated that the Sisters had expressed to him the hope that someday Fr. Lenotti would come back to preach to them as he had that summer.
- 24 Dec** *Sunday* – The Fathers of the Congregation preaching at Riva (TN), as the conclusion of the Mission, established a Union to oppose Blasphemy, as it was their custom at the end of the Missions they preached.

1866

- 11 Mar** Fr. Lenotti assisted by Frs. Benciolini and Rigoni, preached a novena in honour of St. Joseph
- 19 Mar** Fr. Rigoni preached the panegyric in the Church of St. Nicola in Verona, the central point in the City for devotions to St. Joseph. For the rest of the year one of the Fathers of the Congregation came to preach at this church on the 19th of each month at the devotions for a good Death.
- 20 Mar** The Novena over at the Church of St. Nicola in Verona, Fr. Lenotti resumed his evening services there, preaching every night in honour of Saint Joseph, until the end of the month.
- 28 Mar** Fr. Lenotti, at the Church of S. Nicholas in Verona, this night stated that St. Joseph was a model of Devotion to our Lord. This was *Wednesday in Holy Week*.

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- 29 Mar** *Holy Thursday* – Fr. Lenotti preached at St. Nicola’s on this night on St. Joseph as a ”Saint of Providence.”
- 30 Mar** *Good Friday* – Fr. Lenotti preached at St. Nicola’s in Verona on “Conformity to the Will of God.”
- 31 Mar** *Holy Saturday* – at the concluding service at St. Nicola’s in Verona of the March Devotions in honour of St. Joseph, Fr. Lenotti told his hearers that fidelity and constancy are the characteristics of those truly devoted to St. Joseph.
- 11 Jun** Bro. Paul Zanolì, first brother of the Congregation, died at the *Trinità* “at the hour of sunset and without fear.”
- 19 Jun** Fr. Lenotti preached at S. Nicholas in Verona at the devotions in honour of St. Joseph, as was done each month on the 19th, and told his listeners how much he enjoyed preaching the entire month there.
- 24 Jun** A very bloody battle of Custoza was fought this day at the gates of Verona – all Religious Communities were called upon to help with the wounded. Austria claimed a victory over the Italian fleet.
- 3 Jul** Italy and Prussia signed an alliance at Sadowa.
- 7 Jul** On this date a “Law of Suppression” by the Italian Government, aimed at Religious Orders, was passed – it made it legal to confiscate the property of Religious Orders and similar institutions.
- 10 Jul** The Jesuit Novices were being housed at the *Trinità* with the Novices of the Congregation as the government has already seized their Novitiate and property. On this date, Fr. Viscardini, S.J., their Novice Master, told them that they should be ready at any time to leave Verona.
- 12 Jul** The Jesuits left the *Trinità* early this day and set out for Bolzano.
- 20 Jul** Victory at Lissa on the Adriatic – Lutheran Prussia had defeated Austria, and Veneto was handed over to Napoleon III who handed it over to Victor Emmanuel II, King of Savoy, which had now become King of Italy.
- 4 Aug** *Saturday* – the Novice Anthony Caucigh took part in the regular Saturday afternoon recreations at the Noviciate – no one would suspect on this date that in one short week he would be dead.
- 6 Aug** *Monday – Feast of the Transfiguration*; Anthony Caucigh received Communion with the community. (Novices usually only received

on Sundays, but special permission had been granted for this Feast.) After dinner he told Fr. Da Prato that he had a head ache and was given permission to go to bed.

- 7 Aug** Anthony Caucigh's condition at the *Trinità* Novitiate seemed to be worsening.
- 8 Aug** Anthony Caucigh began to manifest alarming signs – on this day, his speech became confused.
- 9 Aug** Anthony Caucigh was visited by the doctor on this day who ordered a bleeding. The young Novice ranted and raved in his delirium about the Pope and his tormentors.
- 10 Aug** Anthony Caucigh sank still more – he was anointed and his delirium ceased. He spoke to the Brother Infirmarian who attended him day and night, and frequently mentioned the approaching Feast of the Assumption.
- 11 Aug** About 4:30 a.m., this Saturday morning, the Novice Anthony Caucigh died in the presence of Fr. Da Prato, his Novice Master for about two weeks, Fr. Lenotti, who had been his guide four years at the Stimate, and others.
- 14 Aug** The students of the Congregation, in various moments beginning from this day, left the *Trinità* and Verona and took up residence in Villazzano, in the Diocese of Trent¹³³. Bishop De Riccabona had offered the use of his summer home to the Congregation for its students. The community was comprising of Fr. Lenotti, Fr. Vincent Vignola and Fr. Richard Da Prato, Novice Master.¹³⁴
- 17 Aug** A group of students of the Congregation left Verona for Trent.

¹³³ Fr. Marani had accepted the offer of the Bishop of Trent, Benedict De Riccabona, who had open to the students of the Stimate his holidays estate in Villazzano (about 3 km south of Trent). At that time, Trent was still under Austrian Government, which was open to Catholic religious activities. All students were transferred there in order to keep them safe from dangers in this time of conflicts, and the annexion of Veneto to the new Italian Government (it was well known that the Italian Government was much opposed to religious Congregations and any religious sodality). The students were assisted by the generosity of the Emperess Maria Anna for their up-keeping. See "*Albero rigoglioso...*", p. 70.

¹³⁴ Since the house in Villazzano was not immediately ready, the students remained few days in a students' boarding, run by Fr. Bernardo Fusari, "until the feast of St. Bartholomew", the 24 August.

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- 18 Aug** Fr. Lenotti arrived at Villazzano with a group of students. They worked hard to prepare the Bishop's summer home for the rest of the community.
- 19 Aug** One of the Brothers accompanied some of the students from Verona to Trent.
- 19 Sep** Fr. Marani visited Villazzano, but returned within the week to Verona on pressing business – there was a revolt going on in Palermo (which was attributed to clergy and religious, and brought uneasiness to religious activities in the whole of Italy).
- 21 Sep** The revolt in Palermo ended.
- 4 Oct** This is the date of Fr. Vincent Vignola's Biography of Anthony Caucigh.
- 16 Oct** Italian troops entered Verona after the defeat of Austria – they hung flags from the Stimate, the *Derelitti*, and from St. Teresa's.
- 19 Oct** Fr. Marani, Superior General, made a quick visit to Villazzano to be with the Students who had gone there from Verona 'in exile' from the menacing government.
- 22 Oct** Fr. Richard Da Prato, Novice Master, arrived at Villazzano with the last of the Students.
- 25 Oct** At 9:45 a.m., three Carabineers came to the Stimate with a search warrant seeking to obtain incriminating evidence against the Jesuits, as the government considered them to be an international spy organization. With the prospect of sudden searches at the Stimate, Fr. Marani about this time burned a number of supposedly suspicious papers, that had been kept for many years in the Archives at the Stimate. Among them, the very precious letters that Fr. Bertoni had sent to Fr. Bragato (in Austria): Fr. Bragato had kept them for a while, then he entrusted them to the Congregation. Fr. Rigoni managed to save some of them, very rich in content, witnessing how big was the loss of most of them.
- 4 Nov** This was the Golden Jubilee of the Congregation. It was the first Sunday of November. The day was celebrated both at the Stimate and at Villazzano, Trent, where the Students of the Congregation were living 'in exile.'
- 3 Dec** The Municipal Council of Verona changed the name of the street from "*via Stimate*" to "*via Carlo Montanari*" (named after a patriot of Belfiore, whose house was situated in the same street).

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- 15 Dec** Fr. Marani had ordered Fr. Vincent Vignola to prepare a newsletter containing information on the events of interest within the Congregation that was divided for the first time. The newsletter was a forerunner of the modern *BERTONIANO* and was entitled: *Il Nuovo Messaggero Tirolese*.

1867

- 12 Jan** Fr. Vincent Vignola in a letter dated this day stated that his classes at St. Francis Xavier Church, near the Seminary of Trent, were going very well.
- 26 Feb** A very promising young Novice in his second year of Noviciate, Joseph Nardelli, left the Congregation this day. His leaving was a great disappointment to the confreres.
- 27 Feb** Fr. Lenotti said a Votive Mass in honour of St Joseph that more vocations be sent to the struggling Congregation.
- 16 Mar** Charles Zara was ordained a Priest (he had been a deacon since August 1865).
- 31 Mar** *4th Sunday of Lent* – Fr. Lenotti preached a three-day Retreat in the Church of the Holy Trinity to high school students.
- 1 Apr** *Monday* – Fr. Lenotti preached two sermons to the high school students on Retreat.
- 2 Apr** Fr. Lenotti preached only one sermon today for the young students on Retreat so that the rest to the day could be left free for Confessions.
- 3 Apr** The Student's retreat ended at the Holy Trinity today – Fr. Lenotti complimented the young boys on their attention and recollection.
- 4 Apr** Fr. Marani left the Student House for the troubled Verona.
- 10 Apr** The Royal Office of Finance decreed that St. Teresa's Convent was the rightful property of Fr. Benciolini. This was an important step in the case with the Sisters of the Holy Family, but opened another problem, because now the *Terese* became part of the properties that the Government would confiscate in October 1867 (Stimmate, *Trinità* and *Derelitti*) – and would be returned in May 1873.
- 15 Apr** *Holy Week* – Fr. Vincent Vignola preached the Instructions and Fr. Lenotti preached the Meditations to the Community at Villazzano.

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- 19 Apr** Fr. Vincent Vignola wrote in the “Nuovo Messaggero Tirolese” that Fr. Lenotti had purchased the Jesuit Tengiorgia’s work on philosophy. Fr. Tabarelli had studied this author in his student days at Villazzano.
- 20 Apr** *Holy Saturday* – Fr. Lenotti who was preaching to the Community at Villazzano during their annual retreat stated that Apostolic Missionaries are soldiers who are to follow Christ until death. In battle, we need resolution and sustenance – for us this means Holy Communion.
- 21 Apr** *Easter Sunday* celebrated with solemnity at Villazzano.
- 22 Apr** This was the 33rd anniversary of Fr. Lenotti’s entrance. In accord with the customs of those times, Fr. Lenotti wrote a letter to the Superior General, who was then Fr. Marani. He candidly admitted to his Superior that he was having great difficulty in obeying him. Almost every year for ten years, one of Fr. Lenotti’s resolutions at the annual retreat was to “obey” not “contradict” and the like.
- 9 May** Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., came to Villazzano for the Feast of the patronage of St. Joseph. There was a triduum preceding the Feast, preached by the Novices.
- 12 May** Feast of the Patronage of St Joseph – Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., at Villazzano received the First Vows of Richard Tabarelli and Bellino Carrara. The students presented Fr. Marani with a cricket, which he would lose on his return trip to “Italy”, that is Verona.
- 13 May** *Monday* – Fr. Marani left Villazzano for Verona, refreshed as always, after a stay with the students.
- 5 Jun** Fr. Lenotti preached at the Seminary of Trent on the occasion of establishing there a Congregation of Prayer to the Sacred Heart for the priests of the Diocese.
- 7 Jun** Bishop De Riccabona took part in the closing ceremonies at the Seminary of Trent for the erection of a Congregation of Prayer for the priests of the Diocese.
- 14 Jun** Fr. Rigoni was in Florence¹³⁵ and he wrote on this date saying that the difficulties with St. Teresa’s will soon be over – by the following August this would prove to be an illusion¹³⁶.

¹³⁵ Florence, at that time, was the temporary Capital City of the Kingdom of Italy.

¹³⁶ New problems would involve all the properties, not only this one: see 27 Aug 1867.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1867

- 20 Jun** *Feast of Corpus Christi* – Fr. Marani left Verona for Villazzano to celebrate the Feast with the students; Fr. Lenotti gave a brilliant discourse. In Verona on this day, a sacrilege was committed against the Blessed Sacrament that seemed to portend an unhappy future for the Church in Verona. As the procession went through the Piazza dei Signori, it was broken up by a band of ruffians and the Blessed Sacrament was locked in a nearby Church.
- 24 Jun** Bishop di Canossa issued a strong protest against the sacrilege committed in Piazza dei Signori few days earlier in the attack on the procession of the Blessed Sacrament. He also issued new restrictions for external manifestations of the faith in the future.
- 15 Aug** The examinations were concluded so Fr. Marani left for Verona.
- 16 Aug** Fr. Marani was back in Verona and stated how happy he was that none of the students at Villazzano had failed their examinations.
- 27 Aug** The members at the Stimate were told on this date that force would be used if anyone resisted the confiscation of the property. An inspection entered the premises and some room were sealed. The following day they would do the same at the *Trinità* and *Derelitti*.¹³⁷
- 28 Aug** Fr. Rigoni left again for Florence to plead the case of the Congregation losing its property.
- 1 Sep** A lawyer from Florence, Alexander Malenchini, was very impressed with Fr. Benciolini's arguments: that the Congregation was not at that time a religious congregation, and so the 'Law of Suppression' could not be legally applied; and that the property was in his name, and not that of the Congregation. Malenchini expressed the opinion that the government could never legally seize the Stimate.
- 3 Sep** Fr. Marani wrote to Fr. Rigoni in Florence and said that he was sorry that he (Fr. Rigoni) had to carry out such exhausting labour for the Congregation.
- 6 Sep** Fr. Marani wrote to the Prior of the House in Florence that had extended hospitality to Fr. Rigoni during his stay there, to offer thanks.
- 8 Sep** Fr. Rigoni wrote from Florence to Verona – his efforts there seemed fruitless in all the legal intricacies he was trying to unravel.

¹³⁷ "*Albero rigoglioso...*", p. 71.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1867

- 10 Sep** Fr. Marani dictated a letter to Fr. Rigoni that was written by Fr. Benciolini. He told of the search of the Stimate by the Agent Vanzetti – this Agent told them that the head of his department, a man by the name of Canton, was proceeding with great caution until the papers of confiscation were ready. Fr. Marani told Fr. Rigoni to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis' Stigmata with the Community in Florence just as it was always celebrated at the Stimate.
- 16 Sep** Fr. Marani argued at some length with a Finance Official, by the name of Canton, concerning the imminent confiscation of the Stimate.
- 4 Oct** Fr. Marani, Superior General, received the first eviction notice at the Stimate; the same applied to the *Trinità* and *Derehitti*. It was to be effective within 15 days.
- 5 Oct** Fr. Marani, the day after he received the eviction notice at the Stimate, went up to the Student House 'in exile' in Villazzano, Trent to tell the Students about it. Despite all the difficulties for the Congregation, it proved to be a happy day for all.
- 9 Oct** Fr. Marani wrote to Fr. Rigoni, Procurator General, who was in Florence trying to save the property from confiscation by the government. Fr. Marani dated his letter: "*The 90th Birthday of Fr. Gaspar*".
- 11 Oct** Fr. Marani, Superior General, was painfully ill once again – at this time, there were only 6 more days until the eviction notice from the Stimate was to be effective.
- 13 Oct** *2nd Sunday of October, Feast of the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.* Fr. Benciolini wrote to Fr. Rigoni at Florence to tell him of Fr. Marani's relapse.
- 19 Oct** The eviction order that Fr. Marani had received at the Stimate 15 days earlier was due to be effective this date, but it was postponed 10 more days, perhaps because of Fr. Marani's poor health.
- 25 Oct** Fr. Marani wrote to Fr. Rigoni in Florence telling him that their eviction from the Stimate was imminent. Fr. Marani as yet had not found a place to live.
- 28 Oct** Fr. Marani wrote to Fr. Rigoni in Florence and told him that on the morrow all the members of the Congregation would be evicted from the Stimate.

- 29 Oct** The ‘Darkest Hour’ for the Congregation – the men were evicted from the House of the Stimate. It was almost 51 years to the day that Fr. Marani first came there with Fr. Bertoni and Bro. Paul Zanolì. They were allowed to have the Church, a four rooms upstairs and the kitchen downstairs. Fr. Marani went to live with a widowed niece, a Mrs. Massalongo – and he never came back to the Stimate, dying ‘in exile’ on 1 July 1871.¹³⁸

1868

- 9 Jan** Fr. Rigoni wrote from Florence to the Fathers at the Stimate to inform them of his efforts in reversing the government’s confiscation of the Congregation’s property (his efforts were in vain however).
- 11 Jan** Fr. Benciolini wrote to Fr. Rigoni at Florence to encourage him in his efforts to get back the property for the Congregation. He told Fr. Rigoni that the Fathers at the Stimate were praying to St. Ivo, the patron of lawyers, for his success.
- 13 Jan** Bro. Amadio Caresia came down with high fever.
- 14 Jan** Fr. Benciolini wrote again to Fr. Rigoni at Florence. He told him that the fathers at the Stimate were beginning that night the Novena for the Espousals and that they were saying special prayers before meals to Mary and Joseph for his success.
- 15 Jan** Fr. Rigoni wrote a letter back from Florence giving details of his life and struggles there for the Congregation.
- 17 Jan** Fr. Rigoni wrote again from Florence informing the Fathers and Brothers at the Stimate in Verona the difficulties he had in his fruitless efforts to win back the confiscated property.
- 20 Jan** Fr. Benciolini wrote from the Stimate to Fr. Rigoni to encourage him. He told him the news from the Stimate, which at this time,

¹³⁸ “*Albero rigoglioso...*”, p.71-72, reports, from *Cronaca Stimate*, the distribution of personnel during the requisition of the properties (few persons were allowed to remain where a church would need care): “*Stimate*: Frs. Bassi, Pietro Vignola, Rigoni, the student Vicentini and Bros. Reali, Rigoni, Raffaelli; *Dereìtiti*: Frs. Benciolini, Sogaro and Bros. Nicora and Amadio Caresia; *Casa Pozza*: Frs. Marchesini and Zara, the students Lanaro, Morando, and Bros. Falzi and Creazzi; *Casa Massalongo*: Frs. Marani, Sembianti and Bro. Luigi Ferrari. (*Casa Massalongo* was in *via Giardino Giusti*, 29, in the parish of St. Nazaro, whose Parish Priest was Fr. Zefirino Agostini [Beatified on 25 October 1998], Founder of the Orsoline Sisters Daughters of Immaculate Mary).”

HISTORICAL NOTES 1868

was not good. Fr. Marani Sup. Gen., is still in bed; Brother Caresia had been “bled” three times by the doctor but his fever persisted.

- 23 Jan** This was a rather subdued celebration at the Stimate this year as the Congregation had been expelled from their property at the Stimate. They were allowed a few rooms and a kitchen there, but most of the Community was “in exile.” Fr. Marani, living with his niece, Mrs Massalongo, could not come because of illness. Fr. Bassi, superior at the Stimate gave an exhortation to the assembled group and told them that the hard days the Congregation was experiencing was no excuse for them not to live vocations ‘to the hilt’.
- 25 Jan** The House Chronicle reads for this date that the Espousals was over for another year – and added that “Bro. Caresia’s condition was much worse”. He would die the following day at *Derelitti*.
- 29 Jan** *Feast of St Francis de Sales* – Fr. Benciolini wrote from the house of the Derelitti to Fr. Rigoni in Florence to tell him of Bro. Caresia’s death. He stated that the good Brother was only sick a few days and accepted everything with patience.
- 1 Feb** *Vigil of the Purification* – Fr. Marani, Superior General, went to Villazzano to be with the students for one week.
- 3 Feb** *Feast of St. Blaise*. Fr. Benciolini wrote to encourage Fr. Rigoni at Florence. He told him that they were in the month of “Mary’s Sorrows” and that she was the Advocate who would help him in the legal struggles he was having.
- 8 Feb** Fr. Marani returned to Verona after a restful week at Villazzano with the Students.
- 19 Feb** Fr. Rigoni wrote from Florence again to tell of his lack of progress in the attempt to regain the confiscated property.
- 23 Feb** Fr. Benciolini wrote to Fr. Rigoni in Florence and cautioned him not to have too many lawyers handle their case for as many lawyers as there are there will be that many opinions.
- 2 Mar** The Name of Alexander Brasca, Catholic Lawyer from Milan, came to the attention of the Congregation for his work in winning cases for religious orders whose property had been confiscated by the government. The morale at the Derelitti was at low ebb, wrote Fr. Benciolini, as his claim of ownership of the Stimate was denied by a court in Venice.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1868

- 8 Mar** Fr. Benciolini wrote to Fr. Rigoni telling him to use his good judgement concerning the celebration of the feast of St. John of God. He was the Patron saint of the Religious Community with whom Fr. Rigoni was living in Florence and he had written to Fr. Benciolini concerning what he should do for the Community that had extended its hospitality to him.
- 22 Mar** Fr. Marani Sup. Gen. came to Villazzano with the intention of staying only a few days. However he became ill here and stayed almost an entire month in bed.
- 1 Apr** Frs. Lenotti and Vincent Vignola preached a three-day retreat to the students under Fr. Fusari's care – he was in charge of a Diocesan Boarding School in Trent.
- 5 Apr** *Palm Sunday* – Holy Week services began at Villazzano. Frs. Lenotti, Vincent Vignola preached a Retreat to the Community there; Fr. Marani was sick in bed.
- 12 Apr** *Easter Sunday* – Fr. Marani had spent the whole week in bed at Villazzano; Frs. Lenotti and Vincent Vignola concluded the retreat to the Community.
- 19 Apr** *Low Sunday* – Fr. Marani still sick, at Villazzano.
- 21 Apr** *Tuesday* – an old friend of the Congregation visited Villazzano this day, Bishop Benedict De Riccabona. Villazzano was his summer residence, which he loaned to the Congregation for six years for a Student House.
- 22 Apr** The Count and Countess Fietta, old friends, came to Villazzano to visit the ailing Fr. Marani.
- 24 Apr** On this day Fr. Marani could depart from Villazzano, travelling with the Counts Fietta and Fr. Joseph Marchesini.
- 1 May** Fr. Marani Sup. Gen., wrote to the Holy See explaining that the Congregation would no longer ordain its members with the title “Mensa Communis” since the confiscation of the property but asked if he could still ordain them if he would make sure that they could be provided for in decency.
- 4 May** This was the date of Fr. Benciolini's appeal before the civil Tribunal of Florence – he made it clear that he did not want both lawyers (Malenchini and Galeotti) and suggested to Fr. Rigoni that lawyer Malenchini only be retained for consultation.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1869

- 5 Sep** Fr. Marani visited Villazzano for the first time since the previous April. A Passport was issued to Fr. Marani that bore this date – it was good for travel in France, Austria, Germany and the Papal States, with one ‘Louis Ferrari, age 44.’ It described Fr. Marani as ‘tall, dark brown hair, sprinkled with grey, dark brown eyes, and a grey beard.’
- 17 Sep** Fr. Marani returned from Villazzano after 12 days there.
- 29 Sep** Fr. Marani, Superior General, wrote from Verona to Villazzano to the Novice Master, Fr. Da Prato. He said that he had noted during his recent visit in Villazzano a lack of respect among the students for one another. He said that if a student does not have respect for a fellow student, then he can neither be charitable, nor humble. In correcting students, Fr. Marani suggested that the first correction be slight – the second, or third failure, should be met with a little stronger penance – if a fault is public, so should the penance be public.
- 7 Oct** Fr. Lenotti preached the annual retreat for the Madames at Rovereto.
- 30 Dec** Fr. Marani, Superior General, visited the Student House at Villazzano – he brought with him an ordained Deacon from Pergine, Trent – Stephen Oss Bals¹³⁹ – who had already begun his Novitiate in Verona, and who would continue it at Villazzano.

1869

- 1 Jan** Fr. Lenotti preached a domestic exhortation. In it he said that Christ shed His Blood on three occasions before His crucifixion: the Circumcision, in Gethsemane and at the Scourging. We can shed our “blood” as Religious, 1st in accepting Superiors’ corrections; 2nd, by performing penances ourselves; 3rd, by accepting the opposition of those who may be our enemies.
- 10 Jan** The Novice, Stephen Oss Bals, who entered the Congregation as Deacon, was ordained in Trent by Bishop De Riccabona.
- 13 Jan** Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., left Villazzano with the newly ordained Fr. Stephen Oss Bals. Fr. Oss Bals had to leave the Congregation due

¹³⁹ Fr. Stephen Oss Bals: Novice (already a Deacon) in December 1868; ordained on 10 January 1869; soon after the ordination he had to leave the Congregation (13 January 1869!).

HISTORICAL NOTES 1869

to some unexplained threatening from Freemasonry. He had to leave his native Diocese of Trent and was stationed at Angiari, Verona.

- 1 Apr** Frs. Marani, Benciolini and Bassi sent a letter to Pius IX and gave a description of their life at the time. They were getting along financially by means of their Ministry and everything was in common.
- 5 Apr** Fr. Marani Sup. Gen., came to Villazzano to stay with the Students for a while.
- 20 Apr** Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., had been preaching a Triduum to the Students at Villazzano when an urgent business called him away to Verona. He told Andrew Sterza, soon to be ordained to finish the retreat for him.
- 16 Jun** Fr. Marani wrote to Fr. Rigoni who had gone to Milan to consult a lawyer concerning the property. He told Fr. Rigoni to explain the case well to the lawyer; he said that both he and Fr. Bassi were grateful to Fr. Rigoni for his two letters.
- 6 Jul** Fr. Marani, Sup. Gen., visited Villazzano – it was noted that he was in fairly good health.
- 10 Jul** Fr. Marani returned to Verona from Villazzano.
- 28 Jul** Frs. Lenotti and Vincent Vignola went to preach a Mission in San Zeno in Val di Non, Trent.
- 7 Aug** The Holy See granted permission to the Congregation to ordain some of its members this year without the canonical title of “mensa communis”.
- 9 Aug** Fr. Marani, a tired, old man of 79, wrote for permission to have the Blessed Sacrament reserved in his house of exile, the home of his widowed niece, Mrs. Massalongo.
- 13 Aug** Fr. Marani made another trip from Verona to Villazzano – these trips were becoming increasingly more difficult for him. Fr. Da Prato on this same day had to make a trip to Verona on business.
- 5 Sep** The Bishop of Trent ordained four young men of the Congregation as Sub-Deacons: Morando, Vicentini, Sterza and Lanaro.
- 22 Sep** Frs. Lenotti and Vincent Vignola left for a Mission in Baselga di Calavino (TN).
- 30 Nov** Louis Morando was ordained a Priest this day - he would die as Archbishop of Brindisi.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1870

1870

- 22 Jan** Frs. Lenotti and Vincent Vignola began a Mission at Mezzotedesco (now Mezzocorona), TN.
- 2 Feb** The Mission at Mezzotedesco came to a close. This is the last Mission Fr. Lenotti recorded in his Chronicle.
- 5 Mar** Fr. Lenotti left Villazzano for Verona – he intended to bring back with him the ailing Fr. Marani Sup. Gen., as the Superior always found happiness among the young students who represented for him the hopes of the future.
- 16 Mar** Fr. Lenotti left Verona to return to Villazzano without Fr. Marani who was ill, and the weather was too cold for him to make the trip.
- 28 Apr** Fr. Peter Vignola had been ordered by the Superior General, Fr. Marani to preach a triduum for the Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph, on the 5th Sunday after Easter that year. At the last moment Fr. Marani cancelled the triduum – Fr. Vignola humbly obliged, but he found it difficult.
- 2 May** Fr. Marani seriously ill in Verona, sent to Villazzano for Fr. Da Prato, Novice Master, to come and see him
- 7 May** Fr. Da Prato, after spending some days with Fr. Marani in Verona, left to return to the Novices at Villazzano.
- 20 Jul** The Court of Appeals at Lucca handed down a decision that was not too favourable to the Congregation in its quest to have its property returned. Fr. Lenotti stated that the legal battle would go on.
- 13 Aug** Fr. Marani, the Sup. Gen., got very sick and was anointed. After some weeks, though, he would recover.
- 16 Aug** Word was received at Villazzano that Fr. Marani was anointed. Frs. Lenotti and Da Prato left immediately for Verona. Fr. Da Prato stayed with Fr. Marani until his death, nearly 11 months later – Fr. Lenotti filled in at Villazzano as Novice Master, a post he had held earlier, from Sept. 1855 – July 1865.
- 6 Sep** Fr. Lenotti returned to Villazzano with the news that the Superior General, Fr. Marani, was out of danger, but that the doctor was concerned with his loss of weight and, of course, his age.
- 20 Sep** By this date, the temporal power of the Pope had been completely over-thrown.

1871

- 4 Jan** Fr. Bragato wrote to Fr. Lenotti and assured him he would send some money for the Student house in exile at Villazzano. Fr. Bragato was most apologetic in this letter for not having as much money as previously. Fr. Marani, Superior General, was ill at this time – they were about the same age but from the tone of Fr. Bragato’s letter, it is very clear that he considers Fr. Marani as a “Father.”
- 4 May** Fr. Bragato wrote to Fr. Lenotti, as Fr. Marani was near death. Fr. Bragato said that he would do his best to send money but that it would no longer come “in streams” as it did before, for the students of Villazzano.
- 15 May** Fr. Lenotti left Villazzano to visit Fr. Marani in Verona to speak about a Novice who seems to have nerve troubles. Fr. Marani although dying, was still governing the Congregation.
- 15 May** The Bishop of Parma offered the Congregation St. Mary’s Church for their Marian Oratories.
- 16 May** Fr. Lenotti returned to Villazzano after speaking with Fr. Marani about the problems of one of the Novices.
- 20 May** Fr. Da Prato at Fr. Marani’s bedside wrote to the community at Villazzano asking for prayers to the Holy Spouses, that Fr. Marani might be spared from such suffering.
- 28 May** This day marks the last entry in Fr. Lenotti’s Chronicle. He was appointed Chronicler at the death of Fr. Bertoni and for these 18 years he gave a most exact account of the Congregation and the Missions it preached and the difficulties and good days that it had.
- 3 Jun** Andrew Sterza and Michael Lanaro¹⁴⁰ were ordained Priests.
- 1 Jul** Sunday – Fr. John Mary Marani, Sup. Gen., died this day in the home of his niece, Mrs. Massalongo. It was about 2:30pm – he was 81 years old, 1 month and 27 days. His slogan as General had been “Parati ad omnia”. He died “in exile”, after the government had confiscated the property.

¹⁴⁰ Fr. Michael Lanaro. ordin. 3 June 1871; he appears again in the chronicles in few occasions; in 1875 he was reported having some health problems; after which his name disappears...

HISTORICAL NOTES 1871

- 3 Jul** Fr. Marani's funeral was held at 7:00 am this Tuesday morning. The revered body was carried out of the Massalongo home for services and then laid to rest in the cemetery. After the funeral, the first session of the *1st General Chapter* was held in the Massalongo home. The motion to choose a permanent Superior General was rejected 12 - 1. A Committee was chosen to add an Appendix to Part XII of Fr. Bertoni's Constitutions; the members were: Frs. Rigoni (President), Fr. Lenotti and Fr. Bassi.
- 4 Jul** The second session of the *1st General Chapter* moved to the Stimate from the Massalongo house. The proceeding lasted for two days. Fr. Vincent Vignola was assigned the task of informing Frs. Lanaro, Morando and Sterza (all three had voted for Fr. Da Prato) that **Fr. Lenotti** had been chosen **temporary Superior**. Fr. Da Prato was elected 2nd Councillor, Fr. Rigoni 3rd Councillor, Fr. Peter Vignola was 4th Councillor.
- 5 Jul** Concluding session of the *1st General Chapter* – Fr. Rigoni was chosen as Economus but was hesitant to accept; finally, he did. Fr. Benciolini was retained as Vicar General.
- 6 Jul** Fr. Da Prato, who had assisted Fr. Marani for almost 11 months, returned to his Novices at Villazzano. Fr. Lenotti had substituted him in those months.
- 9 Jul** Fr. Lenotti, elected temporary Superior General, wrote to the Students at Villazzano to ask for their prayers – he told them that the Congregation was divided in body but not in spirit.
- 18 Jul** A moving eulogy on Fr. Marani appeared in this day's edition of the "Veneto Cattolico".
- 25 Jul** Fr. Lenotti went to Villazzano for four days' vacation with the students of the Congregation.
- 29 Jul** Fr. Lenotti returned to Verona from Villazzano.
- 3 Sep** The three members of the Capitular Commission: Frs. Rigoni, Lenotti and Peter Vignola – went out to Villazzano for their last meeting before the 2nd General Chapter was to convene.
- 6 Sep** The Capitular Commission [Frs. Rigoni, Lenotti, and Peter Vignola] preparing the *Appendix to Part XII* of Fr. Bertoni's *Original Constitutions*, left Villazzano for Verona, after three days of meetings.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1871

- 8 Sep** Fr. Lenotti sent out word that the 2nd General Chapter would convene in three days – every Priest of the Congregation would attend it, even Fr. Dominic Vicentini, ordained but a month.
- 11 Sep** The 2nd *General Chapter* convened at the Stimate – 16 Capitulars were present [the only Priest absent was Fr. Bragato] to pass judgment on the *Appendix to Part XII of the Original Constitutions*, prepared by the Capitular Commission [Frs. Rigoni, Lenotti, Peter Vignola], chosen by the 1st General Chapter [July 1871]. It was decided at this Chapter that only *Apostolic Missionaries* could wield any authority in the Congregation – during Fr. Marani’s administration, none was appointed.
- 13 Sep** Fr. Lenotti was confirmed as temporary Superior General until the subsequent Feast of the Espousals. The 2nd General Chapter adjourned on this date.
- 24 Sep** Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, sent out a notice that the 3rd General Chapter would convene at the Stimate on October 4, 1871.
- 4 Oct** The 3rd *General Chapter* convened at the Stimate – there were 10 Capitulars present.
- 5 Oct** The 10 Capitulars attending the 3rd General Chapter spent the day in quiet prayer on the choice to be made on the morrow for the successor of the deceased Fr. Marani.
- 6 Oct** **Fr. John Baptist Lenotti** was elected the 2nd **Superior General** of the Congregation by the 3rd General Chapter, to a five-year term – he would not complete this term, [as he died on 5 September 1875, after serving only three years and 11 months]. On this date of his election, he received 7 Votes; Fr. Benciolini received one – and the Vignola brothers, Fr. Peter and Fr. Vincent, received one each. The General Councillors elected were: Frs. Peter Vignola, Richard Da Prato, Francis Benciolini – this last named was also chosen to be ‘Father Admonitor’ of the Superior General - and John Rigoni, also chosen as Procurator General. A motion was made and carried to elevate Fr. Louis Bragato as the first official *Apostolic Missionary*¹⁴¹ so declared by the Congregation – as Fr.

¹⁴¹ “*Albero rigoglioso...*”, p. 74, footnote: [Following the instructions of the 3rd General Chapter,] “Fr. Lenotti conferred the title of ‘Apostolic Missionary’ to Fr. Bragato, and in [the same month of] October, to other 7 priests”.

Seemingly, the “other 7 priests” were: Francis Benciolini, Peter Vignola, Richard Da Prato, John Rigoni, Vincent Vignola, Mark Bassi, Joseph Marchesini,

HISTORICAL NOTES 1872

Marani had not named anyone during his 18 year administration. The Chapter adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

6 Oct On this date we have also an encouraging letter from Fr. Benciolini, Vicar General, to Fr. Rigoni, Procurator General, who was in Florence trying to save the property of the Congregation that had been left by Fr. Bertoni in Fr. Benciolini's name.

8 Oct Fr. John B. Lenotti, newly elected Superior General, wrote his first 'Circular Letter' and it was to the Students at Villazzano. His purpose in writing it was to inform them of the proceedings of the 3rd General Chapter, just completed. He told the students that he was just the 'Legate' of Mary and Joseph, under whose care the Congregation has been placed by its Founder. He told them that they all had a cross to carry, but that he, as Superior General, had a larger share of that cross and so asked for their prayers. He also asked that they dedicate themselves to their main task before them, their studies and to maintain regular observance. He recalled to their minds the memories of Fr. Bertoni and Fr. Marani. It was in this Letter that he recommended a second half hour of Meditation for Novices. To be held in the afternoon.

1872

16 Jan This was the date that Cardinal Quaglia, Prefect of the S. Congr. of Bishops and Regulars signed a statement to the effect that the Congregation of the Stimmate had never been Granted Papal Approbation, despite their repeated requests for it. The Fathers at the Stimmate found this statement a little harsh for such an authoritative source – but as history turned out, the Lawyer of the Congregation, hired to win back its confiscated property, used this statement from the Cardinal, and eventually won the case. The Congregation eventually did receive Papal Approval on Sept. 15, 1890 from Pope Leo XIII.

Feb Fr. Lenotti purchased a house with a vegetable garden in Trent, in the area called "San Bernardino Vecchio". A lot of work would be required for the needs of a community, but they gradually were done.

6 Mar Fr. Lenotti was appointed Diocesan Examiner of Vocations, a post held by Fr. Bertoni and Fr. Marani before him.

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- 27 Apr** Due to his repeated attacks of apoplexy, Bishop De Riccabona made it known that for the coming summer, on doctor's orders, he would have to use his summer residence of Villazzano. Fr. Lenotti Sup. Gen., immersed in numerous projects at the time, had the additional matter of trying to find a new Students' House before summer.
- 6 May** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., wrote to Pius IX to see if the Congregation could ordain some young men to Sacred orders even though the congregation still could not provide the title of "Mensa Communis."
- 20 May** Attorney Brasca wrote to Fr. Rigoni and stated that he hoped Fr. Marani was praying for them in heaven as his '*Cenni*' ['Remarks on the early History of the Congregation'], in the hands of the government lawyers, would prove, at least in his mind, that the Congregation was indeed a duly constituted religious body - and hence, the Law of Suppression was rightly applied by the government in the confiscation of the community's property.
- 31 May** The government lawyers presented an array of 17 documents to prove that Fr. Bertoni was not the rightful owner of the Pious Places and therefore he could not have left them legally to Fr. Benciolini.
- 17 Jun** The students left the summer home of Bishop De Riccabona at Villazzano, which had been the student house for the past six years – and moved to the nearby Salé di Povo, in a rented house. (The students stayed there two years, until 26 November 1874).
- 24 Jun** Pius IX, in response to Fr. Lenotti's request of the previous May 6th, answered that the Congregation could ordain the members in the future even without the title of "mensa communis" (as the Congregation had been exiled from its property) as long as new clerics would have some means of support.
- 15 Jul** Fr. Benciolini's case for the restoration of the property was continued until 14 September – Attorney Brasca suggested to the Congregation that no one should ever refer to the Congregation as "suppressed Religious Order", as the case hinged on the fact that the Congregation had never received Papal Approbation at that time.
- 2 Aug** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., wrote a letter to the students at Salé di Povo and told them to draw a lesson from the lawyer's profession and in

HISTORICAL NOTES 1873

particular from Attorney Brasca. He said that lawyers often must practice heroic humility, and have to take a “back seat” even after extraordinary accomplishments. He exhorted the students to extra effort in the practice of silence.

- 4 Aug** Frs. Vincent Vignola and Bassi had received permission to be away from the Student House at Salé di Povo for a few days. Fr. Lenotti wrote and asked them to make sure that there would be no lessening of discipline while they were away.
- 26 Aug** Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, wrote to Fr. Vincent Vignola, Superior of the Student House at Salé di Povo, that the summer trips of the Students be not too fatiguing, and that their piety be not neglected.
- 4 Sep** Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, wrote again to Fr. Vincent Vignola, at Salé di Povo, that it would be more in accord with the traditions of the Congregation that the Fathers, who were sent to the Parish Church at Povo, would not stay for dinner – he also asked the Fathers to recite Vespers and Compline in common in the afternoon. Fr. Vignola wrote back and said the latter would not be possible, as they all had different schedules and it would be difficult to assemble them for that in the afternoon.
- 9 Sep** The 4th *General Chapter* was celebrated at the Stimate on the 9th and 10th September 1872. The 8 Fathers holding the title of *Apostolic Missionaries*¹⁴² decided to have a foundation in Trent.
- 17 Oct** Death of Fr. Richard Da Prato¹⁴³.

1873

- 10 Jan** The Court of Appeals in Venice put off Fr. Benciolini’s case, about the property confiscated by the government in 1867, for another two weeks
- 24 Jan** The Court of Appeals in Venice ruled in favour of Lawyer Brasca of Milan, who represented the Congregation in its struggle to get

¹⁴² “*Albero rigoglioso*”, p. 74. See also footnote at 6 October 1871.

¹⁴³ He had offered his life to the Lord in exchange for the conclusion of the long legal dispute for the property. The lawyer Brasca wrote to Fr. John Rigoni: “God accepted such so sincere sacrifice of his. Now, what was moving fast in causing sufferings, is accomplished for goodness, according to the Lord’s designs”. “*Dal convento...*”, p.83.

back its confiscated property. The case was then sent back to Verona and was settled before the end of the year.

- 31 Jan** The Court in Venice gave the court in Verona 60 days in which to make an equitable settlement with the Congregation in the return of its property.
- 1 Feb** The lawyer, Alexander Brasca, was very content with the decision made at the Court of Venice in favour of the Congregation the day before.
- 16 Feb** Lawyer Brasca wrote to Fr. Rigoni concerning the Venice Court's favourable decision of the previous Jan 31st. He suggested that they do not manifest their joy publicly lest the decision be reversed.
- 21 Feb** By Decree of the Superior General, Fr. Joseph Sembianti was promoted to the post of Apostolic Missionary. He was the last member so promoted during Fr. Lenotti's lifetime.
- 26 Feb** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., wrote to Fr. Vincent Vignola, director of the Student House at Salé di Povo and recommended to all silence and humility, "as these are what we all need."
- 5 Mar** Fr. Lenotti was at the Student House, at Salé di Povo, preparing for his departure on the next day to visit Fr. Bragato at Prague. The long court case seemed to be settled and it would only be a matter of time as to when the property would be returned to them.
- 7 Mar** Frs. Lenotti and Vincent Vignola were expected to Prague at 9:00 p.m. Fr. Bragato, now nearly 83, needed assistance when he walked. During the stay of the Fathers at the Imperial Court, they met Fr. Negrelli¹⁴⁴, the Court Librarian. The trip from Salé di Povo through Bolzano took 27 hours.
- 12 Mar** Fr. Lenotti and Fr. Vincent Vignola knelt for Fr. Bragato's blessing as they concluded their five days in Prague. They had seen the Empress Marianna and thanked her for her charity in financing the house at Villazzano during the hard years of exile. Fr. Lenotti had always admired Fr. Bragato who had been his first Confessor when he entered the Congregation.
- 14 Mar** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., and Fr. Vincent Vignola returned to Salé di Povo from their visit with Fr. Bragato at Prague.

¹⁴⁴ Fr. Nicholas Negrelli was working very closely with Msgr. Bragato, and in his last years Fr. Bragato would dictate to him his personal letters.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1873

- 15 Mar** Fr. Lenotti sup. Gen., after his trip to Prague, left Salé di Povo and returned to Verona.
- 24 Mar** The court of Verona, ordered by the Court of Venice in January of this year, to make an equitable settlement with the Congregation regarding its property, granted another delay of 30 days to the government. A lawyer friend of Brasca's, by the name of Gemma, represented Fr. Benciolini.
- 29 Mar** Lawrence Pizzini, James Marini and Pius Gurisatti were ordained on this day, "*Sitientes*" *Saturday*.
- 3 Apr** Lawyer Brasca wrote this day to Fr. Rigoni, Procurator General of the Congregation, and told him that the government side in the long case seemed to be preparing for a settlement outside court. The lawyer suggested that the Congregation accept any offer, as the government might use again Fr. Marani's "*Cenni*" (in which he considered the Decree of Praise tantamount to full Papal Approval, which instead was not yet received). And also the fact that the Congregation had acquired property, as at Salé di Povo which gave the appearance of a legal act by a legal body.
- 15 Apr** On this day, the lawyer Francis Gemma, representing attorney Alexander Brasca who was representing the Congregation, met with the Government lawyers outside of Court to work out settlement for the restoration of the Congregation's property.
- 17 Apr** In the Court of Verona, the government agreed to restore the confiscated property to the Congregation, and also to pay $\frac{1}{3}$ of the damages incurred, if Fr. Benciolini would agree to halt the already dragging court case. Payment would be made within 60 days.
- 24 Apr** On this date, Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., noted in his Spiritual Diary that he had been called to perfection but that so far he felt he had done very little about the Congregation and its work, hoping this could still serve to promote God's glory.
- 28 Apr** There was a meeting this day between the government side, represented by the Finance official, a man by the name of Calligari, and his lawyer, Righi – and Fr. Benciolini, Fr. Rigoni and their lawyer Gemma, serving for Brasca. The government agreed to restore the property and also pay 5,000 Lire if Fr. Benciolini would push for full satisfaction.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1873

- 5 May** Great joy at Salé di Povo among the Students of the Congregation on hearing the long legal battle to regain property from the government has been won by the Congregation.
- 12 May** Attorney Brasca wrote to Fr. Rigoni and told him that their opponent in the case, Attorney Righi, acting for the government, was unwittingly their ally in the case before the Court.
- 19 May** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., wrote a letter for Fr. Vincent Vignola, director of the Student House in Salé di Povo and urged all there to have the apostolic spirit of Frs. Bertoni, Marani, Gramego, Cartolari, and Da Prato, now all deceased.
- 20 May** Attorney Brasca, now that the case has been decided in favour of the Congregation, wrote to Fr. Rigoni to say good bye. He mentioned that he hoped Fr. Da Prato was in heaven as this long case had so saddened him that he did not live to see its happy conclusion.
- 27 May** On this day it was signed the settlement for the restoration of the Congregation's property, which actually was officially property of Fr. Benciolini. With the long legal battle for the restoration of the confiscated property put out of the way, Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., could now turn his attention to other matters of the Congregation. He decided to repair St. Teresa's Convent, which stood in extreme need and to finish constructions at the Church of S. Maria del Giglio.
- 1 Jun** Attorney Brasca wrote again to Fr. Rigoni and told him the long ordeal in the Courts that had just been concluded was one of the most difficult cases he had ever handled and that had a better solution than most cases he had had.
- 7 Jun** Bartholomew Perazzani and Bellino Carrara were ordained priests this day.¹⁴⁵
- 12 Jun** The Feast of *Corpus Christi* was solemnly observed by the students of Salé di Povo. A solemn act of Consecration to the Sacred Heart was made as a tribute for the long legal battle just ended with the return of the property confiscated by the government.

¹⁴⁵ "*Dal convento...*", p.84, nota, says they were ordained on the 5th June (which was a Thursday). The day Sat 7th June 1873, vigil of Pentecost, seems more appropriate.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1874

- 17 Jun** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., was appointed extraordinary Confessor to a group of religious.
- 21 Jun** The Civil Court of Verona was informing officially that the government and Fr. Benciolini had worked out an agreement – thus ending the long case concerning the confiscated property.
- 10 Jul** On this date the government signed a decree empowering its own agency of Finance to return the property of the Congregation that had been confiscated on 29 October 1867.
- 22 Jul** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., hastened to Trent, to the bed side of Fr. Sterza who was seriously ill – young Paul Gradinati was deeply impressed this day with Fr. Lenotti's solicitude for sick members of the Congregation and it made an impression in him that he never forgot.
- 24 Jul** The Finance agency of the government finally returned the confiscated properties to Fr. Benciolini on this date – thus ending the six years struggle.
- 27 Jul** Fr. Sterza was out of danger, so Fr. Lenotti left Trent.
- 8 Aug** The Stigmatines received a copy of the Decree of restoration of the properties, which was signed on the 10th July.
- 17 Sep** Some agreement was made with the Sisters of the Holy Family concerning St. Teresa's – the Sisters would leave it entirely, and - not long after - it would serve to house the Professed Students of the Congregation.
- 20 Dec** *Ember Saturday* - Richard Tabarelli was ordained.

1874

- 25 Jan** Fr. Sterza told Fr. Lenotti of a letter written by Msgr. Daniel Comboni, Vicar Apostolic to Central Africa, that appeared in several recent issues of the "Voce Cattolica" – in which the Msgr. stated that there was an immediate need there of "2000 Jesuits, 50 Stigmatines of Verona... and some Benedictines of Subiaco". This letter greatly encouraged Fr. Francis Sogaro.
- 5 Feb** Fr. Bragato wrote from Prague in response to Fr. Lenotti's request for advice concerning St. Teresa's. He advised Fr. Lenotti against giving the Convent to the Sisters and suggested that they should pay some rent.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1874

- 25 Feb** The big news of the Congregation on this date was the *5th General Chapter* Convened at the Stimate. It will be concluded on 2 March. During the *5th General Chapter*, it was noted that a number of members of the Congregation were Apostolic Missionaries, but the Superior General Fr. John Lenotti had never been one – and the technicality arose that in Fr. Bertoni's rule, only an "Apostolic Missionary could be elected Superior General". This was disposed of with the solution that by his very election, he was "ipso facto" an Apostolic Missionary.
- 21 Mar** Fr. Francis Sogaro wrote a letter to all the Fathers who were "Apostolic Missionaries" – he told them not to be scandalised about his request to the Congregation, to which he would always be grateful. He stated that he would follow his missionary vocation in Africa.
- 16 Apr** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., sent Fr. Peter Vignola and Fr. Sogaro to meet with the authorities at the Shrine of Caravaggio that had been offered to the Congregation during Fr. Marani's administration by Bishop Bonomelli. The administrators of the Shrine opposed the Congregation coming to Caravaggio, so negotiations were called to a halt.
- 31 May** Construction was finished this day at the Church of S. Maria del Giglio, which began under Fr. Marani's Administration.
- Jun** In the early days of June, a little squadron of students departed from Salé di Povo for Verona in order to terminate the scholastic year in St. Teresa's Convent. Together with them, came their teachers, Frs. Tabarelli and Morando.
- 9 Jun** The little church of S. Maria dal Giglio opened its doors to the public this day. A diary left by the then cleric Joseph Zandonai¹⁴⁶, called it magnificent.
- 4 Aug** A young aspirant, of great promise, died this day at Salé di Povo at the age of 17 – his name was Achille Anselmo Brunati. He was eulogized by the Superior, Fr. V. Vignola.
- 5 Aug** The *6th General Chapter* convened at the Stimate on this date to discuss Fr. Sogaro's request to leave the Congregation. A vote was taken and permission was given to him, 5-1. Fr. Lenotti felt his

¹⁴⁶ Fr. Joseph Zandonai. Born 14 February 1853; entered 1865; ordin. 1877; death 22 August 1904.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1875

departure keenly and so he began looking more in earnest for a possible foreign mission field for the Congregation.

6 Aug Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., spoke to the students of theology on humility.

7 Aug The members of the Congregation drafted a letter to Fr. Lenotti, besieged with difficulties, in which they affirmed their fidelity.

8 Aug The letter drafted by the members of the Congregation promising their fidelity, was given to the Superior General, Fr. Lenotti.

8 Oct Fr. Louis Bragato, just returned from Reichstadt, fell seriously ill at Prague.

13 Oct Fr. Louis Bragato died in Prague at the age of 83.

13 Nov A Month's Mind Mass was celebrated in the Stimate for Fr. Louis Bragato with a commemoration speech by Fr. Gaetano Giacobbe.

24 Nov The Students of the Congregation left Salé di Povo, near Villazzano, in Trent, and returned to Verona. The Students had been 'in exile' for eight years. They had left Verona in August 1866, shortly after the death of one of their own, the beloved Anthony Caucigh. The Novices, instead, would go to the new community of Trent.

26 Nov The Stigmatines entered officially the house in San Bernardino, Trent¹⁴⁷. The Stigmatines in Trent had always been called "Bertonians".¹⁴⁸

1875

6 Jan Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., spoke to the Community and told the members to thank God for the graces the Congregation had received during 1874. The two deceased of the previous year (Fr.

¹⁴⁷ The town of Trent was within Austrian territory at the time. It would become part of Italy in 1918.

¹⁴⁸ "*Dal convento...*", p.111. The community was having twenty four confreres and the Fathers had to share the rooms for lack of space. "Those assigned there were Fr. Vincent Vignola, Director; Fr. Bassi, Novice Master; Fr. Marini, Economist. In addition, there were also Frs. Vicentini, Lanaro, Perazzani, Carrara, and Rigatti. There were two Novice students [Nicolini and Battisti], and one lay brother [Salbego]. There were nine Aspirants with their Prefect, Fr. Paul Gradinati, and the Coadjutor Brothers Chiesa, Salocher and Zadra." *Brief Chronicle*, p. 128, note.

Bragato [on 13 October] and the Aspirant Brunati [on the 4 August]) were really just called home to God.

- Feb** Frs. Peter Vignola and Joseph Sembianti preached a mission at Solesino (Padua), and it went well, though the place was described as a difficult parish (“a thornbush”!). On that occasion they promoted the devotion to the Sacred Heart in the parish, where it was not known earlier. On the 23rd February they were back at the Stimate.¹⁴⁹
- 16 Mar** Fr. Rigoni was received in private audience by Pope Pious IX, who gave him suggestions how to proceed for the approval for the Congregation, which he was blessing from the heart.
- 16 Mar** Fr. Louis Maestrelli, Superior of the “Sordomuti” (Deaf & Dumb) died today at the age of 61. With Fr. Anthony Provolo, he founded the Sons of Mary – He was assisted frequently in life by Fr. Bertoni.
- 19 May** An agreement was signed with the Bishop of Parma, Dominic Villa, in which the Stigmatine accepted to open a community in that town.
- 30 May** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., sent Fr. Rigoni to Rome to see Fr. Alfieri to look into the possibility of obtaining a foreign Mission for the Congregation.
- 31 May** Fr. Rigoni stopped off in Florence on his way to Rome, to see some old friend he had made during the time he spent there in the legal battles to keep the property of the Congregation.
- 3 Jun** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., on this first Thursday of the month, preached a day of recollection to the diocesan Seminarians of Verona in the place of Fr. Maestrelli, recently deceased.
- 5 Jun** Fr. Alfieri arranged two audiences with the Holy Father, Pius IX, for Fr. Rigoni one private and one public.
- 8 Jun** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., wrote to Fr. Rigoni, Procurator General, who was in Rome, to tell him that he was most pleased that the

¹⁴⁹ “*Dal convento...*”, p. 91. The first mission in Solesino was amazing for the good results, bringing back many people who had practically abandoned the church, while everybody was thinking it would have been a waste of time. The Stigmatines went to Solesino in other two occasions: 24 May to 3 June 1879 (Frs. Joseph Sembianti and Joseph Marchesini) and 15 to 17 November 1887 (Frs. Pio Gurisatti and Andrea Sforza). Cf. “Beyond the Ocean” No. 30, p. 132-134.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1875

Cardinal Franchi (Prefect of the S. Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith) had seen him and they had discussed a possible Mission field for the Congregation.

- 11 Jun** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., sent precise instructions to Fr. Rigoni who was in Rome to speak to Cardinal Franchi, the prefect of the S. Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith. Rigoni was instructed to ask the Cardinal (1) what Studies the future Missionaries should take up and could they study in Verona or should they go to Rome; (2) who would bear the expenses of their trips; (3) what dependence would be expected of them towards the S. Congr. and in what they would be subjected to the Superiors of their own Congregation in Verona.
- 12 Jun** Fr. Rigoni took part in a public audience granted by Pius IX and got close enough to kiss the Pontiff's feet – he had the Rosaries blessed as Fr. Lenotti has requested.
- 16 Jun** At 8:45 pm Fr. Rigoni was ushered into the presence of Pope Pius IX for a private audience with him. This audience lasted one half hour. Fr. Rigoni wrote exuberantly that the Holy Father was a “Miracle of Pope”. As soon as he had returned to his lodging in Rome, that very night he wrote immediately to Fr. Benetti. Fr. Rigoni received the following from the Holy Father: permission for the Blessed Sacrament in Trent, the Espousal was raised to a Double of the IInd Class with an Octave and the Pope promised his assistance to the Congregation in its efforts to obtain Papal approbation.
- 17 Jun** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., wrote to Fr. Rigoni in Rome and told him that the confreres at the Stimmat were most anxious to hear about Fr. Rigoni's private audience of the previous day.
- 18 Jun** Fr. Rigoni wrote again from Rome concerning his audience with Pius IX. In the exchange of letters between Frs. Lenotti and Rigoni, great emphasis was given to the fact that the audience took place on the Pope's 29th anniversary of his election as Pope, and the IInd centenary of the Apparitions to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. In answering these letters, Fr. Lenotti told Fr. Rigoni to pray to the Saint the he (Fr. Lenotti) might be relieved from his terrible headaches.
- 12 Jul** The ailing Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., left the Stimmat for Trent for some weeks of rest and a hope for cure.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1875

- 13 Jul** Fr. Lenotti was joined by Fr. Lanaro, also in failing health – both set out for Rabbi in search for a cure.
- 18 Jul** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., on sick leave at Rabbi, wrote to Fr. Rigoni telling him to follow up on the progress that had already been made in the efforts to obtain Papal Approbation. Fr. Lenotti wrote that he envied Fr. Rigoni's opportunity to go to Rome.
- 19 Jul** Joseph Lenotti, the brother of the Sup. Gen., Fr. Lenotti, died this day – he had been once a member of the Oratory at the Stimmate.
- 28 Jul** Frs. Lenotti and Lanaro left Rabbi for Trent.
- 2 Aug** Fr. Lenotti was at Trent, having just returned from Rabbi. He said that he had to spend several days in bed and was not even able to recite the Breviary. He said that he felt like a "Hebrew priest" – he expressed concern over the families of his two brothers – Joseph (recently deceased) and Francis.
- 6 Aug** The President of Ecuador, Garcia Morone, was assassinated. Previously he had made an offer to pay the expenses for any missionaries that would come to his country – the offer had been seriously considered by Fr. Lenotti.
- 7 Aug** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., ailing at Trent, wrote again to the Stimmate and asked for their prayers so that he could soon return home.
- 11 Aug** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., wrote to Fr. Rigoni about an offer for the Congregation that had been made by Bishop Domenico Villa, Bishop of Parma.
- 15 Aug** Fr. Lenotti, Sup. Gen., sent a Circular Letter out to the Congregation – it was to be his last. He asked for volunteers for the foreign missions as Fr. Rigoni had just made some successful contacts in Rome, including Cardinal Franchi. He asked that those so inclined should volunteer before the end of the coming September. He urged the members to study German and also Swedish. The letter was signed from S. Bernardino Vecchio, Trent.
- 20 Aug** Fr. Rigoni went to Trent to accompany the ailing Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, back to Verona.
- 23 Aug** On the doctor's advice, Fr. Lenotti went out to Sezano with Fr. Rigoni. Fr. Rigoni wrote that they were awaiting those students who had gone to Padua for the examinations of accreditation. Melchiade Vivari, a student, noted that the Superior was visibly slipping – he managed to get up every day, but could not hold anything on his stomach.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1875

- 28 Aug** Fr. Zara's Chronicle began on this date.
- 1 Sep** Dr. Corradi went out to Sezano to see Fr. Lenotti – they both returned to Verona. He told Fr. Lenotti to go to bed – Fr. Lenotti would never get up again. The Students visited him that night and they knelt for his blessing.
- 2 Sep** The Students went for an outing to Sezano – when they returned in the evening, Fr. Lenotti's condition had become grave. Dr. Corradi brought in a specialist, Dr. Morganti. He suggested that Fr. Lenotti should be anointed. Right after Night Prayers, about 9:15 p.m., Fr. Peter Vignola, Director, brought Holy Viaticum. In a clear voice, Fr. Lenotti asked pardon of God and his Confreres, and then received Holy Communion.
- 3 Sep** There was no change in Fr. Lenotti's condition – about 9:00 p.m., his Confessor, Fr. Beltrami¹⁵⁰, went to his room and suggested that he be anointed again for this new crisis. Fr. Lenotti asked for Fr. Peter Vignola, Director, and then Fr. Beltrami anointed him. His breathing was quite heavy.
- 4 Sep** After midnight, Fr. Lenotti took a decided turn for the worse - he raved about the Aspirants in Trent passing by his bed. About 2:00 a.m. he asked for Fr. Peter Vignola – he then expressed the hope that he might be called to heaven on the day dedicated to Mary. He spoke with Fr. Sembianti and told him to exhort his students to be most observant of their vows and to be devoted to Mary and Joseph. Fr. Pizzini and Fr. Tabarelli came and he blessed them – to the latter, he said that his blessing was for always and repeated that several times. Bishop di Canossa came about 6:00 p.m., and blessed the dying Superior General. He was also visited by his brother, Francis Lenotti.
- 5 Sep** Sunday – Fr. John Baptist Lenotti, Superior General, died on his 58th birthday. His most productive, but too abruptly ended, administration of four years came to an end. He had opened the first House of the Congregation outside of Verona, in Trent - he was negotiating for a House in Parma – he was carrying on negotiations with the Holy See for Papal Approbation of the Community, and was seeking a Foreign Mission field for the

¹⁵⁰ Fr. Peter Beltrami. Born 19 July 1826; ordin. 1859; profess. 1871; death 16 December 1891.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1875

Congregation. Many of his efforts, then, would not reach fruition for many years to come. He died about the same hour he was born.

6 Sep Fr. Lenotti was waked in the little Oratory of the Immaculate Conception at the Stimate. It was noted that his face was yellowish, but he seemed to be at peace. Fr. Peter Vignola was chosen Vicar until the Congregation could elect a new Superior General.

7 Sep Fr. Lenotti's funeral was celebrated this morning at the Stimate – 23 Masses were celebrated; Fr. Peter Vignola was the celebrant of a High Mass of Requiem – Fr. Giacobbe led the procession from the Stimate to the parish church (Holy Trinity) – the Capuchin Fathers sang the burial service.

8 Sep The newspaper, *Riposo Domenicale*, contained an article that mourned the three-fold loss to the Church in Verona that year: Fr. Maestrelli [Co-Founder of the Sons of Mary] – Fr. Brazzelli [once a student at the Stimate, became Rector of the Diocesan Seminary] – and Fr. Lenotti – who was described as a Priest who had led 'an immaculate life.'

13 Sep A Memorial Service for Fr. Lenotti was held at St. Lawrence's Church that was conducted by Monsignor Serego.

20 Sep Fr. Nicholas Negrelli, Librarian of Ferdinand of Augsburg, learned of Fr. Lenotti's death from Monsignor Gaspardis, and from the article in the *Riposo Domenicale*. He wrote of his sorrow to the Stimate.

1 Oct The Students of the Congregation, who were born in Trent, were transferred from the House of Studies in Verona, to the House of san Bernardino Vecchio in Trent. The reason for this was that there was a law at that time that would grant exemption from military service only to those young men of Trentine origin who were attending the Diocesan Seminary in Trent. The students of the Congregation attended classes in Philosophy and Theology at the Seminary or Trent.

26 Oct The 7th General Chapter convened at the Stimate and, on the 28 October, elected **Fr. Peter Vignola** as **Superior General** for five years. The Councillors were: Frs. Sembianti, Rigoni [who was also re-confirmed as Procurator General], Vincent Vignola and Benciolini. It was proposed that the Superior General prepare some members of the Congregation for the Foreign Missions as soon as

HISTORICAL NOTES 1876

possible – and that in the near future, the School at the Stimate be re-opened. The Chapter closed on 30 October.

1876

- 2 Feb** Today Fr. Vincent Vignola and Fr. Morando arrived in Parma, to open the new house. Bro. Zadra had arrived the previous day. From the start they applied themselves to youth work. They lived in a workers' quarter "oltretorrente" ("across the brook") called Borgo Taschieri (nowadays, Borgo Cocconi). There, in 1877, they started an elementary school. Later in time, also a '*Patronato*'¹⁵¹ was started.
- 9 Feb** Fr. Vincent Vignola, Fr. Morando and Bro. Zadra were finding life difficult in Parma due to lack of finances.
- 11 Feb** An old House Chronicle of Parma shows the dire economic straits of the Congregation's early days there. Bro. Zadra was preparing supper and saw there was no more *polenta* (maize flower) only to discover that the store across the street was almost as bad off as their house – no *polenta*!
- 17 Feb** On this day at St. Teresa's, which was now used for the Students of the Congregation, Fr. Sembianti, Director at both the Stimate and St. Teresa's, gave an exhortation. It was followed by a discussion period and copious notes have come down to us, taken by a Novice, Louis Tomasi¹⁵².
- 7 Mar** The Students at St. Teresa's celebrated the Feast of St. Thomas in a special way this year – the guests were invited to attend the "*academia*" they put on.
- 16 Mar** The Bishop of Parma wrote to Fr. Peter Vignola, Sup. Gen., to tell him that he was well satisfied with the work of the Congregation in Parma. Fr. Lawrence Rigatti¹⁵³ was also sent to Parma within the year.

¹⁵¹ Not recorded the date, but it should be after 1905. About '*Patronato*': see footnote for 21 June 1905.

¹⁵² Fr. Louis Nicholas Tomasi. Born 30 September 1857; Ordin. 1881; death 16 November 1928.

¹⁵³ Fr. Lawrence Rigatti: entered 1864; ordained 20 December 1873; he left in 1881.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1876

- 4 Apr** Upon request of the Parish Priest of the Holy Trinity, Fr. Gaetano Giacobbe, a Retreat for the laity was held at the Stimate. On the closing day, 12th April, the church was packed of people.
- 13 Apr** The Mitred Arch-Priest of Bassano, Msgr. John Gobbi, requested Fr. Peter Vignola, Sup. Gen., to send two priests and a brother to Bassano to establish a house for Youth work. They could teach catechism to adults on days free from school and in the evenings. Fr. Vignola took the request under advisement.
- 12 Aug** The Congregation suffered a great loss this day in the death of Fr. Lawrence Pizzini, age 28. The brilliant young man was eager to go to the Missions in North Europe, and, for this, he had mastered French, Spanish, German and English. His death brought to an end missionary plans of the Congregation at the time.
- 5 Sep** Paul Gradinati, a Student, eulogized Fr. Lenotti on the first anniversary of his death, in the *Messenger of the Sacred Heart*.
- 26 Sep** Fr. Peter Vignola, Superior General, convoked the 8th *General Chapter*, held at the Stimate, which met to discuss the House of Bassano. When Fr. Vignola was questioned about the Foreign Missions and the men being prepared for them, he stated that he had already assigned some members to study languages and that he was in contact with the Sacred Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith in Rome. It was decided that the Superior General for the future would not have to convoke General Chapters in order to accept new Houses for the Congregation. The Chapter was concluded on 4 October.
- 23 Oct** Fr. Giuseppe Baldo was among those who took part to a Retreat course held at the Stimate. [He would become the founder of the Little Daughter of St. Joseph and proclaimed Blessed on the 31 October 1989, in St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, during the first Vespers of All Saints (the evening before the canonization of St. Gaspar)].
- 23 Dec** Melchiade Vivari was ordained a Priest on this day, together with Julius Zanini¹⁵⁴ and Gaetano Pizzighella¹⁵⁵.

¹⁵⁴ Fr. Julius Zanini: born 11 December 1851; entered 1866; ordin. 1876; [went out...]; re-entered 1901; death 12 January 1916.

¹⁵⁵ Gaetano Pizzighella: born 7 August 1851; ordin. 1876; death 26 October 1911.

1877

- 1 Feb** On this day, Bishop di Canossa appointed Fr. Rigoni as Director of the Diocesan Seminary in Verona. (He held this post for about one year.)
- Still on 1 February 1877, Fr. Joseph Sembianti, Fr. Julius Zanini and Brother James Zadra opened the new house at Bassano. Brother Charles Salocher took Bro. Zadra's place at Parma and Fr. Charles Zara took Fr. Sembianti's place as director of the Stimmate. Other priests who went to Bassano in the next years were: Fr. Louis Morando, who moved from Parma in 1880. Fr. Bonaventura Vidalli¹⁵⁶, who went to Bassano in 1881. Fr. Melchiade Vivari went to Bassano in 1883¹⁵⁷.
- 2 Feb** The Arch-Priest of Bassano, Msgr. Gobbi, gave a sermon of welcome in the Cathedral for the three members of the Congregation who had come there to open a house.
- 24 Feb** Anthony Oss Bals¹⁵⁸ and Joseph Zandonai were ordained on this date.
- 29 Apr** Joseph Bertapelle, originary from Bassano, having met Fr. Charles Zara after his preaching at the Seminary of Vicenza (together with Fr. Peter Vignola), asked to come with him to the Stimmate: he wanted to be "a religious, but also a preacher".
- 5 May** Fr. Vignola, Sup. Gen., wrote to a Clara Perenzoni, Superior of the Ottolini Sisters, that the members of the Congregation were very much opposed to the sale of the house at the *Trinità*, which had belonged to its original patrimony, and that there were plans for its future use.
- 10 May** A royal decree of this date required that Teachers on Secondary Schools be at least 25 years of age, had four years' experience (six years if the school was private) and pass a special exam. Bishop di Canossa wrote a letter to the authorities at the university of Padua stating that at the Stimmate all civil requirements had been fulfilled. His letter was needed for the approbation of the schools at the Stimmate by the government.

¹⁵⁶ Fr. Bonaventura Vidalli: ordained November 1877; he left in 1889.

¹⁵⁷ "*Dal convento...*", p. 119.

¹⁵⁸ Fr. Anthony Oss Bals; born 27 July 1852; entered 1867; ordin. 1877; death 9 June 1891.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1878

- 3 Jul** Fr. Sembianti wrote from Bassano in response to the Superior General's (Fr. Peter Vignola) questionnaire concerning the sale of the *Trinità*. Fr. Sembianti wrote that if the Congregation was to sell to the Ottolini Sisters, if, in the future, the Sisters were ever to sell, the Congregation should have the first option to buy it back from them.
- 8 Aug** To accede to Bishop Card. di Canossa's wishes (but much against the wishes of the members of the Congregation), Fr. Vignola, sup. Gen., sold the *Trinità* to Clara Perenzoni, Superior of the Ottolini Sisters.
- 1 Sep** Fr. Peter Vignola came back from Vicenza with a cleric of that Diocese, Octavian Piccoli¹⁵⁹, who wanted to become a Stigmatine.
- 9 Oct** The first centenary of the Founder's birth was celebrated with great solemnity at the Stimate. After the public celebrations in the church, in the evening the confreres gathered in the room which was of Fr. Gaspar, where there was a fraternal '*Academia*' of poems and speeches.

1878

- 2 Feb** The Holy Father Pope Pius IX, who had the longest reign of all Popes in the history of the Church, died. The Congregation lost a friend.
- 20 Feb** A new pope was elected. He chose Leo XIII as his name. He would be the one giving the official approval of the Congregation on 15 September 1890.
- 22 Feb** A solemn commemorative service was held at the Stimate for the deceased Holy Father, Pius IX, who in his lifetime so many times blessed "his little flock" of the Stimate.
- 7 Mar** At the "*Academia*" in honour of St. Thomas held at the Stimate this year, there was frequent tribute to Pope Pius IX who had always been gracious toward the Congregation during his lifetime.
- 15 Mar** Fr. Rigoni resigned as Director of the Diocesan Seminary of Verona due to ill health and returned to the Stimate.

¹⁵⁹ Fr. Octavian Piccoli: born 15 April 1861; entered 1 September 1877; ordination 30 May 1885; death 26 September 1927.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1879

- 29 Mar** The Congregation of the Stimmate sent a congratulatory Message to the new Pope, Leo XIII.
- 28 Sep** The government granted permission for school to re-open for outside students at the Stimmate.
- 12 Nov** School opened again at the Stimmate for the first time since 1843, when Fr. Bertoni closed it in favour of the Jesuits. They were held in the building section of St. Teresa¹⁶⁰. Fr. Charles Zara noted: “Let’s hope the Lord will bless these humble beginning: even with this [meaning the school] we make missions.”¹⁶¹

1879

- 19 Jan** Paul Gradinati was ordained a Priest on this day by Bishop Haller, Auxiliary to Bishop De Riccabona of Trent.
- 23 Jan** Fr. Paul Gradinati, recently ordained, celebrated his first Mass at the Stimmate.
- 5 Mar** Joseph Nicolini¹⁶², in his 2nd year of Theology, died this day at St. Bernardino in Trent.
- 31 Mar** Bishop Benedict De Riccabona, true friend of the congregation died in Trent. Fr. Peter Vignola, Sup. Gen., came from Verona for the funeral. Fr. Zara noted in the House Chronicle that his memory would always be venerated in the Annals of the Congregation – and that those who came after him, would always venerate his name.
- 19 Sep** Fr. Benciolini’s Golden Jubilee was celebrated – Fr. Peter Vignola, Superior General, ordered that a copy of the day’s program be sent to every House so that there would always be a record of it in the Archives. Fr. Benciolini was celebrant; Fr. Peter Vignola was Deacon, and Fr. Charles Zara, Director of the Stimmate, was Sub Deacon. At 3:00 p.m., there was an *Academia*.

¹⁶⁰ St. Teresa, called also ‘Terese’, initially used by the Congregation of Blessed Leopoldina Naudet, at this point in time became a single property with the Stimmate, but, as the buildings were separated, they still kept a different name for many years.

¹⁶¹ “*Albero rigoglioso...*”, p. 85.

¹⁶² St. Joseph Nicolini. Born 26 June 1857, prof. 1877; death 5 March 1879.

1880

- 17 Feb** The 9th *General Chapter* started on the 17 February 1880 and closed on 25 February, held at the Stimate. During this Chapter, Fr. Rigoni resigned as General Councillor and Procurator General. He was succeeded as Councillor by Fr. Bassi and as Procurator by Fr. Marini.
- 21 Feb** While the 9th *General Chapter* was in session, Louis Battisti¹⁶³ was ordained a priest.
- 23 Feb** Fr. Louis Battisti celebrated his first Mass at the Stimate.
- 7 Mar** This year the Students celebrated the Feast of St. Thomas solemnly, preceded by a Triduum, in the light of Pope Leo XIII's recent Encyclical "Aeterni Patris" that so strongly recommended the doctrine of St. Thomas. The Triduum was preached by the Students.
- 14 Mar** Fr. Anthony Oss Bals and Fr. Dominic Vicentini opened an Oratory at S. Martino in Trent.

1881

- 18 Feb** The 10th *General Chapter* convened at the Stimate to elect a General Superior – **Fr. Peter Vignola was elected for life**. The General Councillors elected were Fr. Bassi, Sembianti, Vincent Vignola and Charles Zara. Fr. James Marini was elected Procurator General. Among others, the difficult situation of the foundation in Parma was discussed. The Chapter closed on 28 February.
- 23 Feb** Fr. Pius Gurisatti and Fr. Andrea Sterza preached the Missions at Bussolengo (VR) from 23 January to 23 February, with consoling response.
- 26 Feb** A statue of the Sorrowful Mother, sculptured by the Veronese Grazioso Spazzi¹⁶⁴, was placed in the Stimate this day.

¹⁶³ Fr. Louis Battisti: he was a Novice in 1875, ordained on 21 February 1880; he left in October 1886.

¹⁶⁴ Grazioso Spazzi is the sculptor who had taken the mould mask of Bertoni's face on 13 June 1853.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1882

- 21 Jun** A letter arrived at the Stimate from Fr. Giuseppe Baldo (who would be declared 'Blessed') expressing his wish to enter the Institute of the Apostolic Missionaries. But then it did not happen.
- 16 Jul** Msgr. Comboni wrote from El*Obeid in Africa reminiscing about Fr. Marani, already dead 10 years. He said that Fr. Marani had not studied much and was a bit stingy and gruff, but withal, he was a saint. He said that Fr. Marani had derived much from Fr. Bertoni.
- 11 Nov** At the Stimate, having completed the curriculum of the elementary classes, on this day also the "*ginnasio*" (middle school) started.

1882

- 2 Jan** The Congregation purchased a farm in Calderara in Valpantena (VR) for 56,000 Lire with the money received from the sale of *Trinità* (8 August 1877) and other moneys.
- 6 Jan** On the morning of this *Feast of the Epiphany*, there was celebrated for the first time a devotion in honour of the Infant Christ under the auspices of the Pious Union of the Holy Infancy. That evening there was held in church an *Academia* with poems and music.
- 28 Jan** During this night, the gold ornaments for the statue of the Sorrowful Mother were stolen from the church of the Stimate and a hand was damaged.
- 30 Jan** A Triduum was begun at the Stimate in reparation for the sacrilegious theft of the statue of the Sorrowful Mother two weeks earlier.
- 18 Feb** A silk backdrop, interwoven with gold was presented to the Church of the Stimate for the altar of the Sorrowful Mother.
- 28 Feb** The gift of a crystal glass for protection and some decorations for the altar of the Sorrowful Mother were received at the Stimate.
- 15 Jun** Fr. Peter Vignola, Sup. Gen., convoked a meeting of the General Council and the "*Graduati*" (i.e. those Priests who had been raised to the title of "Apostolic Missionaries") to discuss Fr. Morando's proposals concerning Bassano. Five Priests were needed for the ever expanding work there.
- 22 Jul** Worn out by long years of work, the holy Bishop of Parma, Bishop Dominic Villa, died this day – the Congregation lost a good friend.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1883

- 17 Sep** It had rained heavily for several days and on this day, the Adige river over-flowed its banks. Many houses and a new bridge collapsed. Many took refuge in the Stimate, about 300. Verona was described as ‘all Adige.’
- 28 Sep** The numerous refugees from the flood left the Stimate this day, after a stay of some 11 days – the government had provided some refuge at San Bernardino’s in Verona. The Congregation was highly praised for its work during this catastrophe.

1883

- 1 Jan** Fr. Pius Gurisatti became Superior of the Stimate, succeeding Fr. Zara.
- 6 Jan** On the Feast this year, the services honouring the Infant Christ were held in the church of St. Teresa with even greater Solemnity than the year before.
- 10 Feb** The church of San Nicola dei Prefetti in Rome was adjoined by a house that would one day be occupied by the Fathers of the Congregation. On this day, a part of it was sold to a Mr. Cesar Lozza who would figure later in the transaction involving the Congregation.
- 7 Mar** Classes at the Stimate were being taught during this time, from the elementary grades up through the 4th year of Theology. Since a number of Congregations of Verona were sending their students to the Stimate for instruction, the Feast of St. Thomas this year had a special significance. In the evening Card. Di Canossa, his Vicar Msgr. Bacilieri (who would succeed to him as Bishop of Verona in 1900 and would become Cardinal in 1901) and other notables attended the “*Academia*”, which this year was a disputation among several of the Students. A maestro Ravignani prepared special music for the event.
- 11 Apr** Anthony Conte¹⁶⁵ from Bassano entered the Congregation. He seemed to be the only vocation received from Fr. Morando’s afternoon tutoring at Bassano.

¹⁶⁵ Fr. Anthony Conte: born 31 March 1857; ordin. 1887; death 18 December 1888. A short biography was written by Fr. Paul Gradinati in 1890, of which a translation was made by Fr. Joseph Henchey, and it is found in www.st-bertoni.com.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1883

- 14 Apr** Fr. Zara transcribed some old papers he found in the house archives concerning the early history of the Congregation.
- 20 Jun** Fr. Charles Zara, faithful chronicler of the Congregation, died. On this same date, Fr. Bellino Carrara left the Congregation to join the Jesuits in Trento.
- 25 Jun** Fr. Peter Vignola, Sup. Gen., expressed sincere sorrow at Fr. Zara's death – and some bitterness at Fr. Carrara's departure.
- 29 Jun** On this day it was celebrated the "name day" of Fr. Peter Vignola, Sup. Gen. – the new kitchen and refectory of the Stimate were used for the first time.
- 1 Jul** This was an election day in the town Verona – Fr. Benciolini was chosen to guard the polls. He would greet each voter with his customary "Praised be Jesus Christ!"
- 22 Jul** The young students of the Oratory attended the Month's Mind Mass for Fr. Charles Zara at the Stimate.
- 25 Jul** Fr. Bellino Carrara wrote to the Superior General, Fr. Peter Vignola, from Trent and told him that all was ready for his (Fr. Carrara's) entrance into the Society of Jesus.
- 29 Jul** John Baptist Zaupa¹⁶⁶ was born at Chiampo, near Vicenza.
- 26 Aug** Fr. Andrew Sterza began a 13 week period of preaching throughout the Diocese of Pavia – Fr. Vivari helped him for a while, and so did Fr. Julius Zanini. They concluded on 25 November.
- 17 Sep** The first Vestition ceremony for the 3rd Order of St. Francis was held at the Stimate. In the beginning, some early members of the Congregation (both Fathers and Brothers) had been enrolled in this 3rd Order, but a later ruling forbade religious from joining.
- 25 Dec** The Golden Jubilee of Fr. Giacobbe's ordination was celebrated today. He was the first biographer of Fr. Bertoni. On this day, Fr. Rigoni preached the sermon.

¹⁶⁶ Fr. John Baptist Zaupa: born 29 July 1883; entered 9 November 1896; ordination 1907; Visitator for North America (1920-1922); he was the 6th Superior General, elected the first time in August 1922, rielected in August 1928 to 1934, third mandate as from May 1940 to 1946; death 25 January 1958.

1884

- Jan** Starting from January 1884, a monthly conference was offered for the adherents of the 3rd Order of St. Francis.
- 5 May** The Emperess Maria Anna died in Prague. She helped very much the Congregation, especially with the up-keeping of the students in Villazzano (TN), in the years 1866-1874.
- 20 Dec** On this date the following were ordained: Frs. Stephen Rosa¹⁶⁷, Julius Zambiasi¹⁶⁸, Joseph Bertapelle¹⁶⁹, Joseph Chemello¹⁷⁰.

1885

- 2 May** Fr. Benciolini moved from *Derelitti* to the Stimmate because of his degrading health.
- 30 May** Octavian Piccoli was ordained a priest in Verona.
- 12 Aug** Bishop Francis Sogaro, a former member of the Congregation, consecrated in St. Agatha of the Goths Church in Rome [at the time, the Irish College], came to the Stimmate and celebrated Mass. He stayed for dinner and said he still retained a strong desire of re-entering it, but had to fulfil his Foreign Mission calling to Africa.
- 8 Sep** Fr. Paul Gradinati was appointed Novice Master to succeed Fr. Alexis Magagna¹⁷¹ - Fr. Gradinati wrote in his Spiritual Diary that day: 'May God grant that the Superiors have made a good choice – may Our Lady help me to carry out this task without harm to myself, or others.'

¹⁶⁷ Fr. Stephen Rosa: born 31 October 1860; ordained December 1887; death 29 June 1922.

¹⁶⁸ Fr. Julius Zambiasi: born 20 December 1860; ordained December 1887; death 19 March 1909.

¹⁶⁹ Fr. Joseph Bertapelle: born 10 September 1860; entered 29 April 1877; ordained December 1887; death 4 February 1930.

¹⁷⁰ Joseph Chemello had left as a Deacon in May 1885, for his general poor health brought about by tuberculosis, 'but even more due to a diabolic temptation.' Very shortly, he would repent of this, and state that he would be sorry for the rest of his life. (by Fr. Henchey, in a note to *Brief Chronicle*, p. 152).

¹⁷¹ Fr. Alexis Magagna: born 5 April 1851; entered 1864; ordin. 1876; death 19 February 1919.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1886

- 26 Oct** Bro. Emilio Bernardi¹⁷² departed for Pavia to arrange the house and to prepare the arrival of the Congregation.
- 4 Nov** On this date, Bishop Augustine Riboldi¹⁷³ [later, a Cardinal], welcomed the Congregation of the Stimmate into his Diocese of Pavia. The Congregation came to assist with the Oratory of St. Aloysius; to conduct a night school for workers and to preach Missions throughout the Diocese as long as this did not conflict with the other functions there. The confreres appointed there were: Fr. Melchiade Vivari, Fr. Angelo Graziani¹⁷⁴ and Bro. Emilio Bernardi. They resided temporarily in a rented house.

1886

- 18 Aug** Fr. L. Tomasi wrote on this date that the little booklet he was preparing on the lives of the early Fathers and Brothers was being prepared in great haste. It had to be ready within a month for the Superior General's (Fr. Peter Vignola) Golden Jubilee.
- 24 Sep** Fr. Peter Vignola, Superior General, celebrated his Golden Jubilee as a Priest, at the Stimmate. Almost all the members of the Congregation were present for the occasion. He was assisted at the Solemn Mass by his brother, Monsignor Paul Vignola. Fr. Paul Zenari, Pastor of Caldiero, gave an outstanding speech. That evening, at St. Teresa's, there was an *Academia* in honour of the jubilarian, in which Fr. Vignola was praised as the 'heir of the spirit, prudence and authority' of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni.¹⁷⁵

¹⁷² Bro. Emilio Bernardi. [No further information was found].

¹⁷³ Augustine Riboldi was bishop in Pavia between 1877 and 1901. Followed by Francesco Ciceri (1901-1924) and by Joseph Ballerini (1924-1933).

¹⁷⁴ Fr. Angelo Graziani. Born 22 December 1853; entered 1865; ordin. 1877; death 16 August 1928.

¹⁷⁵ For this occasion, a Fr. Ferdinand Colombari edited a book, entitled *Reminiscences concerning the Fathers and Brothers of the Congregation of the Apostolic Missionaries for the Assistance of Bishops [1835-1883]* - published by the Prem. Tipografia Vescovile P. Colombari. An English Translation of these colourful biographies of the Early Stigmatines may be found on the web-site on St. Gaspar – Early Biographies – www.st-bertoni.com.

1887

- 23 Jan** On this Feast of the Espousals there was celebrated the 25th anniversary of the consecration of the now Cardinal di Canossa. The Cardinal observed this occasion with a Pontifical Mass in the Cathedral of Verona with six other Bishops. Bishop Brandolini of Ceneda, however came to the Stimate on this occasion. A commemorative edition of the paper “Verona Fedeale” carried poems by Fr. Vincent Vignola and Fr. Gradinati honouring the Cardinal.
- 7 Mar** On this date, Fr. Richard Tabarelli presented a philosophical dissertation before the Academy of St. Thomas in Parma.
- 31 Mar** The Congregation purchased a house in Pavia next to the Church of Sts. Philip and James for 50,000 Lire, borrowed from Bishop Riboldi.¹⁷⁶ The house was big enough to reserve a section for a future hostel.
- 9 May** The new house chapel in Parma, constructed under Fr. Dominic Vicentini’s direction, was inaugurated this day.
- 22 Sep** The Capitular Commission appointed by the 9th General Chapter [February of 1880] to review the *Appendix to Part XII of the Original Constitutions*, [prepared by a previous Capitular Commission, appointed by the 1st General Chapter on 3 July 1871], on today’s date finished its work.
- Oct** Fr. Louis Morando left Bassano and was replaced by Fr. Joseph Zandonai.
- 22 Dec** The Congregation celebrated the Golden Jubilee of Pope Leo XIII’s ordination to the Priesthood. A special program [an *Academia*] was held at the Stimate, to which Cardinal di Canossa attended. To honour the Pope’s Golden Jubilee, in Parma Fr. Sterza composed a number of poems that were later published; and Fr. Tabarelli dedicated to Leo XIII his first theological work.¹⁷⁷

¹⁷⁶ *Breve Cronaca* p. 185

¹⁷⁷ *Brief Chronicles*, [web edition] p. 160.

1888

Fr. Joseph Antonioli¹⁷⁸ and Fr. Egidio Stofella¹⁷⁹ were ordained in 1888.

Jan On the occasion of the priestly jubilee of Pope Leo XIII in Rome, Fr. Angelo Graziani together with Fr. Melchiade Vivari, at the beginning of January 1888, went to visit Card. Lucido Maria Parocchi, who spoke for about half hour on the Founder, whom he had met in Verona. He described him as a rare person for holiness and wisdom.

2 Feb Fr. Joseph Zandonai drew up a practical plan for the organization of the house of Bassano. A decision seemed reached with the Arch-Priest on 2 February 1888. But many matters were still not solved.¹⁸⁰

4 Feb The “Abbot” of Bassano wrote to the Superior General, Fr. Peter Vignola, and in clear terms made known his displeasure concerning the Community at Bassano, and regarding the Congregation as a whole.

7 Mar Bro. Louis Ferrari, long-time confidant of the deceased Superior General Fr. Marani, died at the Stimate at the age of 76. He had accompanied the Superior General to see Pious XI in 1854, seeking the Decree of Praise - and he accompanied him in many other occasions, especially when giving Missions.

On this same day Fr. Peter Vignola, informed the Abbot of Bassano that at the close of that year the Congregation would leave Bassano – thus closing its 12 years of service.

13 Mar Bishop Francis Sogaro requested the services of Fr. Dominic Vicentini for Central Africa, but Fr. Peter Vignola refused. The Bishop presented the case to the S. Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith which ruled that Fr. Vicentini should go to Africa for two years.

¹⁷⁸ Fr. Joseph Antonioli; born 5 November 1863; ordained 1888; death 18 January 1832.

¹⁷⁹ Fr. Egidio Stofella: born 18 October 1864; entrance: 1877; ordination 1888; death 15 January 1923.

¹⁸⁰ *Brief Chronicles*, p. 161.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1889

- 7 Jul** Fr. Zandonai made one last attempt to keep the Congregation in Bassano – the Bishop of Vicenza backed his plan, but the General Council could no longer maintain the group there.
- 14 Jul** Fr. Tabarelli, who had been sent to Rome by Fr. Peter Vignola, Sup. Gen., to obtain Papal Approbation was assured that the documents he had brought with him from Verona were in the hands of a Consultor of the S. Congr. of Bishop and Regulars, a Fr. John Mary Camilleri, OSA – so, on this day, Fr. Tabarelli returned to Verona.
- 11 Oct** Fr. Camilleri, OSA, Consultor to the Sacred Congregation of Bishops and Regulars, gave a favourable reply regarding the Constitutions of the Congregation which had been presented to the Holy See by the Superior General, Fr. Peter Vignola.
- 18 Dec** Death of Fr. Anthony Conte.

1889

- 20 Feb** Fr. Camilleri, OSA, Consultor to the Sacred Congregation of Bishops and Regulars made 21 Observations concerning the Constitutions presented to him by Fr. Peter Vignola, Superior General, who was seeking the Papal Approbation for the Congregation. One of the remarks was that the Superior General should no longer be elected for life – as Fr. Vignola had been. As the result, Fr. General began thinking about convoking the General Chapter for Elections.
- 19 Apr** Fr. Vincent Vignola was preaching on the seven last words of Christ in the church of the Stimmate and collapsed.
- 20 Apr** Fr. Vincent Vignola never recovered from his attack and he passed away this *Holy Saturday*.
- 21 Apr** The deaths of Fr. Conte, Fr. Vincent Vignola (the Superior General's brother) and the serious illness of Fr. Morando hindered Fr. Peter Vignola, Sup. Gen., from accepting any of the many offers to the Congregation at this time.
- 12 Sep** The *11th General Chapter* was convened at the Stimmate – its purpose was to carry out the directives of the Holy See regarding the Constitutions, in the Congregation's efforts to have the Congregation receive Papal Approbation. The Chapter closed on 25 September.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1890

- 19 Sep** Fr. Benciolini's 60th anniversary was celebrated – he was much praised in speeches, music and poems. At the end of the meal, he knelt in the Refectory and asked pardon if he had ever given bad example.
- 30 Dec** The first Stigmatine community in Rome went to a rented house near Gianicolo, and they were Fr. Richard Tabarelli and Bro. Alphonse Guglielmini¹⁸¹. The following year Fr. Peter Scotton¹⁸² joined them. They will remain there for two years.

1890

- 11 Jan** Fr. Benciolini suffered a severe attack that made his breathing difficult. He could no longer lie down but had to sleep in a chair.
- 21 Jan** Fr. Benciolini was unable to leave the house anymore. This day he took a few steps outside his room, assisted by the faithful Bro. Nicora, who stayed with him day and night.
- 28 Feb** The Constitutions approved by the 11th General Chapter (September 25, 1889) were sent to Rome along with some Testimonial Letters. Bishop [later Cardinal] Riboldi of Pavia wrote that when he was looking for a male Congregation for his Diocese, the Congregation of the Apostolic Missionaries was highly recommended. Now that they had been active in his Diocese, he could state, from his own experience, that they were learned, holy, zealous, well educated Priests, with a special reverence for the Holy See.
- 12 Jun** Msgr. Battandier, Consultor to the S. Congregation of Bishops and Regulars, made some important observations concerning the Constitutions and the Congregation. He was the one who pointed out that the Congregation had no right to confer the title of "Apostolic Missionary", as this was the prerogative of the Holy See.
- 15 Sep** After the favourable vote of the Congregation of Bishops and Regulars and the Pope's endorsement, the **Decree of Pontifical approval** bears the date of 15 September 1890.

¹⁸¹ Bro. Alphonse Guglielmini. [No further information was found].

¹⁸² Fr. Peter Scotton. Born 16 June 1866; entered 1881; ordin. Nov 1890; death 2 April 1928.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1891

- 24 Sep** On this date, the stormy 12th *General Chapter* convened at the Stimate. There was a heated discussion on the ‘End’ of the Congregation, its purpose and Apostolic Means. Among some of the confreres, there was the feeling that there was an overstress of schools and education, and the neglect of other aspects of the Apostolic Mission. This Chapter also officially changed the name of the Congregation – acting on Monsignor Battandier’s suggestion. From this time onward, the title *Apostolic Missionaries* would no longer be used, as it is the prerogative of the Holy See to confer this title. It would now be called ‘**The Congregation of the Priests of the Sacred Stigmata of our Lord Jesus Christ.**’ [Long years earlier, Fr. Marani had opted for the title ‘Order of the Sacred Stigmata.’]
- 25 Sep** Fr. Sembianti renewed his request to be released from the Congregation – which he had previously made in 1879 – so that he could follow his Foreign Missionary Vocation: permission was granted to him and to Fr. Dominic Vicentini. This latter, later became Superior General of the Scalabrini Fathers – and Fr. Sembianti became Vicar General.
- 3 Oct** The 12th General Chapter was concluded.
- 1 Nov** The Encyclical *Tametsi Futura Prospicientibus* of Pope Leo XIII was promulgated, dedicated to Jesus Christ, Redeemer of humanity. Fr. Richard Tabarelli was part of the editing team for its compilation.

1891

- 1 Jan** Fr. Tabarelli and Fr. Scotton, in Rome, moved from their lodging on Via S. Francesco di Sales to Vicolo del Bologna #40. They lived on the 2nd Floor of this building, while the Carmelites, who cared for the Church of S. Maria della Scala, lived on the 3rd. Fr. Tabarelli began looking in earnest for a church in Rome for the Congregation. He had recently been introduced to Cardinal Parocchi, through his Secretary, a Fr. Fossa.
- 17 Jan** Fr. Peter Vignola, Sup. Gen., sent Fr. Julius Zambiasi to the community in Rome, to study Physics and Mathematics. Card. Parocchi assigned him to teach at the Seminary of Albano, with Fr. Tabarelli.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1891

- 17 Feb** On this day the custom in the Congregation of reading a short account of a Confrere's life on the anniversary began. It was later sanctioned by the Constitutions.
- 19 Mar** On this Feast of St. Joseph, the Fathers of the Congregation officiated at the Church of San Nicola dei Prefetti, in Rome, for the first time.
- 23 Mar** Fr. Tabarelli, Julius Zambiasi and Scotton moved from Vicolo del Bologna #40, Rome, to a house near San Nicola dei Prefetti. Later on, this house would host also the General Curia, from 1917 to 1927. As all priests were involved in schoolwork, Fr. Pius Gurisatti (the future 4th Superior General) was sent to take care of the church. The Stigmatine presence there went on until 1927.
- 23 Apr** The 13th *General Chapter*, held at the Stimate, started on the 23 April 1891 and closed on 24 April.
- 19 May** A special "Academia" was held at the Stimate in honour of Cardinal di Canossa's 90th birthday but the old Cardinal was unable to come.
- 9 Jun** Fr. Anthony Oss Bals, who had endeared himself to the people in and around the Church of S. Martino, Trent, died this day. His place was taken by the ailing Fr. Beltrami.
- 12 Jun** A Dr. Philip Marai noted that he was treating Fr. Francis Benciolini for shortness of breath caused by the inflammation of the thorax.¹⁸³
- 15 Jun** About this time Fr. Pius Gurisatti, who had been sent to Rome to care for the Church of San Nicola dei Prefetti on a temporary basis, returned to Verona and his place in Rome was taken by Fr. Louis Morando.
- 18 Jun** A triduum was preached, both at the Stimate and at Pavia, in honour of St. Aloysius. Fr. Joseph Bertapelle preached to the 500 members of the Oratory at Pavia and sent a letter to Rome, which was on display for many years in the Saint's room there.

¹⁸³ This date needs to be confirmed. The information was taken from *CSS Calendar*, where it was allocated on 12 June 1826! By then, Benciolini was not yet a priest, and he was declared having "better than average health". I guess this was a typing mistake, and I have allocated it to the year 1891, closer to his last days, especially seeing that his last ailments were of the same nature.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1892

- 21 Jun** The IIIrd Centenary of the death of Aloysius Gonzaga was celebrated throughout Verona – Fr. Morando wrote a short life of the Saint that was published.
- 30 Jun** At the end of June, Fr. John Baptist Tomasi¹⁸⁴ joined the Stigmatine community in Rome to prepare himself for the Doctorate in Theology.
- 23 Aug** Fr. Peter Vignola, 3rd Superior General, died very suddenly this Sunday afternoon. He had just finished teaching Catechism at San Silvestro. [Frs. Bertoni – Marani – Lenotti - and now, Fr. Peter Vignola: all died on a Sunday afternoon!]
- 24 Sep** Fr. Louis Morando convoked the 14th *General Chapter*, held at the Stimmate to elect a successor to Fr. Peter Vignola, recently deceased. On the 27 September, the Chapter chose **Fr. Pius Gurisatti for a ten-year term**. The Councillors elected were: Frs. Morando, Tabarelli, Marini and Zandonai. This Chapter decided that once the General Chapter was announced, local Chapters should assemble, choose delegates for the General Chapter – those under 35 years of age should have Active, but not Passive voice.
- 7 Nov** Fr. Morando, the Superior at the Stimmate, celebrated a solemn Memorial Mass for the deceased Superior General, Fr. Peter Vignola.

1892

- 7 Jan** Fr. Benciolini had another very bad attack and was anointed. Bro. Nicora was with him through the night and Bro. Attilio Dal Sasso¹⁸⁵ slept in the next room in the event that his services might be needed during the night.
- 17 Feb** Fr. Benciolini's long and good life was nearing its end. He was visited this day by Fr. Pius Gurisatti, Sup. Gen., who gave him viaticum.
- 19 Feb** Fr. Francis Benciolini died at the age of 86. He had been the first Vicar General of the Congregation. Bro. Dal Sasso said he died about 1:00 a.m. and that his death was serene. He was laid out in the Oratory of the immaculate Conception.

¹⁸⁴ Fr. John Baptist Tomasi. Born 24 January 1866; ordin. 26 January 1890; he was Superior General for 11 years, elected on 22 September 1911; death 2 January 1954.

¹⁸⁵ Bro. Attilio Dal Sasso. Born 28 September 1868; prof. 1892; death 30 January 1946.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1893

- 21 Feb** Fr. Rigoni eulogised Fr. Benciolini and stated that when Fr. Bertoni died in 1853, he actually lived on in Fr. Benciolini – and asked “who was there in Verona who did not know Fr. Benciolini?”
- 12 Mar** Cesare Benaglia¹⁸⁶ was ordained a priest this day.
- 3 Apr** A memorial service was held in Santa Maria del Giglio for the recently deceased Fr. Benciolini (who had lived many years at the *Derelitti*). The Pastor of St. Stephen’s celebrated Mass – a Fr. Zocchi delivered a sermon and told his hearers that in place of sorrow, there should be only admiration for the holy, old man who had died.
- 12 Apr** Fr. Richard Tabarelli was named Consultor to the S. Congregation of Bishops and Regulars, the first member of the Congregation to be so honoured.
- 5 May** A second Community was establish in Rome, in charge of the church of Santa Maria dei Miracoli, but for a while they served the church from a rented house.
- Nov** The second Community of Rome could now move into the premises attached to the church of Santa Maria dei Miracoli. They were two confreres: Fr. Louis Morando¹⁸⁷ and Joseph Zandonai. From the very beginning there started a participated devotion to the Holy Spouses, with Novena and solemn celebration of the Feast. From 1907 this community would host also the General Curia. And from 1912 it would open the doors to Professed Students who went to Rome for studies. The community would be closed in July 1915.

1893

- 7 Mar** With an Academy and philosophical debate, held in St. Teresa’s, there was celebrated 55 years’ Priestly Jubilee of Leo XIII, the restorer of Thomistic Philosophy. In Rome Fr. Richard Tabarelli had been named an Urban Associate of the Academy of St. Thomas Aquinas, recently instituted by Pope Leo XIII.

¹⁸⁶ Cesare Benaglia: born 9 August 1868; ordination 12 March 1892; death 18 April 1962.

¹⁸⁷ Fr. Louis Morando was also teaching Moral Theology and holding spiritual conferences to the seminarians. His speeches were appreciated, and some were published in 1901. He was in Rome when he was elected Bishop of Brindisi (1906-1909).

HISTORICAL NOTES 1894

- 8 Mar** Fr. Pizzighella received an affirmative answer concerning the Devotions to the Holy Face being conducted at the old Oratory of the Immaculate Conception at the Stimate. Fr. Pizzighella had written to the Holy Office and explained what was going on in the light of the furore caused by this devotion.
- 13 Aug** Michaelangel Zanetti¹⁸⁸ was ordained a Priest this day. On the same day the Parish of the Holy Trinity celebrated the service of Fr. Giacobbe to the Parish for 50 years.
- 15 Aug** Fr. M. Zanetti celebrated his first Mass at the Stimate.
- 20 Oct** Birth date of Charles Joseph Zanotti.¹⁸⁹

1894

- 23 Jan** Fr. Pizzighella had gathered the Relics from the house and placed them in an urn in the church of the Stimate.
- 17 Sep** Fr. Pizzighella, Rector of the Stimate, had the Feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis celebrated this year with more than usual solemnity – a painting of St. Francis by Joseph Zannoni was placed over one of the Altars. The 3rd Order of St. Francis had provided the painting.
- 22 Sep** Joseph Chesani¹⁹⁰ and John Castellani¹⁹¹ were ordained Priests on this date – on the same day, Fr. John Rigoni celebrated his Golden Jubilee with the Students at Sezano.

1895

- 2 Feb** On this day the Fathers of the Congregation presented the traditional candle to the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIII. And, this very day, the Pope himself offered the Congregation the Church of the Stimate of St. Francis in Rome. This became the third Church in

¹⁸⁸ Fr. Michelangelo Zanetti; born 20 July 1870; ordained 13 August 1893; death 15 May 1956.

¹⁸⁹ Fr. Charles Joseph Zanotti: born 20 October 1893; profession 29 August 1910; Visitor for North America (1940-1944); he was the first Provincial of North America (1944-1946); death 30 January 1965.

¹⁹⁰ Fr. Joseph Chesani: born 22 April 1871; ordained 22 September 1894; death 13 February 1904.

¹⁹¹ Fr. John Castellani: born 9 July 1871; ordained 22 September 1894; death 8 January 1936.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1895

Rome that the Congregation cared for at this same time – the other two were San Nicola dei Prefetti and Santa Maria dei Miracoli.

- 22 Mar** On this date the Congregation purchased a house in Parma near the church of St. James, on via Massimo di Azeglio which would better suit their work. The confreres moved there in the year 1897.
- 23 Mar** On this day “The Most Reverend Superior General finally took up the much desired business of introducing the Cause of the Servant of God, our Founder, Don Gaspar Bertoni”.¹⁹²
- 27 May** The General Superior went to Venice, since Cardinal Joseph Sarto, the Patriarch of Venice, asked for a foundation in his city. The idea was to take over the direction of the Oratory dedicated to St. Job, administered at that time by the Sons of Charity, the male branch of the foundation of Saint Madeline di Canossa. However, because of many precarious conditions, our Congregation did not think it could accept the offer.¹⁹³
- Sep** A foundation was accepted in Civitavecchia (near Rome, on the sea shore). Frs. Octavian Piccoli and Peter Scotton were assigned there in the month of September 1895. Fr. Scotton had to teach in the Seminary, and Fr. Piccoli was assigned to exercise the sacred ministry in the city and to take care of the Church of St. Nicola of Bari. They did not stay long, because the premises were unsuitable for the foreseen ministry.
- 5 Sep** Fr. Gaetano Pizzighella and Fr. Louis Gasperotti¹⁹⁴ took possession of the Church of the Stigmata of St. Francis in Rome [Largo Argentina], called the *Stimmate* like the one in Verona. Fr. Gasperotti also accepted a teaching post at the Vatican Minor Seminary. In the running of the church they experienced many difficulties for the frequent interfering of the ‘Confraternity of the Stigmata of St. Francis’ to which the Church belonged. They would remain there until July 1903.

¹⁹² *Albero Rigoglioso*, p. 56.

¹⁹³ *Brief Chronicle*, p. 177.

¹⁹⁴ Luigi Gasperotti: born 2 November 1853; ordin. 1877; death 19 December 1936.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1896

- 21 Dec** Frs. Joseph Nardon¹⁹⁵, Pio Gabos¹⁹⁶, Emilio Baretella¹⁹⁷ were ordained.

1896

- 11 Apr** Fr. Pius Gurisatti, Sup. Gen., wrote to the Bishop of Civitavecchia to see if some solution could be reached in the difficulties the Congregation met there. No solution was forthcoming, so Fr. Gurisatti withdrew the Community at the end of that School year.
- 5 Jun** The corner stone of the new church at S. Bernardino Vecchio, Trent, was blessed.
- 9 Jun** On this date Fr. Tabarelli signed an agreement with the Confraternity of the Crucified which ceded the use of the Church and the adjoining house of San Nicola dei Prefetti in Rome. It required that the Congregation should take care of the Church, the house and their upkeep; while the Confraternity retained the rights to the Church for certain feasts.
- 23 Jun** A letter arrived from Bishop Claudio José Gonçalves Ponce de Leon, of Porto Alegre, of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, asking for the opening of a House for the religious assistance of the Italians in his city and Diocese. The name of our Congregation had been suggested by Fr. Dominic Vicentini who, had left our Community in 1890 in order to follow his Missionary vocation.
- 17 Jul** Msgr. Giovannini, Secretary of the Apostolic Nuncio, wrote to the Stimate, asking for some priests to come to Lisbon, Portugal, to care for an Italian Parish there. This was the first offer for Lisbon.
- 17 Sep** The Congregation purchased the Church of St. James and the adjoining property in Parma, near a house already acquired – the Church had been closed for many years.
- 18 Sep** Fr. Mark Bassi died – he was eulogized by the paper *Verona Fedele*, as a true Priest of God.
- 21 Sep** The 15th *General Chapter* was held between 21 and 24 September 1896, in Rome, in the House of Via dei Prefetti.

¹⁹⁵ Fr. Joseph Nardon. Born 28 July 1906; prof. 1930; ordin. 1931; death 22 November 1994.

¹⁹⁶ Pio Gabos: born 7 May 1873; ordination 1895; death 16 February 1944.

¹⁹⁷ Fr. Emilio Baretella. Born 28 April 1873; prof. 1892; ordin. 1895; death 22 October 1956.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1897

- Oct** A request came from the Prevost of Lecco, Fr. Peter Galli, backed by Cardinal Ferrari, Archbishop of Milan, to serve in that town. The Stigmatines accepted, and two priest were sent to Lecco in October 1896, Frs. Joseph Antonioli and John Castellani. But because of some aspects of the agreement were not fulfilled and also because of some hostility from the local clergy, they left in April 1897.
- 9 Nov** John Baptist Zaupa, future Superior General, entered the Congregation.

1897

- 17 Feb** Fr. Louis Fantozzi¹⁹⁸ wrote on this date to the competent authorities stating that the Congregation was willing to come to Lisbon. He received no answer to this letter for two years.
- 23 Jul** The Bishop Claudio José Gonçalves, of Porto Alegre, Brazil, while in Italy, went to Verona and visited the Superior General to renew his request for help in his Diocese. But in that moment it was not possible to fulfil his request.
- Aug** In August 1897, Frs. Erminio Pivato¹⁹⁹, Edward Castellani²⁰⁰, Albino Sella²⁰¹ were ordained.
- 30 Dec** The Diocesan Ecclesiastic Tribunal began today its first session in the Process of Fr. Bertoni's Canonization Cause. Several sessions were held up to January 1899.²⁰²

1898

A students hostel started in Parma.

¹⁹⁸ Luigi Fantozzi: born 2 May 1870; ordination: 1894; he entered the Congregation as a priest and had a novitiate of two years; profession: 28 October 1897; death 4 December 1953.

¹⁹⁹ Fr. Erminio Pivato. Born 18 August 1873; entered 1888; ordin. 1897; death 15 July 1927.

²⁰⁰ Fr. Edward Castellani. Born 17 February 1875; prof. 1891; ordin. 1897; death 28 March 1954.

²⁰¹ Fr. Albino Sella. Born 28 October 1874; ordin. 1897; first Visitor for Brazil (1923-1931); death 27 September 1944.

²⁰² *Albero Rigoglioso*, p. 56.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1898

- 28 Apr** Fr. Pius Gurisatti Sup. Gen., Fr. Tabarelli and the Viscounts of S. João de Pasqueira met in the Hotel of Rome to discuss the Congregation taking over the direction of the Portuguese College in Rome and an agreement was reached.
- 6 May** A second meeting between the Viscounts of San João de Pasqueira and Fr. Gurisatti and Fr. Tabarelli took place at the home of one Anthony Bras to iron out the difficulties so that the Congregation could assume some direction of the Portuguese College, at Villa Boghesse in Rome. The Congregation accepted in February 1899 and started its service in November 1899.²⁰³ The appointed confreres were Fr. Louis Morando, Fr. Joseph Chesani and Bro. Louis Spagnolo²⁰⁴, but they remained there only for three months.
- 22 May** The newly constructed Church of S. Bernardino Vecchio in Trent was opened to the public and dedicated to the Holy Spouses.
- Nov** In the month of November 1898 the foundation at Udine started. In the agreement with the Bishop Pietro Zamburlini, the Congregation would assist in the human and Christian formation of the youth. Schools were opened at various levels. The College, named after Bertoni, was enjoying the title of ‘Archiepiscopal’. The first confreres there were Fr. Joseph Antonioli, Fr. Michaelangel Zanetti and the student Angelo Simeoni²⁰⁵, who had the teaching degree. The Archdiocese bought the Antonini-Cernazai Palace with its land, but it was much in need of repair and renovation, and for the first year the Stigmatines operated in a rented place. In 1903, all higher school levels would be closed, keeping only the elementary classes, because of a reduced number of students, since the catholic schools lost popularity and state school were privileged.
- 31 Dec** The first biographer of Fr. Bertoni, his penitent and friend, Fr. Gaetano Giacobbe, passed away at the age of 89.

²⁰³ “*Dal convento...*”, p. 132. – *Brief Chronicle*, p. 182

²⁰⁴ Bro. Louis Spagnolo. [No further information was found].

²⁰⁵ Fr. Angelo Simeoni. Born 12 August 1876. Ordin. 1899. He went to USA in 1909. Then he left, about 1913.

1899

In 1899, Frs. Angelo Simeoni, Anthony Dalla Porta²⁰⁶, Joseph Fiorio²⁰⁷, John Lona²⁰⁸ were ordained.

- 26 Jan** The sessions of the Diocesan Process in Verona of interviewing the witnesses in the Cause of Fr. Bertoni's Beatification finished this day in Verona.
- 30 Jan** After a delay of two years, Count Albert Gerbais de Sonas answered Fr. Fantozzi's letter [of 17 February 1897]: within the year, the Congregation went to Lisbon, Portugal.
- 13 Mar** Fr. Bertoni's body was exhumed for examination and identification as a part of the Process for his Cause.
- 18 Mar** The body of the Founder, in a new coffin, was put in the Chapel of the Hoy Face, former of the Conception, inside the wall, *in cornu epistolae* (at the right side of the altar).²⁰⁹
- 22 Mar** Fr. Bertoni's body was re-examined by the Diocesan Tribunal in the process of his Beatification.
- 28 Mar** Count Albert Gerbaid de Sonas wrote again from Lisbon defining the duties of the Congregation once they got to Lisbon. They would have the care of an Italian Parish there and the opportunity of opening a school as soon as possible.
- 20 Apr** Fr. Bertoni's body was viewed a third time by Diocesan Officials in the Diocesan Process of his Cause.

²⁰⁶ Fr. Anthony Dalla Porta: born 4 September 1874; ordination 1899; Visitor for North America (1922-1925); death 22 March 1932.

²⁰⁷ Fr. Joseph Fiorio. Born 4 October 1876; prof. 1894; ordin. 1899; death 6 November 1958. He is the author of "*The Spirit of the Ven. Gaspar Bertoni*" (1914) and '*Breve cronaca della Congregazione delle Stimate di N. S. G. C.*' (1917 & 1955) [both translated into English].

²⁰⁸ Fr. John Lona. Born 29 August 1876; entered 1891; ordin. 1899; death 11 June 1933.

²⁰⁹ "*Albero rigoglioso...*", p. 54. J. Henchey, in "*Stigmatine Calendar...*" [web edition], note on p. 68, explains: "In the pre-Vatican II years, the Epistle of each Mass was read by the priest on the 'Epistle Side' (*cornu epistolae*) - looking at the altar from the pews, this would mean the right hand side of the altar. After the reading of the Epistle, the altar boy would transport the Missal to the left side of the altar, called the 'Gospel's Side' (*cornu evangelii*), from where the Gospel was read - and the homily would follow from the top of the altar steps by the celebrant. That all changed with Vatican II". In fact, now the readings are delivered from the pulpit, or stand, facing the assembly.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1900

- 15 May** Fr. Bertoni's body was viewed a 4th time by the Diocesan Officials in the Diocesan Process of his Canonisation.
- 18 May** Fr. Bertoni's body was sealed in the Epistle side of the old Oratory in the Stimate with the inscription: "The remains of the Servant of God, Gaspar Bertoni, Priest, Founder, Legislator of the Congregation of the Priests of the Sacred Stigmata".
- 13 Jun** A Mrs. Giacomina Guicciardi Simonetti left the "Guicciardi Palace" in Gemona to the Congregation in the person of Fr. James Marini for use as a school and Oratory.
- 11 Jul** Fr. Pius Gurisatti, Sup. Gen., accepted the Church that was offered in Lisbon and decided to send Fr. Melchiade Vivari, Fr. Pio Gabos and Bro. Cesare Bonfanti²¹⁰.
- 21 Aug** The Diocesan Process of Fr. Bertoni's Cause was concluded in Verona, and was sent to the Sacred Congregation of Rites in Rome. Fr. Tabarelli succeeded Fr. James Marini as Postulator.
- 14 Nov** The three confreres Fr. Vivari, Fr. Gabos and Bro. Bonfanti, chosen to go to Lisbon, Portugal, moved on this day and would arrive there on the 26 November. They would remain there until 1901.

1900

During 1900, Frs. Giorgio Zanghellini²¹¹ and Emmanuele Zanotelli²¹² were ordained.

- 1 Feb** Fr. Joseph Marchesini signed his will on this date leaving all his earthly goods to Fr. Stephen Rosa. A nephew of Fr. Marchesini would later on contest this will.
- 10 May** There began in Verona the process to prove that no external cult had been given Fr. Bertoni since his death.
- 25 May** The examination of the witnesses began in Verona in the Diocesan Process of Fr. Bertoni's Cause to establish the fact no external cult had been shown to him.
- 25 Jun** The Diocesan Tribunal in Verona concluded its examination that established the fact that no external cult had been shown to Fr.

²¹⁰ Bro. Cesare Bonfanti: born 11 March 1869; prof. 1901; death 11 November 1904.

²¹¹ Fr. Giorgio Zanghellini. Born 22 April 1877; ordin. 1900; death 25 December 1932.

²¹² Fr. Emmanuele Zanotelli. Born 20 May 1877; ordin. 1900; death 27 November 1944.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1901

Bertoni since his death – which otherwise would have been an impediment to his canonization.

1901

In 1901, Fr. Riccardo Zambiasi²¹³ was ordained.

Julius Zanini re-entered the Congregation, and made his novitiate and profession.

Foundation of Gemona.²¹⁴ In the beginning, two priests took care of Gemona from the community of Udine.

- 23 Sep** The 16th *General Chapter* was held between 23 and 25 September 1901 at the Stimmate. **Fr. Pius Gurisatti was re-elected** as Superior General.

1902

In 1902, Frs. Paul Sozzi²¹⁵, Leo Sella²¹⁶, Erminio Lona²¹⁷ were ordained.

- 1 Feb** Fr. Fantozzi became Chaplain at a House of Correction at Certosa, Parma. He had to resign a few months later as the Superintendent would not allow ministration for the inmates.
- 20 Feb** On this date Fr. Joseph Marchesini sold a part of his extensive holdings to Fr. Stephen Rosa and Fr. Victor Gurisatti²¹⁸ for 120,000 Lire.
- 7 Mar** The Superintendent of Schools in Parma gave notice this day that the Congregation would have to close its school in Parma in view of the “Casati Law” forbidding those born in Trent to teach in Italian schools.

²¹³ Fr. Riccardo Zambiasi. Born 31 December 1878; prof. 1895; ordin. 1901; death 23 December 1952.

²¹⁴ “STIMMATINI”, the official Directory of the Congregation, puts the foundation of Gemona in 1901. “*Dal convento...*”, p.132, says that the house of Gemona was opened officially in 1903.

²¹⁵ Fr. Paul Sozzi. Born 24 November 1877; prof. 1897; ordin. 1902; death 19 August 1957.

²¹⁶ Fr. Leo Sella. Born 27 February 1879; prof. 1896; ordin. 1902; death 12 April 1957.

²¹⁷ Fr. Erminio Lona. Born 14 September 1878; prof. 1897; ordin. 1902; first Visitor for North America (1917-1920); death 14 March 1970.

²¹⁸ Fr. Victor Gurisatti. Born 25 July 1866; p. 15 August 1886; ordin. 16 November 1890. He left the Congregation in 1922, because of some divergences with the General Council.

- 30 Sep** The School of the Stimate was closed. Attendance was very poor in those days, and a decree from the Ministry of Education became the occasion for closing. The decree was about the teachers from Trentine Region, who were not accepted because they were not Italian citizens; and at the Stimate they were the majority, eleven of them.
- Nov** In November of 1902, a House was opened in Fabriano (Ancona, Marche). Monsignor Giovanni Zonghi of the Vatican Secretariat of State, had insisted that the Stigmatines open some foundation there. Frs. Gasperotti, Albino Sella and Erminio Lona were assigned there. They were to assume the direction of the Institute called 'B. Francis Venimbeni', with elementary classes, and an adjoining residence, as well as the direction of a Sunday recreation centre. The agreement was signed on the 15 and 26 of October. But the financial commission was not able to give what it had promised: so, at the end of that scholastic year, our Fathers received the order to withdraw.

1903

In 1903, Frs. Domenico Rossi²¹⁹, Giuseppe Tondin²²⁰, Francesco Pedrotti²²¹ were ordained.

- 1 Jan** On this date, the Congregation went to Piacenza. They had been invited there by the Christian Brothers, with Bishop John Baptist Scalabrini's approval. They were to give spiritual assistance to the Schools of the Christian Brothers²²² and to officiate at the church of St. Vincent. Later on, the Congregation would also embark in assisting the students with afternoon activities, first with the "Circolo Casella", then at the Oratory "St. Tarcisius". In 1906 a students' Hostel was started by Fr. Joseph Bertapelle. But because

²¹⁹ Fr. Domenico Rossi. Born 26 November 1880; prof. 1897; ordin. 1903; death 3 November 1963.

²²⁰ Fr. Giuseppe Tondin. Born 9 January 1879; prof. 1897; ordin. 1903; death 14 May 1967.

²²¹ Fr. Francesco Pedrotti. Born 22 April 1877; entered 1892; ordin. 1903; death 5 November 1929.

²²² Their Founder, St. John Baptist de la Salle, wanted them to be totally involved in education, without priesthood.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1903

of divergences with the local clergy and with the Christian Brothers, the Congregation left Piacenza in 1914.²²³

15 May Death of Fr. Joseph Marchesini.

19 May Four days after the death of Fr. Joseph Marchesini, his nephew Louis (son of John) contested what his uncle had given to Fr. Stephen Rosa in 1900 and 1902, claiming he was the rightful heir. A long court case developed from this. On 12 June 1903, the Court of Verona ruled that Louis Marchesini had no valid case against Fr. Stephen Rosa. And again, on two further appeals, the sentence went still against Louis Marchesini: by the Tribunal of Verona on 5 May 1906 and by the Court of Appeal in Venice on 8 June 1907.

Aug Talks had begun on 1 January 1903, about a Stigmatine presence in Milan.²²⁴ The first confreres, Fr. Joseph Antonioli and Fr. Albino Sella went there in August of the same year and Fr. Emilio Baretella would follow shortly after. The place was in via Benvenuto Cellini, 14. The first activity here was a '*Patronato*'.²²⁵ The community would move to '*Acquabella*' in 1907.

Oct The Frs. Pio Gabos and Erminio Lona established a Stigmatine community in Gemona. In 1912 there was a litigation about the property, which, at the end, passed into the hands of the Parish Priest. He asked the Stigmatine to remain and give their precious service of the Oratory, and that was accepted. In 1927 a new agreement with the Parish Priest (the Parish), gave the Congregation perpetual use of the property. In 1930, both the schools and the College were closed to make room for the Novitiate which remained there two years. In 1934, school opened again, beginning with the first class of High school and the lower Technical Institute level.

2 Nov Bro. Charles Salocher died at *Santa Maria dei Miracoli* in Rome. All his life he had been very observant of the Suffrages for the Poor Souls in Purgatory: he died on the day of their commemoration.

²²³ "*Dal convento...*", pp. 170-173. *Brief Chronicle*, p. 187.

²²⁴ "*Dal convento...*", p.166. *Cronaca Casa Stimmate*, p.104.

²²⁵ About *Patronato* see footnote for 21 June 1905.

1904

- 13 Feb** Fr. Joseph Chesani died this day in Verona. He had worked very hard, preparing a study of Dante's "Inferno".
- 22 Aug** Fr. Joseph Zandonai passed away. He suffered another attack of apoplexy, and this time it proved fatal. During the school year that had just ended, he had taught Church History to the Students of the Congregation.
- 18 Dec** Inauguration of the renovated buildings at the Stimate, in the section called 'Terese', meant to host the '*Patronato Operaio*', which would comprise of many activities for the education of workers.
- 21 Dec** Frs. Alessandro Grigolli²²⁶, Ferruccio Zanetti²²⁷ and Augusto Fioramonte²²⁸ were ordained in December 1904.

1905

- 17 Mar** Fr. Joseph Antonioli purchased a piece of property in the "Acquabella" section of Milan (nowadays, via Goldoni) with the intention of building there a boarding house for the students attending school in Milan. At first the General Council was not interested, but in time it would become a project of the Congregation.
- 20 Mar** In Parma, on this 20 March 1905, the community went to the Conservatorio (Music Academy) to enrol to music courses the talented student Giuseppe Stofella²²⁹.
- 20 May** The newly constructed theatre in Trent was inaugurated this day. Frequently plays would be put on this theatre as part of the activity of the oratory.

²²⁶ Fr. Alessandro Grigolli; born 4 August 1881; ordination 1904; death 17 February 1969.

²²⁷ Fr. Ferruccio Zanetti; born 17 June 1881; entered 1895; ordin. 1904; death 20 July 1945.

²²⁸ Fr. Augusto Fioramonte; born 16 June 1881; I prof. 15 November 1898; ordin. 21 December 1904. He left the Congregation around 1927.

²²⁹ Fr. Giuseppe Stofella. Born 13 November 1885; prof. 1902; ordin. 1909; death 22 March 1966.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1905

- 21 Jun** This day marked the inauguration of the “*Patronato Operaio*”²³⁰ of Verona. Fr. Fantozzi had been supervising renovations at the Stimmate, to house the endeavour of this innovative activity – consisting of a boarding house, instructions and training facilities for the workers in Verona. This activity was dedicated to Pope Pius X. Most of the teachers were lay volunteers who offered freely their services. Main activities were: music, drama, sport (athletics, cycling and soccer); then there were courses to cover elementary school, French language classes, and a driving school (from 1906: one of the first in Italy!). Those who enrolled, were also asked to take part in various religious and formative activities. In 1909 a shrine was built, attached to the ‘*Patronato*’, dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes²³¹. The ‘*Patronato*’ was closed during the 2nd World War and resumed in 1919.²³²
- 17 Aug** In a session of the General Council, Fr. Pius Gurisatti, Sup. Gen., granted permission to Fr. Ludovicus Luchi²³³ and Fr. Anthony Dalla Porta to leave for America *ad experimentum*.
- 18 Aug** Fr. Antonioli was supervising the construction of the students’ boarding house in “Acquabella” section of Milan.
- 26 Sep** Fr. Luchi²³⁴ and Fr. Dalla Porta left Trent for their journey through Switzerland to Le Havre, France.
- 2 Oct** Fr. Anthony Dalla Porta and Fr. Ludovicus Luchi set sail from Le Havre, France, to establish the Congregation in the New World, in

²³⁰ “*Patronato Operaio*”: a training centre for poor people who intended to become entrepreneurs and open their own small businesses.” *Beyond the Ocean*, No. 37, p. 161.

²³¹ The church, dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes, was consecrated on 22 March 1909 by Bishop Schaeffer, of Tarbes (the Diocese in France where Lourdes is located). The statues of the various altars, a bust of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni (Servant of God), as well as a beautiful statue of the Virgin - placed in a niche repeating the rocks of Lourdes - were all the work of the sculptor Ugo Zannoni, who executed these works of art gratuitously.

²³² ‘*Albero rigoglioso...*’, p. 115. The new Director was Fr. Domenico Rossi, since Fr. Fantozzi was transferred to Rome, Holy Cross.

²³³ Fr. Ludovico Luchi had some relatives from Trent who were working in the United States, and became the promotor of sending some confreres there to assist the Italian emigrants. Since 1904, on more occasions, he had asked the Superiors to send someone there, until his suggestion was accepted. He was the first Stigmatine to go to the USA, together with Fr. Anthony Dalla Porta, in 1905.

²³⁴ Fr. Ludovicus Luchi. Born 25 August 1859; p. 9 May 1881; ordin. 30 September 1883. He left the Congregation in 1922, because of some divergences with the General Council.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1906

North America. They arrived at Hazleton, Pennsylvania, on the 10 October.

- 13 Oct** On this date, Fr. Anthony Dalla Porta and Fr. Ludovicus Luchi were received by the Bishop Michael J. Hoban²³⁵ of Scranton, Pennsylvania. They were the first Stigmatines in North America. The confreres were to give a service to the Italian immigrants in Hazleton, PA, especially to those coming from Trent. At the beginning they used the churches of other groups, but eventually, with the help of many Trentin faithful, even from other places, they managed to buy a property and built a church, which was inaugurated on 22 February 1907, dedicated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Later on, some other structures were built for various activities of the Trentin Community. Shortly after they promoted another foundation in Scranton, PA. In 1906, Fr. Dalla Porta started a new activity in Springfield, Massachusetts. In 1908 they were joined by Fr. Lino Cembran²³⁶, for Hazleton, PA; and Fr. Victor Gurisatti, to help in Scranton. From these communities, another foundation started in 1913, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Stigmatine presence in the three places, Hazleton, Scranton and Milwaukee was concluded in 1922.

1906

- 7 Jan** Cardinal Peter Respighi, Vicar of Pius X, consecrated in Rome this day the first member of the Congregation raised to the Episcopacy – Fr. Louis Morando, who had been named Archbishop of Brindisi by the Pope the previous December.²³⁷
- 23 Jan** The newly consecrated Archbishop Louis Morando returned to the Stimate to celebrate this Feast of the Espousals with his Confreres before leaving to take over his diocese of Brindisi.
- Feb** In 1906 there was a request by the Association “Gens italica” to open a community in Constantinople, Turkey. Fr. Peter Scotton

²³⁵ Michael John Hoban was Bishop of Scranton from 1899 to 1926.

²³⁶ Fr. Lino Cembran. Born 8 April 1879; p. 6 November 1899; ordin. 18 August 1905. He left the Congregation in 1922, because of some divergences with the General Council.

²³⁷ As a Stigmatine, he had devoted himself to preaching, but also he gave good support to teaching in the High Schools (Arts) and in Theological School (Dogmatic and Moral). In 1889 he got very sick, almos dying, but he recovered. In 1891 he served also as General Councillor.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1906

went there to investigate, but, for various reasons, the offer was declined.

- 26 Feb** Cardinal Tripepi, the Pro-Prefect of the S. Congr. of Rites, obtained an affirmative reply to the question of the Founder's cause being introduced in Rome.
- 2 Mar** Pope Pius X signed a decree for the introduction of the Cause for Fr. Bertonì. From this moment the Founder could be called 'Venerable'.
- 25 Mar** Archbishop Louis Morando entered his see of Brindisi.
- 1 Apr** Bishop Morando entered Ostuni, as he was also Apostolic Administrator of that Diocese.
- May** Fr. Pius Gurisatti, in a Circular Letter addressed to the entire Congregation, resigned his office, and convoked the XVII General Chapter for the election of his successor
- 26 Jul** USA. Fr. Anthony Dalla Porta moved into St. Michael's Cathedral Rectory in Springfield, Massachusetts, and took over from Fr. Kelley (a former student of Fr. Tabarelli in Rome) the care of the Italians of the city. Later on he was joined by Fr. Alfred Balestrazzi²³⁸. At the beginning they lived with the priests of the Cathedral, using the Cathedral basement for the care of the Italian faithful. In 1911 the church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was built.²³⁹ In 1917, Fr. Zaupa, began the publication of a Parish Bulletin, which had as its title *The Friend of the Truth*. In 1919, with the cooperation of the Sisters Daughters of O.L. of Mercy of Savona, the 'Colombo' Institute was established, with many activities for the Italo-Americans: a school of Italian and of English, conferences for all, entertainments, a musical band and a school of tailoring and embroidering. In 1920, a small portable church was purchased, for the areas known as 'Mittingue' and 'Agawam'²⁴⁰, which was used temporary until 1925, when St.

²³⁸ Alfred Balestrazzi: born 7 March 1871. He went to USA as a cleric, in 1883; ordination 1894; Visitator for North America (1925-1927); death 5 December 1945.

²³⁹ The Bishop blessed the corner-stone on 16 July 1911, and on 24 December the Church opened to the public. On 12 May 1912, the Bishop imparted his solemn blessing. *Brief Chronicles*, p. 209.

²⁴⁰ American Chronicles Vol 2.1, p. 65. The Stigmatine service for Agawam started on 11 July 1921. Seemingly a Stigmatine Community remained there until 1999; then the pastoral

Anthony's Church was built. In 1936, a new parish was established in West Springfield, dedicated to St. Anne. Again another parish was added at Feeding Hills in 1946, where the church, dedicated to the Sacred Heart, was built in 1959.²⁴¹

18 Sep The 17th *General Chapter* convened at the Stimate – Fr. Pius Gurisatti, already General for 15 years, withdrew his resignation, and so automatically continued the last half of his second ten years' term. The Councillors elected were: Frs. Tabarelli, Fr. John B. Tomasi, Julius Zambiasi and Alfred Balestrazzi. The Chapter decided that at the end of Fr. Gurisatti's term, Superiors General would have six year terms. Again, it was decided that the General Curia would move to Rome. The Chapter closed on 20 September.

1907

Italy. At the beginning of the year, the Community of Milan moved from via B. Cellini to Acquabella, via Goldoni 75.

On this year 1907 the Superior General, Fr. Pius Gurisatti, went to the United States to make his first Visitation of our houses there, taking with him, Fr. Joseph Nardon and Bro. Camillus Ramus²⁴². On his return, he proposed to Fr. Balestrazzi that he should leave for North America, and he willingly accepted the proposal. He resigned his office as General Councillor, in which he was substituted by Fr. Angelo Graziani, and left that same year and joined Fr. Anthony Dalla Porta in Springfield.

1 Jan Italy. The Stigmatines were called by the Bishop of Pistoia, Marcello Mazzanti, to the management of the 'Patronato del Tempio' (replacing the Salesians) for the local youth (which was founded in 1904). The first Stigmatines to go there were Fr. Albino Sella and Fr. Henry Gabos²⁴³. Attached to the 'Patronato' there were also other associations for the youth, inclusive of a drama

care went under the Diocese, incorporated into another parish (All Saints). The church building was closed on 1 January 2009.

²⁴¹ Feeding Hills was left in 1987.

²⁴² Bro. Camillus Ramus went to USA in 1907. First he was in Springfield, then in 1915 he moved to Pittsfield, Massachusetts. His name appears up to 1925. He then left the Congregation. Cf. *American Chronicles*, 1.1, p. 166 & p. 206.

²⁴³ Henry Gabos. Born 31 October 1881; profession 1900; ordin. 1906; went to USA in 1925. death 17 November 1946

HISTORICAL NOTES 1908

group. It is recorded that the place was always packed of young people. The confreres were also giving their support to diocesan activities for the youth²⁴⁴. The Stigmatine presence went on until 1920, closed supposedly for lack of personnel.

- 21 Jan** The Congregation for Bishops and Regular ratified the decision of the 17th General Chapter to move the Superior General and his Council from Verona to Rome, within the community of Santa Maria dei Miracoli.
- 2 Feb** Cardinal Ferrari of Milan blessed the wooden circular pavilion converted into a church by the Congregation – it went by the name of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.
- 26 Apr** Fr. Melchiade Vivari died this day at the Stimate. He was eulogised in the Parma press as “a holy and learned priest... a valiant soldier of Jesus Christ... one of the most illustrious members of the Congregation...” During his lifetime he translated two books from German (Fr. Biederlak, S.J. “The Social Questions”, and Fr. Von Dess’, S.J., “Counsels for the Young” – he also translated a book on Lourdes from French.)
- Aug** The Superior General made a visitation to the Communities of North America.
- 26 Dec** Fr. Enrico Adami²⁴⁵ was ordained in Mantova.

1908

- 20 Jan** This was a very dark and foggy night in Milan. There was a frightful train wreck at the “Acquabella” line junction in Milan. The Fathers stationed at Milan in the “Acquabella” section of the city were among the first on the scene. The house was used as a temporally hospital for the dying and injured.
- Feb** Asked by the Bishop of Trieste, Francis Xavier Nagl, who had made his first request in 1904 and repeated in 1908, the Congregation accepted to take the direction of an orphanage in Capodistria (Trieste). The first to go there were Fr. Emilio Lona

²⁴⁴ In 1913, the Director of the ‘*Patronato*’, Fr. Joseph Tondin, was invited as a member of honour to the Diocesan Congress for youth.

²⁴⁵ Fr. Enrico Adami: born 16 November 1883; prof. 1905; ordin. 1907; among the first confreres in Brazil, on 5 December 1910; (he was also in China [1925-1939] and in the United States [1939-1946]); death 23 September 1973.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1909

and Fr. Fortunato Pedot²⁴⁶. They took over the organization of the whole orphanage, with the direction of the boys' section and the spiritual assistance to the girls (who were under the direction of the Srs. of Providence, founded by St. Louis Scrosoppi). They got also involved in local youth's activities. Some problems with the Administration Board, though, made life difficult. In 1913 the General Council wanted to withdraw the confreres, but the Bishop managed to bring peaceful agreements. The annex church of St. Blaise was repaired and open in 1916. The Congregation remained until 1920.

- 29 Jun** Pope Pius X issued an Apostolic Constitution which restructured the offices of the Holy See. The S. Congregation of Bishops and Regulars was split and the S. Congregation of Religious was inaugurated. The Capitular Commission elected by the XVII Gen. Chap. (18 September 1906), that was working on the Constitutions to bring them into accord with the "Norms" issued by the S. Congr. of Bishops and Regulars (issued in 1901), suspended its activity for the time being until the competency of the S. Congr. of Religious was more determined.

1909

- 20 Aug** In Brindisi, Archbishop Louis Morando died. He was assisted in his last days by the Superior General, Fr. Pius Gurisatti.
- 11 Oct** Death of Fr. Richard Tabarelli. He had a doctorate in both philosophy and theology. He had been a General Councillor and Procurator General. He worked a lot at the Stimmate, involved with the school and teaching Stigmatine professed; in Rome, he lectured in various seminaries and universities. He was appointed Consultor of the Congregation for Bishops and Regulars. He had been part of the team who prepared the 'Catechism of Pius X'.
- 12 Oct** The Coadjutor Bishop of Belluno, Joseph Foschiani, asked strongly the Congregation to take the direction and teaching of the Diocesan Major Seminary: it was a very demanding task, and initially it was not accepted. But there was a direct intervention of Pope Pius X on 12 October 1909, and then it was accepted. The

²⁴⁶ Fr. Fortunato Pedot. Born 21 September 1884; prof. 1902; ordin. 1907; death 2 December 1955.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1910

confreres who went there were: Fr. John Baptist Tomasi (Director and teacher of Dogmatic Theology), Fr. Alfred Balestrazzi (who would succeed as Director to Fr. Tomasi, when he would become Superior General), Fr. Joseph Fiorio (Bursar), Fr. Goffredo Friedmann²⁴⁷ (Vice Rector), Fr. Leo Sella, and the Deacon Enrico Fadanelli²⁴⁸, who was ordained a Priest in Belluno, at Christmas of the same year. Shortly after, Fr. Fortunato Pedot (for Canon Law) came.²⁴⁹ In 1910, the Stigmatines took over also the Administration, and two more confreres came: Fr. Domenico Rossi (Bursar) and Fr. Giuseppe Stofella (Latin). As Fr. J.B. Tomasi was elected Superior General, he was replaced by Fr. Tarcisio Martina²⁵⁰, counting nine confreres in 1912. Besides teaching, they were appreciated as preachers in nearby churches. They also became involved with activities for the youth. The Congregation left Belluno at the end of the academic year 1915, especially in order to empower the local clergy for the Seminary.²⁵¹

1910

In 1910, the Superior General, Fr. Pius Gurisatti, conducted a second Canonical Visitation to the Houses of North America, where the foundations had consolidated, and he brought with him Fr. Peter Piemonte²⁵², who had made his First Profession shortly before.

²⁴⁷ Fr. Goffredo Friedmann. Born 7 September 1883; prof. 1903; ordin. 1909; death 30 March 1950.

²⁴⁸ Fr. Enrico Fadanelli. Ordin. 25 December 1909. He went to USA. Then he left the Congregation in 1922, out of some divergences with the General Council.

²⁴⁹ Fr. Fancis Cappello, SJ – a latter-day ‘Confessor of Rome’, whose Cause of Canonization has progressed, served with them.

²⁵⁰ Mons. Tarcisio Martina, born 17 September 1887; ordination: 1911; he spent many years in China, 1925-1954, of which the last 4 years were spent in prison (Cf. 17 Aug 1951); Apostolic Prefect of Yih sien, China, from 3 January 1936 [he retained the Title until death]; death 12 November 1961.

²⁵¹ The time of leaving Belluno coincided with the Italian participation to the Great War (24 May 1915). Shortly after the Stigmatines left, the Army requisitioned the Seminary of Belluno.

²⁵² Fr. Peter Piemonte. Born 17 December 1862; ordin. 30 May 1885; I prof. (as a priest) 1909. He went to USA in 1910. Left the Congregation in 1912. *American Chronicles*, 1.1, p. 274.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1911

- 29 Aug** Charles Joseph Zanotti pronounced his First Vows.
- 10 Nov** Fr. Alessandro Grigolli, Fr. Enrico Adami and Bro. Domenico Valzacchi²⁵³ left Trieste²⁵⁴ for Brazil.
- 5 Dec** Fr. Alessandro Grigolli, Fr. Enrico Adami and Bro. Domenico Valzacchi arrived in Brazil. The first presence in South America for the Congregation was thus established.
- 6 Dec** Since the first promised place for a mission in Brazil proved to be not real²⁵⁵, the three Stigmatines stayed with the Missionaries of St. Charles (Scalabrinians) in São Paulo – their Father General, Fr. Dominic Vicentini, was a former Stigmatine. Fr. Alessandro Grigolli, with the help of Fr. Vicentini, made arrangements to see Bishop João Braga, of Curitiba²⁵⁶ for a possible foundation for the Congregation in his Diocese, specifically about Tibagy.²⁵⁷

1911

Italy. In 1911 a tract of land was purchased in the forest region of the municipality of Malosco, in the Upper Anaunia, Trent, with the idea of building there a vacation house for the students. This was constructed in the years 1911-1912, with money given by Bishop Francis Sogaro, former member of the Congregation, and other benefactors. The students were able to go there on vacation for the first time during the summer of 1912.

- 28 Mar** The first Confreres in Brazil arrived to their first Mission, at Tibagy, Paraná, in the diocese of Curitiba. At that time the pastoral area comprised of the territory of both Tibagy and Castro (which would later on become an independent parish), South of São Paulo. In 1912 Fr. Ferruccio Zanetti joined them.

²⁵³ Bro. Domenico Valzacchi: born 7 April 1868; prof. 1905 death 20 May 1945.

²⁵⁴ They left from Trieste, which was under Austria, because the Italian government had forbidden emigration to Brazil.

²⁵⁵ They were promised, by a certain Fr. Samson, to attend to a colony of Italian emigrants in Sete Lagoas, together with the direction of the local Seminary. But when they arrived to the place, they find there was nothing of what was promised.

²⁵⁶ On June 18, 2004 – another Stigmatine – Dom Moacyr Vitti, CSS, was installed as the Archbishop of Curitiba PR.

²⁵⁷ After few days, Fr. Alexander Grigolli sent to the other confreres a telegram with this words: “Tibagy is ours!”.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1912

- 31 Aug** Italy. In this year, during the vacation time in Sezano, there were issued the first numbers of the BERTONIANO, the periodical reserved for the Stigmatines, under the care of Fr. Zaupa.
- 20 Sep** The 18th *General Chapter* was held between 20 and 23 September 1911 at the Stimmate. On the 22 September the **new Superior General was elected, Fr. John Baptist Tomasi.**
- 20 Oct** Italy. The Chronicles noted: “Our Students return to the *Trinità*”.²⁵⁸ Also the Novitiate returned from Trent to this place, with Fr. Michaelangelo Zanetti as Novice Master. This property had been sold to the Ottolini Sisters in August 1877. Now the Sisters wanted to sell the properties, so the Congregation, in force of re-purchasing precedence rights, could buy it.

1912

Italy. The Congregation left the house of ‘*Derelitti*’ and the church of Santa Maria del Giglio. The places were rented to the Institute Morandi. The Stigmatines though, on the request of Cardinal Bartholomew Bacilieri, continued their service to the parish of St. Steven with the Sunday Oratory, conducted by Fr. Luigi Benedetti²⁵⁹, who was Novice Master, and the Novices helped him. During the year 1912, at the Stimmate, a Students’ Hostel was established, which went on until 1932. It was closed because the place was needed for the aspirants of the Congregation, but it resumed in 1935, until the beginning of the 2nd World War.

Again, during the year 1912, the Aspirants moved from Gemona to Verona, lodged at the ‘*Trinità*’. The main reason was some legal dispute about the property of Gemona, so the Stigmatines were not free to use the premises at will.

- 10 Jan** The Superior General, Fr. J.B. Tomasi, was welcomed for a private audience by Pope Pious X.
- 27 Mar** In Milan, Cardinal Archbishop Andrew Ferrari, in a Pastoral Letter of 27 March 1912, referred to a church that was to be constructed as a memorial of the 16th Centenary of Constantine. He expressed the wish that it should be constructed in the ‘Acquabella’ section

²⁵⁸ “*Dal convento...*”, p. 180. *Cronaca casa Stimmate*, p. 119. *Brief Chronicle*, p. 202.

²⁵⁹ Fr. Luigi Benedetti. Born 23 May 1884; prof. 1901; ordin. 1908; death 21 October 1957.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1913

of Milan, ‘where our beloved Stigmatine Fathers of Verona accomplish such wonders of priestly zeal.’

3 Oct The Superior General, in a Circular Letter of 13 October 1912, made it obligatory for each house to send each month the financial reports to the General Curia.

17 Oct Card. Francis Cassetta blessed the first stone of the new church of Holy Cross, Rome, in the area called Flaminio.

1913

In 1913, the Superior General, Fr. John Baptist Tomasi, accompanied by Fr. Balestrazzi, made his first Canonical Visitation to the Houses of North America. He decided to send there Fr. Erminio Lona, Joseph Rosa²⁶⁰, and Anthony Toniolli²⁶¹.

3 Feb Italy. On 3 February 1913, Pope Pius X received the “Quaresimalists” of Rome, and among them Fr. J.B. Tomasi, Fr. Angelo Graziani, Fr. Joseph Bertapelle and Fr. Joseph Antonioli. On that occasion he declared about Fr. Tabarelli: “Glory of the Institute and of the Church”.

Jun The Superior General went to visit the Communities of North America.

28 Sep Italy. The corner-stone was blessed and put to place for the new church in Acquabella, Milan. The General Council decided to grant gratuitously the land for the construction of the Church. The appointed Architect was Cecilio Arpesani, quite known in Lombardy for his religious and civil buildings. He decided to follow the style the ancient Christian roman basilicas. The Stigmatines were present and took part in the constructions; some of them even with manual work: among them one was cited, Fr. Tarcisio Martina, who would often wear the overalls and mix with the workers.²⁶²

Nov USA. A new house was opened in Milford, Massachusetts (at that time, in the Diocese of Springfield). The church was dedicated to

²⁶⁰ Fr. Joseph Rosa. Born 9 January 1887; prof. 1905; ordin. 1911; death 30 September 1964.

²⁶¹ Fr. Anthony Toniolli. Born 24 November 1886; entered 1900; ordin. 1911; death 1 September 1925.

²⁶² “*Dal convento...*”, p. 169s.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1914

the Sacred Heart. To this were destined Fr. Lona and Fr. Toniolli, who from the outset had great struggles with a rather numerous colony of socialists and anarchists. In December 1920 came to the parish the Sisters Daughters of O.L. of Mercy, who gave a good hand to the Fathers in the teaching of catechism, and then they opened language and tailoring schools for the young Italians of the Parish.

Dec Italy. Towards the middle of the month of December the first offering of the Church of Holy Cross in Rome was made to the Superior General by Cardinal Basil Pompili, Vicar of His Holiness.

29 Dec Inauguration of the church of Holy Cross in Rome, by Cardinal Vicar Basil Pompili.

1914

During the year 1914, the very valuable book of Fr. Joseph Fiorio: *“The Spirit of the Ven. Gaspar Bertoni”*, was published.²⁶³

19 Mar Italy. The church of Holy Cross, in the Flaminian area of Rome, was established as a Parish.

Jul Brazil. The Congregation took a house in Limeira, SP, Diocese of Campinas, but it was not suitable and they remained there only for one year. Then they moved to Rio Claro.

6 Jul Italy. The architect Aristide Leonori, who built the church of Holy Cross, Flaminia, accompanied by Msgr. Bianchi, visited Fr. J.B. Tomasi, Sup. Gen. and told him that they were invited to meet with the Pope on the following day.

7 Jul The Sup. Gen, Fr. Tomasi and the Architect Leonori went to a Papal audience. While waiting, the Pope himself passed nearby and told Fr. Tomasi: “You can wait, you’ll come later, and we will put you on the cross”. After the General Audience, the two were admitted in the Pope’s presence. He told Fr. Tomasi that he had to take charge immediately of the church of Holy Cross, with someone to be on site immediately, and to start celebrating Mass

²⁶³ A translation is available in English, made by Fr. Charles Egan. It was published in 1977 by the Province of Holy Spouses, enclosed in the book of the ‘Proper’ of the Congregation (Mass and Office).

as from the following Sunday (12 July). The Pope would die soon (20 August 1914), and the inauguration was postponed.

3 Aug At the start of World War I, Bro. Angelo Martinelli²⁶⁴ was called to the battle fields. He was taken prisoner by the Russian Army.

24 Aug The *19th General Chapter* was held between 24 and 31 August 1914 at the Stimmate.

1915

USA. A House was founded, in 1915, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, diocese of Springfield. Fr. Anthony Toniolli and Bro. Camillus Ramus went there. With his charity and patience, Fr. Toniolli could conciliate a strong current of subversives. An Italian Parish was established in 1915. The church was built, in honour of O.L. of Mount Carmel, and inaugurated on 26 October 1924. It was closed in 2008.²⁶⁵

Italy. In Rome, from Santa Maria dei Miracoli, both Community and General Curia moved to Holy Cross. There, our students came to live and were inscribed at the Gregorian University: Vigilio Job²⁶⁶, Joseph Lona, and Remigio Zadra²⁶⁷.

26 Jan Italy. On 26 January 1915, there occurred the Silver Jubilee of priestly ordination of the Superior General, Fr. John Baptist Tomasi: the occurrence was celebrated in Rome in the Church of San Nicola dei Prefetti. This anniversary was also observed in Verona, at the Church of the Stimmate on February 11: the students of the *Trinità* took part in the festivities with an *Accademia*. For this occasion there was published a Special Edition of the *BERTONIANO*.

14 Feb Italy. Official inauguration of the new Parish of Holy Cross in Rome with the installation the first Parish Priest, Fr. Ottaviano Piccoli. The official dedication of the church would be in 1918, by Bishop Joseph Fallica. Later on, Pope Paul VI elevated it to the

²⁶⁴ Bro. Angelo Martinelli. Born 3 May 1886; prof. 1912; death 26 July 1969.

²⁶⁵ From annotations of Fr. Geoffrey Deeker.

²⁶⁶ Fr. Vigilio Job, born 27 August 1894; entrance: 1905; ordination: 1917; death: 30 January 1920.

²⁶⁷ Fr. Remigio Zadra, born 26 September 1890; profession: 1909; ordination: 1916; death: 24 February 1963.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1915

rank of Minor Basilica and, on 5 February 1965, it was vested of a Cardinal Title. In 1994 it was assigned to the Province of Holy Mary of Hope.

- Jul** The Constitutions, which were approved by the General Chapter, were reprinted, and in July 1915, were submitted to the Congregation of Religious, which, in its General Assembly, approved them on 24 November 1916 for a seven-year period. The new Holy Father [Pope Benedict XV] approved these on the 26 November 1916, and the Decree of Approbation bears this date.
- 5 Oct** Brazil. The Bishop of Campinas made the offer of a foundation in Rio Claro, where there was a church and an attached house. The offer was accepted and, in October, Fr. Alessandro Grigolli, Fr. Enrico Adami and Bro. Domenico Valzacchi moved in from Limeira. Later on, they would be joined by Fr. Giovanbattista Pelanda²⁶⁸. In 1922 a Seminary was established. Here for some years lived Bro. Roberto Giovanni²⁶⁹, in charge of hospitality.
- Nov** Italy. Bombshells fell on Verona and also on the Stimmate, causing serious damage, but with no victims. As a sign of grace received, a votive lamp and a commemorative stone were put under the statue of the Immaculate Mary.

²⁶⁸ Fr. Giovanni Battista Pelanda. Born 4 September 1879; entered 1902; ordin. 1906; death 25 August 1940.

²⁶⁹ Venerable Bro. Roberto Giovanni, was born on 16 March 1903 in Rio Claro. "After his profession, he remained in Rio Claro, SP, in charge of hospitality. Then in 1935 he moved to Ituiutaba, MG; then to Casa Branca in 1940, where he was attending to house chores and gave his time to people who came to him. Until shortly before his death, he gave constant and untiring spiritual support to people, both in the Shrine of Our Lady of Desterro and in the parish of O.L. of Sorrows. He went often to visit the sick, bringing them the Eucharist, always on foot. He was fond of two matters: the poor and the sick. He was admired and loved by all people. Though physically weak, he could live up to 90 years. He died on 11 January 1994 and was buried in the Shrine of Our Lady of Desterro." *"Dal convento..."*, p. 202, footnote.

The Church has approved his Heroic Virtues on 27 October 2020 and now is *Venerable*.

1916

- 24 Oct** The General Superior, Fr. John Baptist Tomasi, sent a letter to all the confreres, marking one hundred years of the Congregation on the 4th November. External celebrations could not be held, because of the War, but the commemoration should help each one to ‘learn the examples of apostolic zeal of our forerunners’. Copy of this letter was sent to all Bishops where the Stigmatines were present, arousing encouraging responses. The actual external celebration would happen in 1924.
- 16 Nov** The Congr. for Religious approved our Constitutions *ad experimentum*. They would be printed in Latin in February 1917, becoming operative on 19 March 1917.

1917

An official Canonical Visitation in the USA was done in 1917, by the Delegate Erminio Lona.

During the year 1917 it was established that the Stigmatine communities of the North America and those of Brazil should be constituted into “Visitatories”. The first ‘Visitor’ for North America was Fr. Ermino Lona. Brazil had the first ‘Visitor’ in 1923.

- 14 Feb** Italy. The important historical work of Fr. Joseph Fiorio, *Breve cronaca della Congregazione delle Stimate di N. S. G. C.* was published on this date. It is a collection of all the events connected with the life of the Congregation from 1800 to 1890 and it is still a precious text of reference for knowing the Stigmatine history.²⁷⁰
- Oct** Italy. In October 1917, the events connected to the war heightened: the Austro-Germanic troops invaded the Provinces of Udine and Belluno. The Superiors of the Apostolic School, who were concerned of a possible attack to Verona with raids and bombs, sent the Aspirants and Novices to Pistoia, the temporarily

²⁷⁰ On 14 February 1917, the first part was published, which was covering the years 1800-1890; the second part (1890-1941) was published on 1 November 1955. Maybe as a sign of humility, Fr. Fiorio did not put his name on any of the two publications. A translation into English has been offered by Fr. Joseph Henchey (2017), available online: www.st-bertoni.com/stigmatine-history.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1918

Professed to Parma, and the perpetually Professed to Pavia. After some days, the Superior General being informed of the matter, called the Professed to Rome, lodging them with the Sons of Holy Immaculate Mary, on Via del Mascherone, enrolling them in the Pontifical Gregorian University.

- 16 Dec** Italy. The confreres of the house of Udine were put on arrest for few days, accused of storing food, which was supposed to be given to the army. Since the soldiers could not find anything in the house, they were released; they were glad that the hiding place was not discovered!
- 23 Dec** Italy. The new church in “Acquabella”, Milan, was open to public worship. Changing from the original idea of naming it after St. Elena, it was actually dedicated to the Holy Cross.

1918

1919

- 4 Aug** The 20th *General Chapter* was held between 4 and 8 August 1919 at the Stimmate. It was due for the year 1917, but it could not be held because of the ongoing War. The General Superior, whose mandate had expired on 1917, got twice, from the Sacred Congregation, the extension of one year. In this Chapter, one of the main issues was the adaptation of the Constitutions to the newly published Canon Law.

After the Chapter, the General Council, reconfirmed in the office of ‘Visitor’ for the North American region, Fr. Erminio Lona.

- Oct** Italy. The Convent of the ‘Trinità’, Verona, during the I World War became a Military Hospital. It was evacuated only in October 1919, and the students, who were in Pistoia, could return to their residence, though they spent a short period in Sezano, since the re-adaptation works were not finished..

1920

In 1920, for the first time, there was conducted the Canonical Visitation to the houses of Italy; Frs. Goffredo Friedmann and Pio Gabos were delegated to conduct this. The Superior General, Fr.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1921

John Baptist Tomasi, conducted the Canonical visitation to the North American communities.

In 1920 the following confreres were sent to Brazil: Fr. Albino Sella, Fr. Giuseppe Tondin, Fr. Cirillo Zadra²⁷¹ and Bro. Carlo Valenti²⁷².

Italy. The Bertoni College in Udine resumed full activities.

1 May On this year 1920 a new publication started in Italy for information on the Stigmatine Missions. Fr. Pio Gabos was appointed as the editor. The name was '*Per il bene*' (in 1934 it will change the title to '*Il Missionario*')

Jun Italy. The professed students moved from the temporary lodgings in Via del Mascherone, Rome, to Holy Cross, Flaminia, in June 1920. They started attending internal school. But, at the end of the scholastic year, the Superiors decided to move them to Trent.²⁷³

11 Jul In Milan, the Congregation was fully entrusted of the new Parish of Holy Cross, and the first Parish Priest was Fr. Alessandro Grigolli. We may note that the confreres serving in this Parish were (and still are) employing the Ambrosian Rite, obligatory for Milan. In 1949-1950, in agreement with the Card. Idefonso Shuster, a University Hostel was built on the property.

11 Oct The Congregation left Capodistria on 11 October 1920. It was there since 1908.

1921

The publication of the '*Bertoniano*', suspended in 1915, was resumed in 1921.

Feb Brazil. Another parish was given to the Stigmatines at Castro, Paraná (70 km from Tibagy), in the diocese of Curitiba.

1922

A canonical visitation to the communities in America took place, by the General Superior, Fr. John Baptist Tomasi, after which he

²⁷¹ Fr. Cirillo Zadra. Born 14 May 1890; I prof. 2 August 1915; ordin. 25 July 1917. He left in 1930.

²⁷² Bro. Carlo Valenti. Born 16 March 1885; entered 1911; death 21 January 1952.

²⁷³ Trent, as a result of the World War I, was now part of the Italian territory.

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sent a letter to all the Confreres, expressing his joy in seeing a well rooted Stigmatine presence in the United States, giving hope for a flourishing future. During his Canonical visitation to North America, Fr. Tomasi made contact with the Bishop William O'Connel of Boston, who offered to take a parish in Lynn, dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi. He gave also the permission to have a Students' House within the Diocese.

Jan Italy. Six Sisters of the 'Little Sisters of the Holy Family' of Castelletto di Brenzone, Verona, began their service at the Stimmate for kitchen and laundry.

20 Apr USA. On 20 April 1922, the Congregation started its service in Lynn. The first Confreres who went there were Fr. Alfred Balestrazzi, Fr. Paul Sozzi and Bro. Joseph Zuliani²⁷⁴. The Stigmatine presence was closed in 1996²⁷⁵.

Jun USA. In June 1922 the House of White Plains, NY, was opened, after invitation of the Archbishop of New York, Patrick Joseph Hayes. The congregation was entrusted of the Italian Parish of O.L. of Mount Carmel. Fr. Leo Sella and Fr. Joseph Rosa took charge for the building of the church, which was opened on 26 December 1928 and blessed in October 1930. The Stigmatine presence was closed in 2012²⁷⁶.

8 Aug The *21st General Chapter* was held between 8 and 12 August 1922 at Holy Cross, Rome. It was considered an extraordinary Chapter, and for this reason the Holy See appointed the Very Reverend Fr. Benedict Lopez, OSB to preside over the proceedings. On 10 August, the **new Superior General was elected, Fr. John Baptist Zaupa.**

During the 21st General Chapter, other confreres were appointed to go to America, namely: Fr. John Castellani, Fr. William Ludesher

²⁷⁴ Bro. Joseph Zuliani. Born 28 April 1872; prof. 1904; death 25 June 1936.

²⁷⁵ From annotations of Fr. Geoffrey Deeker.

²⁷⁶ From annotations of Fr. Geoffrey Deeker.

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[Ludessi]²⁷⁷, Fr. Charles Zanotti, Fr. Louis Fontana²⁷⁸, Fr. Joseph Kuster²⁷⁹, Bro. Angelo Guzzola²⁸⁰ and Bro. Luigi Varenna²⁸¹.

- 29 Sep** Italy. In this year 1922, there occurred the first centenary of the re-opening of the Church of the Stimmate for public worship. The Church had been closed for a while from 1919. In November of 1921 it was re-opened for the public on 29 September 1922 the Church was consecrated by Bishop Jordan Corsini, Auxiliary of Cardinal Bacilieri.
- 26 Nov** USA. The Bishop of Boston, William O'Connel, asked the Stigmatines to take another place in his Diocese, namely Waltham. Fr. Anthony Dalla Porta and Fr. William Ludesher went there. The Parish, dedicated to the Sacred Heart, was inaugurated on 26 November 1922. Because of fire, the church was replaced by a new one, situated on River Street, which was inaugurated on Christmas Eve, 1924. For a while, until the church was built, they were hosted by an Italian family.

1923

In 1923 the Congregation Seal was defined and established²⁸².

- 23 Jan** In a letter dated 23 January 1923, a resolution of the General Council was sent to the Congregation to establish a '*Visitador Ordinário*' (Ordinary Visitor) for the communities of Brazil. First '*Visitador*' was Fr. Albino Sella.
- 22 Feb** The first Cardinal Protector of the Congregation was chosen: he was Cardinal John Bonzano. He had been Apostolic Delegate in North America, and was created a Cardinal on 11 December 1922. The Brief naming him was dated 22 February 1923, and he took possession in the Church of the Holy Cross, on 22 April.

²⁷⁷ Fr. William Ludessi (Ludesher). Born 19 March 1889; prof. 1912; ordin. 1915; Visitor for North America (1928-1940); death 18 September 1969.

²⁷⁸ Fr. Luigi Fontana. Born 12 February 1893; ordin. 1918; death 23 December 1982.

²⁷⁹ Fr. Joseph Kuster (*After 1939 his surname became Costa*). Born 27 January 1895; entered 1911; ordin. 1919; death 9 August 1977.

²⁸⁰ Bro. Angelo Guzzola. Born 17 Novembre 1872; prof. 1905; death 2 May 1944.

²⁸¹ Bro. Luigi Varenna. Born 2 July 1872; prof. 1911; death 27 December 1944.

²⁸² Ideator and author of the Seal was the priest Giuseppe Trecca. It was then modified and finalized by Architect Carlo Someda.

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- 29 Mar** Italy. In Verona, on March 29 of this year, Fr. James Marini's Golden priestly Jubilee was celebrated.
- Jul** In July 1923 the General Curia moved temporarily to the Stimate. On 1 August 1925 it returned to Rome, Holy Cross.
- 22 Jul** Italy. The Congregation started its service to the Shrine of 'Our Lady of Sorrows *del Mirteto*' at Ortonovo, La Spezia. The request of the Bishop of Luni-Sarzana-Brugnato, Bernardo Pizzorno, had been fostered by Pope Pius XI. In order to avoid conflicts, the local Parish was also given to the Stigmatines. On 22 July 1923, the Bishop entrusted the Shrine to the Congregation and Fr. John Baptist Tomasi, General Procurator, received it officially. Fr. Erminio Pivato was the first Parish Priest, with the title of 'Abbot'. The Congregation remained at the Shrine until 11 August 1930, leaving for lack of personnel. The Dominicans took over.
- 23 Jul** Italy. The Students' House was transferred to the Stimate from Trent. The Aspirants arrived first. Towards the end of the year, also the Students of Theology arrived.
- 23 Jul** The Council decided, for the next scholastic year, to open private schools at the Stimate beginning with the first high school class, and named Fr. Peter Scotton as the Director.
- 22 Dec** Brazil. On this day Fr. Giovanbattista Pelanda and Fr. Alessandro Grigolli entered the parish of São Caetano do Sul, SP.²⁸³ Earlier on, on 18 September 1923, Fr. Albino Sella, during his Canonical Visitation, was asked to help this parish by the Archbishop of São Paulo, Duarte Leopoldo e Silva. The church they found was small and in need of repairs. The Parish of Sagrada Familia was established on 28 March 1924. In 1930 the corner stone of the new church was blessed by Fr. A. Grigolli and the church was completed in 1937.

1924

- Aug** USA. In August 1924, in Waltham, a Students' House was established, with the first Novitiate in 1926. In 1929 the first group of American Students went to Rome for completing their studies.

²⁸³ *'Breve Cronaca'*, p. 88, puts the entrance to São Caetano do Sul on 13 December 1923; while *'Simmatini 2019'*, as well as *"Historia dos Estigmatinos in Brasil"* put the date to 22 December 1923.

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- 26 Oct** Italy. In Parma, a celebration for the 100th anniversary of the Congregation was held on 26 October 1924. There was a Solemn Pontifical Mass, and a discourse, offered by the Archbishop of Parma, Guido Conforti. In the evening, a kind of ‘talent show’ was offered, with the ‘*Academy*’ conducted in the local theatre.
- 16 Nov** Italy. This day marked the official celebration of 100 years of the Congregation. The major celebrations were held at the church of St. Anastasia, in Verona. There was a triduum in preparation, conducted by Fr. Giulio Bevilacqua, of the Institute of St. Philip. On Sunday 16 November, a Pontifical Mass was celebrated by the Bishop of Verona, Girolamo Cardinale, with the presence of the Superior General, the General Councillors and all Superiors of the Stigmatine Communities. The Stigmatine Aspirants aroused enthusiasm for the number and for the devotion during the Mass. Lunch followed, at the Stimate, with 100 guests. In the afternoon, in the auditorium of the ‘*Patronato*’, a literary and musical ‘Academy’ was presented by the Priests and Students of the Congregation. Around this period, in the context of the centenary celebrations, the town authorities changed the name of Via Tezone to Via Gaspare Bertoni²⁸⁴.
- 22 Dec** The Secretary of the Congregation of *Propaganda Fide*, Msgr. Francesco Marchetti Selvaggiani, made the proposal to the Congregation to take the direction of a new Seminary in China, at Kaiföng. A reason for this proposal seemed to be the experience of the Congregation in running the Seminary of Belluno.

1925

- 15 Jan** Italy. Milan celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Congregation on the 15 January 1925. The Cardinal Archbishop Andrew Ferrari was in attendance at the morning celebration. In the evening the usual Academy was held, including the discourse of Mr. Panighi, Secretary of the University of the Sacred Heart
- 22 Jan** After a consultation with all confreres (through a questionnaire with four questions), having received a positive answer and availability by almost all confreres, the Superior General, Fr. John

²⁸⁴ This street runs along the back of the Stigmatine property (parallel to via Carlo Montanari).

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Baptist Zaupa, answered positively to *Propaganda Fide* about taking a Seminary in China. But in the meantime, from China itself came the advice to postpone the establishment of a new Seminary. Then a new proposal was made by *Propaganda Fide*, to take a missionary territory, still to be chosen. This change brought uneasiness to the Confreres, because of lack of experience in this field. So at the beginning the new proposal was not accepted. But eventually the Superior General made four confreres available for a Mission in China.

15 Feb Italy. In Udine, on 15 February 1925, the 100th anniversary celebrations were held in the Church of St. Peter Martyr. The Pontifical Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Anthony Rossi, in the presence of the authorities and representatives of the very institutions of the city. There was also the unveiling of the Bust of the Venerable Fr. Bertoni, a gift of the former members of the Oratory.

21 Jun Italy. In Trent, to mark the 100th anniversary of the Congregation, on 21 June 1925, the Vicar General offered a solemn celebration of the Eucharist and then, Bishop Marconi, OFM celebrated the Pontifical, substituting for the Prince Archbishop of Trent, with a great participation of the faithful.

28 July On 12 June 1925, the Sacred Congregation of Religious, in its Plenary Session, gave a favourable vote to the approbation of our Constitutions. On the 23 of the same month, the Pontiff, Pius XI, **approved in a definitive manner the Constitutions of the Congregation.** The Sacred Congregation emitted its Decree with the date 28 July.

USA. Some divergences and hill feelings brought a hard moment to the Stigmatine presence in the USA, up to the point that some confreres left the Congregation and some even left priesthood. Because of this, on the 28 July 1925, the Superior General, Fr. John Baptist Zaupa dispatched a letter for the Congregation by the title: '*Oportet ut veniant scandala*'.

30 July The Superior General, Fr. John Baptist Zaupa, with the approval of the Council, accepted to send four missionaries to China, although all were aware of taking a completely new type of

HISTORICAL NOTES 1926

apostolate. The confreres were: Fr. Luigi Fantozzi, Fr. Tarcisio Martina, Fr. Enrico Adami and Fr. Angelo Caimi²⁸⁵.

- 27 Aug** The Superior General, Fr. John Baptist Zaupa, on 27 August 1925, left Rome for visiting the communities of Brazil and North America.
- 22 Nov** Italy. In the church of Santa Maria della Scala, Verona, Bishop Girolamo Cardinale entrusted the crucifix to the missionaries preparing to leave for China. They left in different moments: Fr. Fantozzi and Fr. Martina were the first, leaving from Naples by ship on 1 December 1925.
- 2 Dec** After the visit to Brazil, the Superior General went to North America, where he arrived on 2 December 1925.

1926

- 12 Jan** China. The Stigmatines assigned to China, after a pleasant journey, arrived in Beijing on 12 January 1926, and were welcomed by the Apostolic Delegation and the Italian Legation. They were given lodging at the Catholic University, directed by the Benedictine Fathers, where they remained for some months to study Chinese. Then, they moved to Paotingfu, the See of the Vicariate, where they spent further time studying the Catechism in Chinese. After having passed the required examination, they received the missionary faculties by the Vicar Apostolic, and were distributed through various residences of the Vicariate to begin their apprenticeship of missionary life under the direction of the Lazzarist missionaries.
- 11 Feb** USA. In Waltham, with an official Rescript of 11 February 1926, the Novitiate was canonically established, and Fr. Balestrazzi was named the Novice Master. On 15 August, he vested the first novice of that area.
- 26 Apr** Brazil. The Bishop of Campinas, Francisco de Campos Barreto, asked the Stigmatines to enter his diocese and offered them the Rectory of São Benedito in the town of Campinas, which was accepted and received on 26 April 1926. There went: Fr. Fortunato

²⁸⁵ Fr. Angelo Caimi. Born 17 July 1892; entered 1905; ordin. 1920; death 23 January 1953.

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Mantovani²⁸⁶, Fr. Giulio Sieff²⁸⁷ and Bro. Luigi Abram²⁸⁸. The small church had been built about forty years earlier. The Italian immigrants had built a Club behind the church, which later would be managed by the Stigmatines. In 1961, the Province of Holy Cross chose the community of Campinas for its Curia. Also the professed students moved to Campinas on 13 February 1961. It was erected a Parish on 16 August 1966 by the Bishop Paulo de Tarsos Campos, and the first Parish Priest was Fr. Giovanni Avi²⁸⁹.

19 Nov Italy. On 19 November 1926 there was the official handing to the Stigmatines of the Diaconal Palace and attached church of St. Agatha dei Goti, Rome, by the Titular Cardinal, Gaetano Bisleti, to the Superior General. The Pope, Pius XI, had granted occupancy rights to the Congregation of the Sacred Stigmata on 9 June 1926. The agreement between the Holy See, represented by Cardinal Gaetano Bisleti, and our Congregation, represented by the Superior General, was signed on 22 December 1926.

23 Dec Brazil. A property was bought in Corumbataí, SP, called Fazenda Santana, for the seminarians' holidays. It became a formation house from 1957 to 1967. At present, it is a house of spirituality and hosts the Interprovincial Novitiate

1927

6 Jan Italy. After a moving farewell on the previous Christmas, the Roman community of San Nicola dei Prefetti left the place, because all buildings, as well as the church, were in need of major renovations, and, being not possible to acquire its property, the Congregation decided to look for other places. The General Curia and the other confreres would move to St. Agatha.

7 Jan The Stigmatines entered the new house of St. Agatha on this date. For a while they could only use the rooms attached to the church, since the "diaconal" palace, by order of the Pope, was demolished

²⁸⁶ Fr. Fortunato Mantovani. Born 17 April 1881; entered 1894; ordin. 1904; Visitator for Brazil (1931-1940); death 8 August 1940.

²⁸⁷ Fr. Giulio Sieff. Born 17 July 1897; prof. 1918; ordin. 1921; death 8 December 1971.

²⁸⁸ Bro. Luigi Abram. Born 20 August 1887; prof. 1923; death 14 June 1974.

²⁸⁹ Fr. Giovanni Avi. Born 11 December 1913; entered 1925; ordin. 1939; death 11 January 1974.

and now it was still under construction, which would be concluded at the end of June 1928.

- 19 Mar** China. In the night between 18/19 March 1927, a contract was signed to rent a place in LianKoChwang, and this would be the Stigmatine first residence. They entered just in time for the Holy Week celebrations²⁹⁰, with the first two Baptisms. When the rental agreement was over, the Fathers bought another property, just outside the village, and move there in 1929.
- 21 Apr** The Congregation took possession of the mission entrusted to them in China, in the missionary Territory (or Vicariate) of Paoting. In LianKoChwang they opened a kind of clinic, and a Convent-School for girls, to which was soon joined a boys' school, and they set up a Minor seminary (in which fifteen diocesan priests were prepared during 25 year). A second residence was opened at LaiYuan (where Fr. Angelo Caimi was assigned, with a Chinese priest). A third was opened in ShiShanNan (Shannon), and Fr. Adami came to live there. Another one again was opened in KaoSheChuang.²⁹¹ These last mentioned communities (LaiYuan, ShiShanNan, KaoSheChuang) were all closed in 1939.
- 13 May** Fr. Alberto Pancheri²⁹² and Fr. Attilio Zadra²⁹³ were sent to China. They received their Missionary Crucifix on 13 May, in St. Peter the Martyr Church, Udine; and at the end of the month they set sail from Venice. Once they arrived in China, they stayed in Peking until the middle of July and, from there, they went to LianKoChwang to study the catechism in Chinese; in September, they took their examination in Paotingfu and obtained the Missionary Faculties.
- Oct** Italy. The General Council decided the closing of the house in Pavia, Italy.
- 5 Nov** Italy. The golden Priestly Jubilee of Fr. Angelo Graziani, was celebrated with a good crowd of friends and admirers: on 5 November in Verona, in the Church of the Stimmate – and on the next day, at Trent, in the Church he had built.

²⁹⁰ In 1927, Easter was on the 17 April.

²⁹¹ During 25 years, 6 communities were established: LianKoChwang, LaiYuan, ShiShanNan, KaoSheChuang, LaiShui and Yihsien.

²⁹² Fr. Alberto Pancheri. Born 10 July 1896; prof. 1916; ordin. 1923; death 19 May 1967.

²⁹³ Fr. Attilio Zadra. Born 31 March 1900; prof. 1917; ordin. 1926; death 18 May 1967.

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- 6 Nov** Italy. The golden Priestly Jubilee of Fr. Louis Gasperotti, also was celebrated with solemnity in Verona at the House of the Stimmate, on 6 November; and at Parma, where he had served as Vicar of the House, on the 19th of the same month.
- 26 Nov** Our Cardinal Protector, John Bonzano, died in Rome on November 26.
- 22 Dec** Italy. Fr. Giovanni Battista Perenzoni²⁹⁴ entrusted the keys of the house of Pavia to a Msgr. Casiroli and the Congregation moved out of that town. The Stigmatines, though, would return there in 1949.

1928

USA. In 1928, the community of Waltham purchased a property in ‘Raccoon Island’, not far from Boston, that was to serve as a summer house for the community and for the Apostolic School, which at the time was flourishing. Later on, the area became a populated holiday resort and it was no longer a convenient place for religious students.

Jan China. The Stigmatine activity expanded with another pastoral territory, called San P’uò (“Three Hills”). The place belonged to Trappist monks since the end of XIX century. Now the monks could not give pastoral assistance, so the Abbot, Yang-Kiping, entrusted to the Stigmatines the pastoral care of their territory. In this Territory, during 10 years of their ministry, the Stigmatines established 5 Christian communities. The place could be reached only on foot with three days walk. No Stigmatine community was established there, but one or the other confrere would go there time to time.

Feb In August 1927, Fr. Dario Wegher²⁹⁵ and Bro. Ugo Giardinieri²⁹⁶ were sent to the Mission of China. They set sail from Italy in December and arrived in the Mission at the beginning of February of 1928.

²⁹⁴ Fr. Giovanni Battista Perenzoni. Born 30 March 1876; prof. 1907; ordin. 1910; death 5 November 1951.

²⁹⁵ Fr. Dario Wegher. Born 12 February 1898; prof. 1917; ordin. 1923; death 23 March 1980.

²⁹⁶ Bro. Ugo Giardinieri. Born 17 October 1893; prof. 1921; death 28 March 1966.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1929

- 19 Apr** The new Cardinal Protector of the Congregation, Cardinal Bonaventure Ceretti, was named, with a Brief dated 31 March 1928, and took possession of his Protectorate on 19 April in Holy Cross Church, Rome.
- 6 Aug** The 22nd *General Chapter* was held between 6 and 11 August 1928 at St. Agatha, Rome. For the first time, with the permission of Holy See (“for this one time”), the participants were partly from the ‘Circumscriptions’ and partly selected by all confreres from a list. In this way, the participants to the Chapter reached the number of 28. **Fr. John Baptist Zaupa was re-elected Superior General** on the 11 August.

1929

In Brazil, in Rio Claro, in 1929, the Novitiate was canonically established, and five Postulants began their formation, and were vested with the habit. In the following year, they made their First Profession, and were called to Rome to complete there their studies of Philosophy and Theology.

All professed students, both from North America and Brazil, as from 1929, were sent to Rome, Italy, for their studies of Philosophy and Theology.²⁹⁷

- 20 May** China. The mission of Yihsien was officially established as independent, entrusting to Fr. Tarcisio Martina the governance.
- 25 May** Italy. A preliminary contract was signed this day by Fr. J.B. Tomasi for the purchase of a property at Genzano, Rome. This property had been confiscated from the Capuchins at the time of subversive laws in the Country. It was now purchased from the municipality by the Architect Marcello Piacentini. Some matters were still in need of clarification with both the old owners (Capuchins) and the new owner.
- 26 May** At LianKoChwang, China, in the new property outside the village, building works started in 1929, and on 26 May the corner stone was blessed.

²⁹⁷ In *Brief Chronicle*, all names and years are reported: p. 253-254 (North America) and p. 255 (Brazil).

HISTORICAL NOTES 1930

- 8 Nov** In 1929, two more Missionaries left Italy for China: Fr. Valerio Tomasi²⁹⁸ and Fr. Luigi Benaglia²⁹⁹, after having received the Missionary Crucifix in our Church of Trent. They arrived in Tientsin on November 1, and on the 8th they reached LianKoChwang. After a week there, they went on to ShiShanNan where they dedicated themselves to the study of the language.
- 21 Dec** The purchase contract was signed for the house of Genzano, Rome. But the Capuchins wanted to get their rights, and long disputes went on for years. The Stigmatines remained in the property for eight years.

1930

- 6 Jun** Following negotiations and governmental inspections, on 6 June 1930 High School classes of the Stimmate in Verona received governmental approval.
- 17 Oct** China. A Stigmatine community was established in Yihsien³⁰⁰. The house was old and unpractical, and it was rebuilt. Fr. Martina moved there from LianKoChwang, staying alone for one year, then he was joined by Fr. Alberto Pancheri. Soon, Yihsien became the centre of the Stigmatine Mission. Most people were of Islamic religion, initially not in favour of a Christian presence there. Yihsien was previously called Yi-chow, and, at the time the Stigmatines lived there, still some people were using the old name.

1931

- In 1931, the Superior General, Fr. John Baptist Zaupa, left for North America in a Canonical Visitation. From there, in July, he moved to Brazil for their Canonical Visitation.
- 19 Sep** Brazil. In 1931, Fr. Fortunato Mantovani was appointed, by the General Council, as new '*Visitador*', in place of Fr. Albino Sella.

²⁹⁸ Fr. Valerio Tomasi. Born 29 September 1888; ordin. 1915; Pro-Visitor of China (1935-1948); death 9 November 1948.

²⁹⁹ Fr. Luigi Benaglia. Born 7 April 1900; ordin. 1924; Pro-Visitor of China (1930-1935); death 3 December 1988.

³⁰⁰ Yihsien is located about 140 Km from Beijing.

1932

Italy. In Verona, at the *Trinità*, in 1932, the School of Theology was re-established, which was frequented not only by our Italian Students, but also by those from North and South America. Also the Novitiate moved there from Gemona.

In 1932, the Congregation purchased a 'Villa' in St. Andrew of Affi, Verona, for the Apostolic School. The house was opened in 23 June 1938 with the Novitiate³⁰¹. It was sold on 1952.

10 Mar On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of ordination of the Superior General, Fr. John Baptist Zaupa, the Hymn of the Congregation, composed (text and music) by Fr. Giuseppe Stofella, was performed for the first time in Verona, at the Stimate, in the auditorium of the '*Patronato*'.

10 June At Yih sien, China, on 10 June 1932, the first indigenous priest of the Mission was ordained, Fr. T'sae.

1933

Brazil. In 1933, the Stigmatines left both parishes of Tibagy and Castro.

10 Dec In Rome, the Cardinal Protector, Bonaventure Ceretti, died, and the Congregation obtained a new Cardinal Protector, Cardinal Peter Fumasoni Biondi, appointed on 10 August 1933. He took possession of his Protectorate with a ceremony celebrated at Holy Cross Church on 10 December.

13 Dec China. On 13 December 1933, the first converted family in Yih sien was baptized in the Chapel of the Franciscan Sisters of Egypt³⁰². I was the fruit of the charity of those Sisters, who tirelessly went around from house to house, healing the sick and bringing with them the Good News of God.

³⁰¹ from "*Dal convento...*", p. 267.

³⁰² The Franciscan Sisters of Egypt, numbering four [two Italians and two Chinese] entered the Mission on 8 September, 1932, and took up lodging in Yih sien.

1934

China. In 1934, Fr. Tarcisio Martina thought about a female Religious Congregation. He wrote the Constitutions and asked the Pope for approval.

7 May The 23rd *General Chapter* was held between 7 and 11 May 1934 at Holy Cross, Rome. On 9 May, **Fr. Bruno Chiesa³⁰³ was elected Superior General.**

Jul Italy. The Bishop of Chieti, Giuseppe Venturi, native of Verona, asked the Stigmatines to come to Vasto, in the Region of Abruzzi. They were to run a hostel for young students and to take care of the church of Our Lady of Carmel. First confreres to go were: Fr. Goffredo Friedmann, Fr. Aldo Belli³⁰⁴ and Fr. Emilio Moresco³⁰⁵. But, because of poor financial resources of the hostel, and of the hostility of the local clergy, they remained there only until June 1935.

1935

The Superior General, Fr. Bruno Chiesa, in November 1935, went to Brazil, to conduct the Canonical Visitation of the Communities. He returned to Italy in January 1936.

Brazil. The Fathers of Rio Claro in 1935 inaugurated a new Chapel in the village of Matta Negra and it was one of the most distant from the Parish: in the Parish territory, there were 22 chapels. In 1937, they received temporarily the care of another parish in the town of Rio Claro, St. Gertrude's.

18 Feb Brazil. Fr. Giuseppe Tondin, Fr. Giulio Sieff and Bro. Roberto Giovanni, from Rio Claro moved to Ituiutaba, Minas Gerais, in the diocese of Uberaba. The parish comprised of a huge land (960 hectares), property of the Diocese. There were many rural chapels, quite far from the central house, bringing many challenges to the confreres. Slowly they built the main church, dedicated to St. Joseph, in 1942. In 1957 a Hostel and a Stigmatine Seminary were

³⁰³ Fr. Bruno Chiesa. Born 22 March 1887; prof. 1905; ordin. 1911; Superior General (1934-1940); death 14 July 1952.

³⁰⁴ Fr. Aldo Belli. Born 25 June 1906; prof. 1923; ordin. 1929; death 25 June 1981.

³⁰⁵ Fr. Emilio Moresco. Born 19 March 1907; prof. 1925; ordin. 1931; death 7 May 1986.

built, dedicated to O.L. of Fatima. In 1960 it went under the ‘*Visitadoria*’ of St. Joseph. In 1966 the chapel of Our Lady of Abadia became a Parish, initially run by the Stigmatines, but given back to the Diocese in 1972. In 1982³⁰⁶ Ituiutaba became a Diocese and the Stigmatines changed to the Parish of O.L. of Abadia, and, later on, to the Parish of St Francis of Assisi. The Stigmatine presence in Ituiutaba was concluded in 2002.

24 Mar Brazil. Fr. Albino Sella and Fr. Giovanni Consolaro³⁰⁷ opened a house in Uberaba, MG, taking possession of the parish and sanctuary of Our Lady of Abadia. In 1960 it went under the ‘*Visitadoria*’ of St. Joseph. As from 1990 it hosted also the Interprovincial Noviciate, and other formation activities until the beginning of 2019.

30 Jun China. The new religious family that Fr. Tarcisio Martina had initiated in China was canonically established as an Institute of Diocesan right. Its name was “Congregation of the Sacred Heart for the Propagation of Faith”. The first Religious were prepared by the Franciscan Sisters of Egypt. Their presence became precious because they could get close to many people who were diffident of the European missionaries. Their first house was opened at LianKoChwang, where, on 30 June 1935, the first five Postulants were vested.

1936

In 1936 the professes students from USA were sent to Verona (and few to Rome) for theological studies, and this went on until the beginning of the World War, 1940.

1 Jan Brazil. Fr. Luiz Maria Fernandes³⁰⁸, Fr. Giuseppe Finetto³⁰⁹ and Bro. Pedro Bianconi³¹⁰ entered Casa Branca, São Paulo. They

³⁰⁶ Fr. Francisco Mariani says that the change of parishes happened in 1985.

³⁰⁷ Fr. Giovanni Consolaro. Born 30 August 1901; entered 1914; ordin. 1927; death 22 January 1968.

³⁰⁸ Fr. Luiz Maria Pisetta Fernandes. Born 26 April 1901; entered 1012; ordin. 1927; Visitor for Brazil (1940- 1944); first Provincial of Holy Cross (1944-1950); death 30 July 1979.

³⁰⁹ Fr. Giuseppe Finetto. Born 27 May 1881; ordin. 1907; prof. 1923; death 2 February 1945.

³¹⁰ Bro. Pedro Bianconi. Born 29 June 1912; prof. 1939; death 22 August 1972.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1936

assumed the care of the parish of the O.L. of Sorrows, organizing the various parish associations, teaching catechism in the schools and lending assistance on Sundays at the plantations. In addition, in 1947, they assumed the care of the Shrine of Our Lady of Desterro (Flight to Egypt), situated a little outside the city, until 1991. The Stigmatines left on 1994. From Casa Branca, the confreres were also giving regular help to Itobi (1936 - 1992); at times, a confrere would reside in Itobi.

3 Jan China. On 9 December 1935, the Chinese Stigmatine Mission was raised to a Prefecture Apostolic. Fr. Tarcisio Martina on 3 January 1936 was appointed as Apostolic Prefect of Yihsien. The instalment was done in May of the same year. He remained in Yihsien until 1947.

12 Jan Italy. The Stigmatine Fr. Carlo De Ferrari³¹¹ became a bishop. He was elected on 16 December 1935, and consecrated in Rome, in Holy Cross Church, by Cardinal Raphael Rossi on 12 January 1936. On February 18, he made his entrance into his Diocese of Carpi. In 1941 he would be transferred to the Archdiocese of Trent.

Jun Brazil. The Stigmatines were invited by Archbishop Emanuel de Oliveira, Diocese of Morrinhos, Goiás, to take care of the Parish of O.L. of the Carmel, which had many rural chapels, which could be reached only by motorbike or by horse. Fr. Primo Scussolino³¹² was assigned there and later on Fr. Osvaldo Casellato³¹³ was added. In 1937, they took on also the direction of the diocesan High School '*Senador Hermenegildo de Moraes*'. In 1939, they began the construction of a new High School. In 1955 the Diocese sold to the Stigmatines the School and a vast property attached. In 1960 it went under the '*Visitadoria*' of St. Joseph. In 2016 it became a Novitiate House.

³¹¹ Charles De Ferrari, born on 2 October 1885, final profession in 1903, ordination in 1909. Became Bishop of Carpi on 12 January 1936 and then Archbishop of Trent from 1941 to his death, 14 December 1962.

³¹² Fr. Primo Scussolino. Born 10 December 1906; prof. 1926; ordin. 1931; death 28 March 1960. See also footnote to 2 February 1956.

³¹³ Fr. Osvaldo Casellato. Born 1 January 1911; prof. 1933; ordin. 1935; death 19 February 1999.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1937

- 14 Sep** Canada, North America. On this day, Fr. Joachim Bortignon³¹⁴ and Fr. Leonard Della Badia³¹⁵ left from White Plains to Vancouver, in the region of British Columbia, Canada. They were welcomed by Archbishop William Mark Duke, upon recommendation of the former Apostolic Delegate of Canada, Msgr. Cassulo. They remained at the Bishop's place until 26 September.
- 26 Sep** In Canada, the Archbishop of Vancouver entrusted to the Stigmatines the Parish of the Sacred Heart, the largest church in town after the Cathedral. There was also a Catholic School (with 250 students), run by the Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception of Halifax. The Congregation remained there until 1952, then the Salesians took over.
- 10 Dec** Canada. Fr. Louis Fontana arrived to Timmins, on the Ontario, Canada. The Congregations was to serve the Parish of the Sacred Heart. It would close in 1988.

1937

Brazil. In 1937, the House of Sale Oliveira was opened, in the Diocese of Ribeirão Preto, that included the care of the two Parishes of Sale and Nuporanga: this was closed in 1942.³¹⁶

- 19 Jan** Italy. The Congregation sold the Villa at Genzano, Rome, to the Little Sisters of the Annunciation.
- 27 May** Brazil. On this day the Stigmatine student Giuseppe Anselmi³¹⁷ was suddenly healed from his grave illness. He was affected of a nasty ulcer, and he had already undergone some surgery, with no avail. This healing was attributed to the intercession of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni and later accepted as a miracle in the process of beatification.
- 7 Jul** China began a conflict against Japan. This date marked many political changes and it marked also the beginning of the Stigmatine mission decline. Under Japanese governance, because

³¹⁴ Fr. Pietro Bortignon. Born 11 March 1908; prof. 1925; ordin. 1931; death 24 October 1959.

³¹⁵ Fr. Leonard Della Badia. Born 4 March 1911; prof. 1933; ordin. 1935; death 31 August 2004.

³¹⁶ *Brief Chronicle*, p. 261.

³¹⁷ Fr. Giuseppe Anselmi. Born 17 May 1914; prof. 1935; ordin. 1939; death 15 March 1994.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1937

of restrictions and also because of massive military movements, many missionary places could not be reached any longer. Many schools were closed (they were over 100, but in 1938 they were 87, in 1939 they were only 16). Also many churches were closed.

26 Aug Italy. In Reggio Emilia, the Stigmatines were offered the direction of the '*Pio Istituto degli Artigianelli*'³¹⁸. First Stigmatines there were: Fr. Luigi Benaglia (Director), Fr. Giovanni Battista Perenzoni (Bursar) and Fr. Mario Tais³¹⁹ (Vice Director). They spent few days in the house of Fr. Dino Torregiani, President of the Institute and on 30 August they took full residence. But the regulations for running the Institute were very oppressive for the Congregation. An attempt was made to improve the situation by creating a hostel totally run by the Stigmatines. Finally the Stigmatines left in 1942 because of the heavy directives, aggravated by the lack on our part of specific personnel for technical teaching.

7 Sep China. Yih sien was under heavy bombardments. A bomb fell close to the mission, fortunately with no victims and minor damage.

16 Sep At the Stimmate, the body of the Founder was moved for the second time, because the Chapel of the Holy Face, former of the Conception, was going to become a parlour for the College (with authorization of the Sup. Gen. dated 2 August). Fr. Gaspar's remains were put at the back of the church of the Stimmate.³²⁰

20 Sep In China, the community escaped from Lai Shui, due to political turmoil.

22 Sep Yih sien was invaded by the Japanese. It would remain under Japanese governance until 1945. Japanese were not hostile to the Missionaries, but were limiting a lot their movements. But as from 1943 the situation became more tense. The withdrawal of the

³¹⁸ The Institute of 'Artigianelli' ['Little artisans'] was founded by Fr. Zefferino Lodi (1813-1896).

³¹⁹ Fr. Mario Tais. Born 19 September 1919; prof. 1933; ordin. 1937; Provincial of Sc. Heart (1964-1970); death 28 February 1998.

³²⁰ "*Albero rigoglioso...*", p. 54. Again, on p. 55: "The tomb, which became like a small shrine, was at the left side, as one entered, of the church of the Stimmate. At the bottom, covering the burial niche, was a fine african marble slab, with an inscription in bronze letters: "*Exuviae Ven. Gasparis Bertoni*", "Remains of Ven. Gaspar Bertoni".

Japanese opened the space to the Communist's heavy control, who brought also a big suspicion that the Missionaries could be spies.

14 Oct Italy. The Stigmatines arrived at San Severino Marche, Macerata, in charge of the Diocesan Seminary. The Bishop of the joint Dioceses of San Severino and Treja, Ferdinando Longinotti, had been knowing the Stigmatine from Parma, his native Diocese. First confreres to go were: Fr. Pietro Campi³²¹ (Rector), Fr. Modesto Vettori³²² (Vice Rector), Fr. Goffredo Friedmann (Spiritual Director); others joined them later. From the Seminary they were offering other services, like preaching to the clergy and to the laity, some pastoral ministry at the Cathedral, Sunday services in two town parishes and, for a short period, 1938-1939, the running of two rural parishes. They served for a five years contract, then they left in July 1943.

30 Oct On 30 October 1937, Fr. Cornelio Fabro³²³ obtained the Doctorate in Theology at the Angelicum in Rome, defending his thesis on *The Metaphysical Notion of Participation according to St. Thomas Aquinas*. Two years later, this thesis was published and it received wide acclaim among philosophers and theologians. In the same year 1937, Fr. Fabro was appointed to the office of teaching Philosophy at the Lateran Athenaeum, and in 1938, he was given the chair of biology at the Urban Athenaeum of the Propagation of the Faith. In 1939 he was named 'Extraordinary' Professor of Philosophy – and finally, in 1941, he was appointed to 'Ordinary' of Metaphysics in the same Athenaeum of the Propagation of the Faith.

1938

2 Mar Brazil. In March of 1938, a new house was opened in Ribeirão Preto, SP. For two years, the local Bishop allowed the confreres to use the premises of the Diocesan Seminary; the students of Philosophy and Theology were sent there, to which in 1939, the Novitiate was added, transferred from Rio Claro. Afterwards, a large tract of land was purchased on which to build the Student

³²¹ Fr. Pietro Campi. Born 2 July 1885; ordin. 1910; prof. 1925; death 18 May 1957.

³²² Fr. Modesto Vettori. Born 15 June 1911; prof. 1933; ordin. 1937; death 18 December 1994.

³²³ Fr. Cornelio Fabro. Born 24 August 1911; prof. 1932; ordin. 1935; death 4 May 1995.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1939

House. In 1964, the Stigmatines were entrusted the Parish of Nossa Senhora de Fátima.

23 Jun Italy. On 23 June 1938 the Italian Novitiate went to St. Andrew's Villa, of Affi. It remained Novitiate house until 1951, when the Novices moved to Cadellara (near Colognola ai Colli, Verona). In 1939, in St. Andrew's Church, the old main altar was renovated, which was consecrated by Bishop Charles De Ferrari, on 22 January 1940. In 1942 some students of '*Ginnasio*' moved there from Sezano³²⁴; they returned to Sezano in 1944.

Aug Brazil. In August of 1938, a new house was opened in Formosa, Goiás, with the simultaneous care of Planaltina and Cristalina, situated 40 and 180 kilometres respectively from Formosa: Frs. Angelo Pozzani³²⁵ and Carlo Mazzero³²⁶ were sent there. It was closed in 1942.

1939

Italy. Legal approval of the Schools of Udine, with the right of internal examination.

2 May Brazil. In 1939, the old Church of Holy Cross in Rio Claro was demolished, and a new one was built: on 2 May, the corner-stone was blessed.

Sep France. In 1938, there arrived a request for a House in Marseilles, to take the direction of an orphanage. Fr. Fantozzi went there to see into the matter and to discuss with the Bishop and the Italian Consulate, who was promoting the orphanage, and he brought back a positive report. As a result, it was accepted by the General Council, and it was agreed to go there for September 1939. However, in that month, the Second World War broke out, so all further negotiations were stopped.

³²⁴ In 1943 and 1944, the students over 14 years were sent home, otherwise the German army would requisition them for digging defensive trenches. They returned to the Congregation after the War, in 1945.

³²⁵ Fr. Angelo Pozzani. Born 29 September 1910; prof. 1932; ordin. 1936; death 7 January 2001.

³²⁶ Fr. Carlo Mazzero [in more recent lists he is quoted as Carlos Masero]. Born 4 July 1910; I prof. 16 September 1931; ordin. 6 December 1936; death 23 August 1995.

1940

- 28 Jan** Italy. On January 28 1940, the Golden Priestly Jubilee of Fr. J. B. Tomasi was commemorated in Rome. A solemn Mass was celebrated in St. Agatha's, in the presence of numerous personalities from among the clergy and the laity.
- 7 May** The 24th *General Chapter* was held between 7 and 15 May 1940 at St. Agatha, Rome. On 10 May, **Fr. John Baptist Zaupa was elected Superior General** again (he had already served two terms, 1922-1928 & 1928-1934).
- 16 May** Brazil. In 1940, Fr. Luiz M. Fernandes was appointed as new '*Visitador*', in place of Fr. Fortunato Mantovani
- 13 Jul** USA. In 1940, the Community of Waltham, purchased a magnificent estate called 'Elm Bank' in Wellesley, not very far from Waltham, that it might serve as a House of Philosophy and Theology. The students went there in the month of July. The house was closed in 1966.
- Dec** Brazil. In December 1940, there had been opened the House of Ipameri, which was then closed in February of 1942.

1941

Italy. Legal approval of the Schools of Gemona.

Brazil. In 1941, houses were opened in Palmeiras (until 1947) and Caconde (until 1948).

Brazil. At the end of 1940, the Archbishop of São Paulo had offered our Fathers a parish on its beginning, dedicated to Our Lady of Good Counsel, at Alto da Mooca, and to this Fr. Vittorio Nardon³²⁷ was assigned in the early months of 1941

- 15 Jan** Brazil. By the Archbishop of São Paulo, José Gaspar de Afonseca e Silva³²⁸, the Congregation was entrusted the Parish of O.L. of Good Counsel in Alto da Mooca, SP.
- 2 Mar** Italy. Fr. Louis Fantozzi was sent by the Superior General, Fr. John Baptist Zaupa, to explore the possibility for a foundation in

³²⁷ Fr. Vittorio Nardon. Born 28 July 1906; prof. 1930; ordin. 1931; death 22 November 1994.

³²⁸ José Gaspar de Afonseca e Silva was Archbishop of São Paulo between 1935-1943.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1941

Campania, South of Italy. On 2 March he met with the Archbishop of Naples, Card. Alessio Ascalesi, who could not offer anything for the Congregation. Fr. Fantozzi remained 6 days at the Clergy House, and then for one month and a half he stayed with the Salesians. He also moved around to the neighbouring Dioceses but with no concrete results.

3 Mar After a petition from the General Council, the Sacred Congregation of Rites granted the faculty to pray the Office and Mass of the Five Wounds on 3 March 1941, assigning the day of the Feast to be that of Friday, after Sexagesima Sunday³²⁹.

23 Apr Italy. In his search for suitable new foundations, Fr. Louis Fantozzi, on the 23 April, reached Salerno and was well received by Archbishop Nicola Monterisi, whose comment was “You have been sent by Providence!”. He had Fr. Fantozzi immediately escorted by car to Battipaglia. The intention of the Bishop was to offer to the Congregation the education of youth and some pastoral support to the old parish priest.³³⁰ Fr. Fantozzi found a positive situation in Battipaglia and reported to the Superiors, who accepted. Since shortly after the parish priest died (10 May 1941), the Stigmatine were given the full charge of the Parish of Madonna della Speranza (Our Lady of Hope).

15 May Fr. Louis Fantozzi returned to Battipaglia on 15 May. Three days later other Stigmatines went: the General Councillor Fr. Ferdinando Dominici³³¹ and Fr. Michele Madussi³³², who remained there for a couple of days; and Fr. Ferruccio Milanese³³³, who stayed with Fr. Fantozzi.

³²⁹ Sexagesima Sunday is the second Sunday before Lent. In some traditions, the abstinence before Easter started on this day. ‘Friday after Sexagesima Sunday’ becomes, then, Friday before Ash Wednesday.

³³⁰ It is meaningful to note that, about the same time, the Bishop of Salerno welcomed other two Congregations: the Lazarists came to Salerno on September 1941; the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart went to Pontecagnano in 1942.

³³¹ Fr. Ferdinando Dominici. Born 29 October 1885; ordin. 1908; prof. 1928; death 18 July 1942.

³³² Fr. Michele Madussi. Born 26 September 1890; prof. 1909; ordin. 1917; death 9 November 1959.

³³³ Fr. Ferruccio Milanese. Born 1 August 1912; prof. 1934; ordin. 1937; death 4 July 1987.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1942

- 10 Aug** This day marked the official entrusting of the Parish of Battipaglia to the Stigmatines. There was a solemn Mass in the morning, with a crowd of people; the Bishop of Salerno came in the afternoon and installed the new Parish Priest, Fr. Michele Madussi. Activities of the Stigmatines were: choir, Oratory, Parish Associations and sport activities. Until 1952, they were living in rented houses, (except when they moved to rural areas for the War, 1943-1945). Then some residences were bought (former workers' lodgings). Finally, in 1960, they could move to the presbytery attached to the new church.
- 10 Oct** On 10 October 1941, the Sacred Congregation of Religious gave to the Superior General the faculty of establishing the three Provinces, and, on 28 November, approved the Constitutions that pertained to the Provinces for a seven year period of experimentation.

1942

Brazil. A house was opened at Parada Inglesa, SP, in 1942. Closed in 1949.

- 7 Apr** The Italian Province of Sacred Heart was constituted, often called 'The Mother Province'. The Provincial residence was the Stimmate, Verona.³³⁴ The first Provincial Superior was Fr. Vittorio Gardumi³³⁵ (followed by Fr. Giovanni Cervini³³⁶ in 1946). The Province was inaugurated officially on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, 7 June 1942.
- 15 May** Italy. The Stigmatines, in the Diocese of Salerno, South Italy, were given also the Parish of Belvedere, which included Bellizzi and Farinia (called also Picciolo or La Picciola). In Farinia there was also an Orphanage. The Confreres took residence in Farinia³³⁷; they were: Fr. Beniamino Miori³³⁸, Superior and Parish Priest, Fr.

³³⁴ The Province comprised of 156 confreres (121 Priests and 35 Brothers), in 12 houses.

³³⁵ Fr. Vittorio Gardumi. Born 8 February 1909; prof. 1928; ordin. 1932; first Provincial of Sc. Heart (1942-1946); death 8 December 1986.

³³⁶ Fr. Giovanni Cervini. Born 13 December 1902; entered 1914; ordin. 1928; Provincial of Sc. Heart (1946-1952); death 8 February 1983.

³³⁷ Fr. Giovanni Zampieri, in a personal research, says that Farinia started in 1941 and concluded in 1945.

³³⁸ Fr. Beniamino Miori. Born 11 June 1883; entered 1899; ordin. 1910; death 23 May 1946.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1943

Mario Pozzi³³⁹, Director of the Orphanage, and Bro. Albino Brunelli³⁴⁰. Bellizzi was initially served from Battipaglia, with a permanent Stigmatine presence as from July 1942. Belvedere, though bearing the Parish title, was served from Bellizzi. In 1945 the two communities were reduced to one, based in Bellizzi, taking stable form in 1946, when the priests' house in Bellizzi was completed. In 1951 both Bellizzi and Farinia became independent Parishes. In 1954 Farinia was given to the Diocesan clergy (but again it was served by the Stigmatines, from Battipaglia or Bellizzi, between 1964-1970).

Oct Italy. The city of Milan was under bombardments as from October 1942. On that occasion the church of Holy Cross was severely damaged; and it was hit again on 8 August 1943, when the sacristy and all its contents were destroyed. The confreres, as most people of Milan, were leaving the city every evening; they were hosted in some nearby parish, returning in the morning.

1943

Sep Italy. The city of Rome was occupied by the Nazis' army from September 1943 to June 1944. In those days, the Catholic Church, all over Italy, gave assistance and refuge to many Hebrews; in Rome they were about 4 thousand. The Stigmatine Community of Holy Cross, and indeed all the parishioners, headed by the Parish Priest, Fr. Emilio Recchia³⁴¹, helped in assisting and hiding many Hebrews, seemingly about 200. On 12 February 2012 Fr. Emilio Recchia and Fr. Alberto Tambalo³⁴² were enrolled in the list of the helpers during the 'Holocaust'. From that community, Fr.

³³⁹ Fr. Mario Pozzi. Born 16 July 1914; entered 1926; ordin. 1939; death 8 August 1986.

³⁴⁰ Bro. Albino Brunelli. Born 13 September 1908; prof. 1936; death 3 November 1983.

³⁴¹ Venerable Fr. Emilio Recchia. Born 19/02/1888; prof. 1905; ordin. 1911; death 27 June 1969. The Church has approved his Heroic Virtues on 21 February 2020 and now is *Venerable*.

³⁴² Fr. Alberto Tambalo. Born 7 June 1912; prof. 1934; ordin. 1937; death 13 September 2008.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1944

Giovanni Festoso³⁴³ and Fr. Aristide Belli³⁴⁴ experienced hard imprisonment.

- Sep** Italy. After the truce of Italy with America, North Italy was invaded by German troops. In Gemona, Fr. Alberto Pancheri took the charge of helping disbanded Italian soldiers, and worked actively with the Partisans of the area. In a special way, he helped many youth to avoid army recruitment by the German, and he could help many prisoners to escape from trains directed towards the concentration camps.
- 2 Sep** Italy. The town of Trent, because of its strategic position, was under bombardments as from 2 September 1943. On Easter Monday 1945, 2nd April, a bombardment started suddenly, very close to the Stigmatine House; not able to reach the refuge in time, some of the confreres hid themselves in the cellars, which fortunately resisted, and they were all safe. The church was damaged, with minor problems to the house. On 7 May 1945, the Confreres of Trent could see and assist Bro. Quinto Beltramini³⁴⁵ and his companions, on their way home after being released from prison.
- 8 Dec** Italy. Because of the critical situation of the moment (i.e. the war), when Italy was divided and communications were difficult, the Vicar General, Fr. Joseph Fiorio, would temporary reside in the North of Italy to represent the General Superior and act in his name. He went to the Stimmate as his residence.³⁴⁶

1944

Brazil. In 1944, the Stigmatines went to Santa Cruz do Rio Prado, in the Federal District of Rio de Janeiro, near the Atlantic Ocean. They were entrusted of the Parish of Nossa Senhora da Conceição. It was closed in 1999.

USA. In 1944, the Congregation took charge of the Shrine of Our Lady of Ozarks, in Winslow, Arkansas, in the Diocese of Little

³⁴³ Fr. Giovanni Festoso. Born 1 November 1914; prof. 1934; ordin. 1941; death 8 December 1962.

³⁴⁴ Fr. Aristide Belli. Born 31 May 1913; ordin. 1938; death 13 December 1990.

³⁴⁵ See 5 March 1945.

³⁴⁶ IL BERTONIANO 1944, p. 84.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1944

Rock.³⁴⁷ It was closed in 1961. - On the same year, it was also accepted the Parish of All Saints, in Manassas, Virginia (VA).³⁴⁸

A short biography of the Founder, Fr. Gaspar Bertoni ‘Apostle of youth’, by Fr. Joseph Riley, the first one in English, was published in the America in 1944.

23 Jan The North American Province of Holy Spouses was constituted.³⁴⁹ The first Provincial Superior for North America was Fr. Charles Zanotti (followed by Fr. Paul Vincent Daly³⁵⁰ [1946-1949] and then by Fr. John Golden³⁵¹ [1949-1952 & 1952-1955]). For the Provincial Curia the place chosen was Wellesley, MA.

23 Jan The Brazilian Province of Holy Cross was constituted.³⁵² The first Provincial Superior for Brazil was Fr. Luiz Fernandes Pisetta (reconfirmed in 1946, followed by Fr. Augusto Casagrande³⁵³ [1950-1956]). For the Provincial Curia the place chosen was Rio Claro, SP .

28 Jan Italy. Because of its strategic position, Verona happened to be among the Italian towns most hit by bombardments, the first of which happened on 28 January 1944. On 9 February, the Diocesan Major Seminary was hit³⁵⁴. On 22 March, the Stimate was mildly affected.

31 Jan Italy. At Udine, a bomb fell not far from our House, and the Confreres were quick to go and assist the affected neighbours.

6 Feb Death of Fr. Pio Gabos.

Mar Italy. All the priests and students of the Apostolic School, for safety, because of the closeness to military activities, moved from

³⁴⁷ Cf. IL BERTONIANO 1944, p. 153 and p. 171.

³⁴⁸ Cf. IL BERTONIANO 1944, p. 153 and p. 171.

³⁴⁹ At the establishment of the Province of Holy Spouses, there were 72 confreres (62 Priests and 10 Brothers) in 11 communities, of which two were in Canada.

³⁵⁰ Fr. Paul Vincent Daly. Born 2 May 1912; entered 1926; ordin. 1936; Provincial of Holy Spouses (1946-1949); death 26 June 1971.

³⁵¹ Fr. John Golden. Born 6 August 1910; ordin. 1935; Provincial of Holy Spouses (1949-1955); death 11 February 1989.

³⁵² At the establishment of the Province of Holy Cross, there were 55 confreres (42 Priests and 13 Brothers) in 11 communities.

³⁵³ Fr. Augusto Casagrande. Born 22 August 1913; prof. 1934; ordin. 1936; Provincial of Holy Cross (1950-1956); death 28 June 1995.

³⁵⁴ The Rector, Fr. Timoteo Lugoboni, died on this attack.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1945

Sezano to Boscohiesanuova, on the Veronese Mountains, lodged in a hotel³⁵⁵, though few professed resided in the priest's house. But at the end of July they had to relocate, for a full month, to an isolated holidays hostel 7 km North of Boscohiesanuova³⁵⁶. Then they went back to the priest's house and, though not immediately, to the hotel Tinazzi.

1 Apr Because of the treat of bombs over the town of Verona, the School and College of Stimmate, students and staff, moved to Sezano, until 22 September 1947.

May Bombs fell near our house of Parma, with no damage. Soon after, the Confreres flew from the town and took refuge in various rural parishes.

26 June An order of requisition of the buildings of Sezano by the German Army was hanged at the door. Fortunately it was withdrawn on the 29th.

27 Jun In Verona, the German army occupied all quarters of school and college at the Stimmate. They left in July, bringing along with them much of the furniture and equipment.

Sep Between September 1944 and June 1945, the Community of Affi, Verona, gave their support to the emergency of the moment by hosting many refugees from Southern and Central Italy.

1945

20 Feb Italy. During a bombardment upon Udine, Fr. Cesare Dolzani³⁵⁷, of 32 years, was hit by bomb fragments and died. Other confreres, who were close to him, miraculously were not injured.

27 Feb The Convent of *Trinità* was totally destroyed by bombardments.

3 Mar Fr. William Contino³⁵⁸, of the Province of Holy Spouses, died in Italy, while giving his service as military chaplain.

³⁵⁵ This hotel's name was 'Pensione Tinazzi'.

³⁵⁶ This remote place is called Tracchi.

³⁵⁷ Fr. Cesare Dolzani. Born 14 February 1913; entered 1926; ordin. 1939; death 20 February 1945.

³⁵⁸ Fr. William Contino. Born 11 July 1912; entered 1934; ordin. 1943; death 3 March 1945.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1945

5 Mar Italy. Bro. Quinto Beltramini³⁵⁹ was arrested in Parma by the Nazis' 'SS', because some compromising documents were kept in the cellar, of which he knew nothing, but he was having the keys. Many times his life was at risk in the various transfers towards Verona and then Bolzano, where he was imprisoned in a concentration camp. But eventually he, and all those imprisoned with him, were released. Bro. Beltramini, in the journey back to Parma, took care of two other prisoners who were sick. He arrived in Parma on 12 May.

6 Apr On this day, the Mother House collapsed, hit by many bombs. Only the church of the Stimate, hit by a bomb, but which did not explode, remained standing, with few rooms attached. Also the school section and the Shrine of our Lady of Lourdes were totally destroyed.³⁶⁰

May Italy. In May 1945, a community was established in Acqui (Alessandria). The confreres were: Fr. Michele Scalet³⁶¹, Fr. Adolfo Viero³⁶², Fr. Giacomo Gaudenzi³⁶³, Fr. Gino Righetti³⁶⁴ and Bro. Mario Rigon³⁶⁵. But the confreres remained there only for one year, until Summer 1946, due to some misunderstanding with the Bishop.

21 Jun Brazil. The Province of Holy Cross started the publication of a periodic magazine, '*Ecos Estigmatinos*', printed by a new Stigmatine Printing establishment. This magazine promoted very much the growth and identity of the Province.

³⁵⁹ Bro. Quinto Beltramini. Born 3 August 1922; prof. 9 September 1940; death 18 January 2020.

³⁶⁰ The marble statue of the Immaculate, a masterpiece of Ugo Zannoni, though it fell from a height of 15 m, remained intact. It was brought to the church of the Stimate and remained there for 19 Years. Then it was finally transferred to the new Shrine to Our Lady of Lourdes, on S. Leonardo Hill, in 1964.

³⁶¹ Fr. Michele Scalet. Born 26 April 1913; prof. 1934; ordin. 1936; death 10 August 2000.

³⁶² Fr. Adolfo Viero. Born 13 January 1910; ordin. 1936; death 3 February 1989.

³⁶³ Fr. Giacomo Gaudenzi. Born 4 August 1912; prof. 1934; ordin. 1938; death 5 January 1991.

³⁶⁴ Fr. Gino Righetti. Born 19 September 1913; prof. 1934; ordin. 1938; death 1 March 1993.

³⁶⁵ Bro. Mario Rigon. Born 25 January 1918; prof. 1942. He left in 1961.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1946

- 24 Jul** The General Curia bought the Villa of the Commendator Francesco Di Maggio at Grottaferrata, 22 km from Rome, on the Albani hills. It became an 'outbuilding' of the General House, hosting students during their holidays and elderly confreres for some periods of rest. It was closed for two years, and then, in 1960, for seven years it became a Novitiate house for the Province of Sacred Heart. In 1968 it was rented out.
- 13 Sep** Italy. The students, who were preparing themselves for Stigmatine life (professed and younger ones), moved from Boscochiesanuova and from Sezano [the few left] to Villa Pensa, in Galbiate (Como), which was rented from the Sisters of the Institute '*Seghetti*'. They remained there until 1 October 1947, when the younger Professed and the Aspirants moved to Sezano, Verona. The house was given back to the Sisters.
- 1 Dec** The Superior General, Fr. J.B. Zaupa, left Italy by ship to visit the communities of North America.

1946

- 11 Jan** Italy. Guglielmo Turco and his wife Micaela Steccanella made a significant donation to the Stigmatines: the Villa Maffei, at Cadellara of Colognola ai Colli (Verona), that they had originally bought for their son³⁶⁶. The Provincial Council could then move the students from Galbiate (Como), some to Sezano and some to Cadellara, where, on 11 January 1946 arrived the first confreres, six Priests: Fr. Joseph Cappellina³⁶⁷, Fr. Fausto Longo³⁶⁸, Fr. Luigi Dusi³⁶⁹, Fr. Francesco Pisetta³⁷⁰, Fr Sergio Faè³⁷¹ (bursar) and Fr.

³⁶⁶ The donation came after the death of their son, Giacomo, called 'Mino', who incurred in a car accident on 14 August 1945. The place became known as '*Opera Mino Turco*'. The donors had also put an intention, that this place should be used for the assistance of young people.

³⁶⁷ Fr. Giuseppe Cappellina. Born 16 April 1916; prof. 1937; ordin. 1940; he was Superior General (1970-1976); Provincial of Sc. Heart (1976-1982); death 23 September 2008.

³⁶⁸ Fr. Fausto Longo. Born 14 August 1915; prof. 1936; ordin. 1939; death 10 March 1995.

³⁶⁹ Fr. Luigi Dusi. Born 20 October 1919; prof. 1940; ordin. 1944; Provincial of Sc. Heart (1970-1976); he was Superior General (1976-1982); death 31 July 2006.

³⁷⁰ Fr. Francesco Pisetta. Born 25 February 1903; prof. 1927; ordin. 1928; death 6 July 1998.

³⁷¹ Fr. Sergio Faè. Born 16 July 1917; prof. 1938; ordin. 1941; death 19 April 1994.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1946

Ottavio Vallarsa³⁷², the Theology students (Deacons) and two aspirant Brothers. In 1947 the professed students would go to Sezano and the new Aspirants would begin in Cadellara.

- 9 Mar** Brazil. There was the foundation of the Community of Marília, SP, with the Parish of St. Anthony of Padua. First confreres were Fr. Augusto Casagrande and Fr. Mario Zucchetto³⁷³.
- 25 May** The 25th General Chapter was held between 25 May and 5 June 1946 at St. Agatha, Rome.
- 28 May** Elections within the 25th General Chapter were held on this day. **The Superior General elected was Fr. Denis Martinis³⁷⁴**. Vicar Fr. Joseph Fiorio. Councillors: Fr. Olinto De Carli³⁷⁵, Fr. Charles Armour³⁷⁶ and Fr. Osvaldo Missoni³⁷⁷. Procurator General: Fr. J.B. Tomasi. Bursar: Fr. Fortunato Pedot.
- 10 Jul** North America. The General Council appointed Fr. Paul Daly as Provincial Superior of Holy Spouses.
- 13 Jul** Italy. The General Council appointed Fr. Giovanni Cervini as Provincial Superior of Sacred Heart.
- 26 Aug** Italy. The Bishop of Rieti, Benigno Luciano Migliorini, invited the Stigmatines to his Diocese. The first place was Antrodoco, 30 km from the town of Rieti, where the confreres were in charge of the parish. Fr. Gaetano Mutterle³⁷⁸ and Fr. Giuseppe Vignandel³⁷⁹ were presented to the parish on 26 August 1946. Later in the year they were joined by Bro. Gianfranco Gerussi³⁸⁰ (19 September)

³⁷² Fr. Ottavio Vallarsa. Born 17 April 1914; prof. 1936; ordin. 1939; death 1 February 1998.

³⁷³ Fr. Mario Zucchetto. Born 16 January 1918; prof. 1939; ordin. 1943; Provincial of Holy Cross (1958-1964); death 10 January 2008.

³⁷⁴ Fr. Dionigi Martinis. Born 6 November 1906; prof. 1926; ordin. 1931; he was Superior General (1946-1958); death 29 April 1962.

³⁷⁵ Fr. Olinto De Carli. Born 31 May 1901; ordin. 1925; death 11 November 1982.

³⁷⁶ Fr. Charles Paul Armour. Born 20 October 1910; ordin. 1937; death 20 January 1989.

³⁷⁷ Fr. Osvaldo Missoni. Born 24 November 1908; prof. 1928; ordin. 1933; death 5 May 1986.

³⁷⁸ Fr. Gaetano Mutterle. Born 21 May 1914; prof. 1937; ordin. 1941; death 26 January 2000.

³⁷⁹ Fr. Giuseppe Vignandel. Born 17 August 1921; prof. 1942; ordin. 1946; death 11 March 2014.

³⁸⁰ Bro. Lanfranco Gerussi. Born 11 May 1909; prof. 1926; death 24 November 1982.

and Fr. Alberto Tambalo (November). In Autumn 1946 they opened a little students' hostel in Via Cintia, in the centre of Rieti. They left Antrodoco in 1948³⁸¹ and embarked fully in the youth ministry. In 1970, the community moved to another place, on the outskirts of the town of Rieti, in via Terminillo, 63/a, where they took charge of a hostel for High School students, mostly from rural areas who were attending school in town. In 1987 the community became in charge of a Parish, firstly served in the chapel of the hostel, then a new church was built. In 2000 the house was sold to the Diocese and the attached parish was left. The community moved to the Parish of St. Barbara, until 2004.

Oct Italy. In October 1946, the '*Associazione Missionaria Bertoni*' (AMB) was established as an independent community and went to stay at the *Trinità*³⁸², since few rooms had been spared by the bombs. AMB was composed of six Priests and two Brothers: Fr. Pietro Campi, Fr. Giovanni Battista Carnovali³⁸³, Fr. Pietro Marchesini³⁸⁴, Fr. Giulio Dalmaso³⁸⁵, Fr. Enrico Adami, Fr. Pio Wegher³⁸⁶, Bro. Aldo Mecucci³⁸⁷ and Bro. Armando Vicentini³⁸⁸. Major responsibility was in the hands of Fr. Pietro Marchesini. They were involved in Missionary awareness throughout many Dioceses, also preaching Popular Missions. They were also giving assistance to many parishes, whenever called. They moved out of

³⁸¹ Fr. Giovanni Zampieri, in a personal research, says that Antrodoco was left in 1947.

³⁸² AMB was operating earlier, as from 31 March 1927, by confreres living in different communities. At the beginning the reference place was at the *Trinità*, then at the Stimmate, with an office within the *Patronato*. For some times the direction was in Rome and for a while in Milan. In 1945 the confreres for A.M.B. were: from the community of the Stimmate, Fr. Pietro Marchesini, *Director*, Fr. Ferruccio Tribos [Born 5 February 1911; ordin. 1936; death 7 November 1985] and Fr. Pio Wegher; from the community of Milan, Fr. Carlo Pederzoli [Born 1 October 1919; prof. 1940; ordin. 1943; death 28 September 2004] and Bro. Aldo Mecucci. Cf. IL BERTONIANO 1945, p. 336.

³⁸³ Fr. Giovanni Battista Carnovali. Born 26 March 1909; ordin. 1933; Pro-Visitator of China (1948-1951); death 17 November 1970.

³⁸⁴ Fr. Pietro Marchesini. Born 7 June 1916; prof. 1938; ordin. 1942; death 9 July 1993.

³⁸⁵ Fr. Giulio Dalmaso. Born 14 February 1917; prof. 1938; ordin. 1942; death 30 September 2008.

³⁸⁶ Fr. Pio Wegher. Born 7 September 1915; ordin. 1938; death 29 January 1979.

³⁸⁷ Bro. Aldo Mecucci. Born 18 August 1921; prof. 1946; death 9 January 1988.

³⁸⁸ Bro. Armando Vicentini. Born 21 August 1912; prof. 1940; death 25 February 2002.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1947

Trinità in 1953, when the property of *Trinità* was sold to help in the reconstruction of the Apostolic School, on S. Leonardo Hill.

- 22 Dec** Brazil. The General Council appointed Fr. Luiz M. Fernandes Pisetta as Provincial Superior of Holy Cross.

1947

Italy. The reconstruction of the ‘Mother House’ of the Stimate started in 1947, piece by piece until 1951, then completed in 1953³⁸⁹. Towards the end of 1947, some students moved in at the Stimate from Galbiate for their exams of V ‘*ginnasio*’.³⁹⁰

- 8 Feb** China. The Chinese Nationalist Army regained the territories where the Stigmatine Missions stood. But the freedom from Communists was short.

Jun The Chinese Nationalist Army gave back Yih sien to the Communists, who were declaring that the Catholic Church was the first enemy (followed by America and “Ku-ming-tang” [Chinese National Party]). Among the hostile matters, the Mission was not free to choose teachers for the schools.

- 23 Jun** Due to an announced destruction of Yih sien, the Apostolic Prefect Tarcisio Martina gave the order to all religious personnel to move somewhere else. The Stigmatines from LianKoChwang went to LaiShui (20 km Eastwards) the last Congregation’s residence still free from Communist occupation, but only for few days. Fr. Tarcisio Martina left Yih sien the following day.

- 25 Jun** Again on the move, those who escaped from LianKoChwang and from Yih sien left definitely the mission territories from LaiShui towards Beijing, where they arrived on the 28 June. There, they were lodged in different places. The Italian Embassy offered them a portion of the attached barracks.

³⁸⁹ The Architect was Flavio Vincita; the building company was Saccomani.

³⁹⁰ Upon personal memory of Fr. Luigi Mantovani.

1948

Italy. During Summer holidays, the professed students spent some time on the Lessini Mountains, hosted by the Parish Priest of Valdiporro, Verona.³⁹¹

During the year 1948, the Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis went for a Canonical Visitation to the three Stigmatine Provinces (Sc. Heart, in March; Holy Cross, in July and Holy Spouses, in November). After each visit he wrote a letter to the Province in the respective languages. His remarks, often negative, following an Italian style of the time, were not fully welcome in the other Provinces.³⁹²

21 Mar USA. On 21 March 1948, Palm Sunday, the first Mass was celebrated in Ludlow (MA). The confreres Fr. William Ludessi and Fr. Carmen Russo³⁹³ were the first Stigmatines there. The building of the new church, dedicated to St. Anne, started on 12 June 1949 and was completed on 23 January 1950.³⁹⁴

13 Jun Guam. In 1948, Fr. Paul Daly went to the American island of Guam (Mariannes). Other Stigmatines followed in the next year, engaged mostly with Parish apostolate. A Seminary was established and also a school ('Father Daeñas Memorial School'). In 1959 the school was given to the diocesan clergy. The Stigmatines left on 9 July 1959.

Dec China. While the Stigmatines were in Beijing, after escaping from their Mission in Yih sien, they did not remain idle. They took charge of a Parish and they were giving their support in health and

³⁹¹ During this period of holidays, a student of 20 years, Sergio Bendazzoli, gone for an excursion together with two priests (Fr. Mario Moser and Fr. Alessandro Grigolli), lost his life, falling from a steepy mountain rock.

³⁹² IL BERTONIANO, 1948, pp. 308-315.

³⁹³ Fr. Carmen Russo. Born 1 January 1918; prof. 1940; ordin. 1945; Provincial of Holy Spouses (1958-1964); death 2 August 2000.

³⁹⁴ Comparing the lists of confreres in IL BERTONIANO, it appears that Ludlow was fully established community in 1960 and then incorporated into Springfield in 1961; in 1962 it was 'affiliated' (with one confrere residing); last appearance in the lists was 1964. Seemingly, the Stigmatines went on serving Ludlow from Springfield until 1967, when it was given back to the Diocese of Springfield. Cf IL BERTONIANO 1967, p. 114.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1949

educational activities. In December 1948 a school was opened, *Stella Maris*, which lasted until 1950.

1949

China. Msgr. Tarcisio Martina, in Beijing, was given, for his residence, the former house of the Apostolic Delegation. He used the premises to give hospitality to many refugees (1949-1950). There he also established a Minor Seminary for the Missions of Yihsien and FenYang (1950-1951).

22 May Italy. The Stigmatines returned to the town of Pavia.³⁹⁵ The Bishop, Carlo Allorio, entrusted to the Congregation the Parish of the Holy Family. The Congregation remained there until 2005.

23 Jan China. Beijing was invaded by the Communist Army. The Communists were totally against foreign Missionaries.

1 Jul Italy. A property was bought in Boscochiesanuova (1104 m), Verona, on the Lessini Mountains, with a Villa and a big park, with the purpose of hosting confreres and students during summer holidays, beginning from the 1 July 1949. Other buildings were then added. In recent years, the house was opened for hosting relatives of Stigmatines and for accommodating groups from parishes or catholic organizations. From 1976, it became also a summer meeting point for all youth attached to the Stigmatine Communities all over Italy.

Dec France. In 1949, a community was opened in the South of France, at Toulouse. Two parishes were helped, each for about two years. The Congregation remained until 1951.

1950

31 Jan Brazil. Foundation in Barretos, SP, with the Parish of the Holy Spirit³⁹⁶. First Stigmatine Parish Priest was Fr. Paulo Campo

³⁹⁵ We left Pavia in 1927.

³⁹⁶ Attached to the parish, there were two town churches and two chaplaincies, and five rural chapels. "*Dal convento...*", p. 203.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1951

Dall'Orto³⁹⁷, assisted by Fr. Lourenço Correr³⁹⁸ and Fr. Luciano Dal Zoppo³⁹⁹. Later on, this parish became the Cathedral and the Stigmatines in 1962 moved the Parish of St. Benedict in the same town.

- 21 Jun** Brazil. The Stigmatine Fr. Luiz M. Fernandes Pisetta, together with Mrs. Hulda Maria Soares, gave foundation to the female Secular Institute "Handmaids of Christ the Priest". They received their 'Decree of Praise' from the Holy See on 8 December 1974.

1951

- Jan** The Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis, made the Canonical visitation to the Province of Sc. Heart, in the months of January to March 1951.
- Apr** The Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis, made the Canonical visitation to the Province of Holy Cross, beginning in April 1951.
- Apr** The Superior General delegated the Vicar General, Fr. Charles Armour, to conduct the Canonical visitation to the Province of Holy Spouses, in April 1951.
- 17 Aug** China. Msgr. Tarcisio Martina was accused of espionage and collaboration with foreign enemies and he was imprisoned, together with other people, both Chinese and foreigners. He would remain in prison until 26 December 1954. During this time, he was in 4 different prison, the next always a bit better than the previous one. On the arrest, he was put into the 'Surveillance Prison', handcuffed all the time, likewise for those arrested with him. On 19 December 1951 he was moved to another prison, the 'Prison of the People's Tribunal'. On 1 June 1953 to a third prison and in July 1953 to a forth one, modern and fairly comfortable. During his imprisonment, he was not allowed of any Christian symbol, not even the Sign of the Cross.

³⁹⁷ Fr. Paulo Campo Dall'Orto. Born 25 January 1915; prof. 1937; ordin. 1939; death 8 September 1993.

³⁹⁸ Fr. Lourenço Correr. Born 21 September 1913; prof. 1934; ordin. 1936; death 22 August 1982.

³⁹⁹ Fr. Luciano Dal Zoppo. Born 19 September 1916; prof. 1938; ordin. 1942; death 28 May 1990.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1951

- 13 Sep** Shortly after the arrest of Fr. Martina, the Stigmatine Missionaries, as well as all the foreign Missionaries, were expelled from China. Fr. Mario Stefanini⁴⁰⁰ and Fr. Severino Fontana⁴⁰¹ left Beijing on 13 September 1951. Fr. G. Battista Carnovali was kept under surveillance for another year, then he could leave; he arrived in Italy on 25 September 1952.⁴⁰² In the elections of representatives to the next General Chapter, the missionaries expelled from China were still considered to be a distinct constituency.
- 10 Oct** Italy. The Bishop of Cava and Sarno, Gennaro Fenizia, having met the Stigmatines at Battipaglia in 1950, asked them to take the Parish of St. Anthony, in Poggiomarino, Naples. The agreement took place on the 10 October 1951.
- 14 Oct** Fr. Emilio Moresco (Parish Priest), Fr. Giovanni Festoso, Fr. Severino Fontana and Bro. Carlo Valenti entered into the Parish of Poggiomarino. At the beginning the community was depending on Battipaglia, then it became independent on 1954. The church and the house were under construction, so at the beginning the confreres had to use some room above the sacristy, not much comfortable and with difficult access. Main initial activities were: Catechesis (which officially started on 2 December 1951), visit to the sick, organization of parish life and youth. After his Canonical Visitation of 14 June 1954, seen the real hardship for lodging, the Provincial Superior, Fr. Vittorio Battisti⁴⁰³, threatened to withdraw the confreres from Poggiomarino. The news arrived to Rome, and a letter arrived, with the date 23 July 1954, signed by Msgr. Giovanni Battista Montini, saying that the Pope was asking not to withdraw from Poggiomarino, with attached a large donation for purchasing a house suitable for the priests. A priests' house was build and the confreres entered on 17 May 1955, and they remained there until 1962, when they moved to Via Jervolino.

⁴⁰⁰ Fr. Mario Stefanini. Born 16 June 1912; prof. 1933; ordin. 1936; death 9 April 1996.

⁴⁰¹ Fr. Severino Fontana. Born 28 April 1913; prof. 1934; ordin. 1937; death 8 January 1997.

⁴⁰² Fr. G. Battista Carnovali, on 6 December 1952, presented a report on the Apostolic Prefecture of Yih sien to the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda Fide.

⁴⁰³ Fr. Vittorio Battisti. Born 13 November 1910; prof. 1932; ordin. 1935; Provincial of Sc. Heart (1952-1958); death 3 December 1991.

1952

An official portrait of the Founder was commissioned by the General Curia in 1952, done by a painter of Florence, Aldo Bondi, based on the plaster mould of Bertoni's face, which was taken after his death; but the result was much below expectations.

In 1952, the professed students from the North American Province of Holy Spouses were sent to Italy for their theological studies, in the Roman universities.

5 May The 26th *General Chapter* was held between 5 and 19 May 1952 at St. Agatha, Rome. On 17 May, **Fr. Denis Martinis was re-elected as Superior General** for another turn of six years.

1 Jul Italy. In 1951 a property was bought in Caorle (Venice), close to the sea, by initiative of Bro. Antonio Vignandel⁴⁰⁴. This was another house for summer holidays. Works started in Spring 1951 and were concluded on 18 October of the same year. On 1 July 1952 the house started its service. The first Director of Caorle was Fr. Francesco Leonoris⁴⁰⁵.

10 Jul The re-elected Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis, left Italy for North America, to conduct the Canonical visitation to the Province of Holy Spouses.

30 Sep Thailand. In 1952 the Mission of Thailand began. Some of the Stigmatine expelled from China, on their journey back to Europe, had stopped for some time in Bangkok, and the local Bishop, Pietro Carretto, had invited them to start a presence in Thailand. The idea was accepted by the Superiors, and on 30 September 1952, Fr. John Ceresatto⁴⁰⁶ and Fr. Primo Carnovali⁴⁰⁷ went back to Thailand. Soon they were joined by Fr. Lino Inama⁴⁰⁸, Fr. Marco Blasutig⁴⁰⁹ and Fr. Egidio Airaghi⁴¹⁰; all five of them knew

⁴⁰⁴ Bro. Antonio Vignandel. Born 16 October 1911; prof. 1937; death 12 September 1994.

⁴⁰⁵ Fr. Francesco Leonoris. Born 31 May 1912; prof. 1934; ordin. 1937; death 24 January 2004.

⁴⁰⁶ Fr. John Ceresatto. Born 7 February 1916; prof. 1937; ordin. 1940; death 7 December 2011.

⁴⁰⁷ Fr. Primo Carnovali. Born 10 July 1910; prof. 1929; ordin. 1934; death 6 October 1981.

⁴⁰⁸ Fr. Lino Inama. Born 2 August 1911; prof. 1933; ordin. 1936; death 19 March 1996.

⁴⁰⁹ Fr. Marco Blasutig. Born 15 April 1914; prof. 1935; ordin. 1938; death 3 July 1990.

⁴¹⁰ Fr. Egidio Airaghi. Born 8 September 1915; prof. 1933; ordin. 1940; death 31 May 1958.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1953

Chinese. The Mission was depending on the General Curia until 6 September 1955, when the Mission was entrusted to the Province of Holy Spouses. They offered assistance to parishes and teachings in the Catholic Schools. In 1954, a high school was started in Phuket, with the name '*Morning Star*' (*Dow Roong Vittaya*). The communities founded were: Phuket (1953), Ranong (1961), Trang (1962) and Samphrang.

1953

Italy. In 1953 the '*Associazione Missionaria Bertoni*' (AMB) had to move from *Trinità*. A place was found in via Mameli 73, in Verona, to host the community. In 1957 there started also some professional teaching for the youth.

USA. In 1953, in Waltham (MA), since the big building used for the Students was left free, the place became a Retreat House with the Shrine of the Holy Spouses.

23 Jan The Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis, sent to all the confreres ("Priests and Brothers") a long letter on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Founder's death. He presented the holiness of Fr. Gaspar and his main spiritual characteristics, summarized by his spirit of abandonment (with the following subtitles: humility, confidence, prayer, diligence, spirit of faith, patience, love and devotion).⁴¹¹

Mar The Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis, made the Canonical visitation to the Province of Sc. Heart, assisted by the Provincial Superior, Fr. Vittorio Battisti, beginning in March 1953.

31 Mar A census of the Stigmatine family, on the occasion of the centenary of Fr. Bertoni's death, was compiled on 31 March 1953.

14 Jun Italy. Four Stigmatines were ordained to priesthood: Fr. Carlo Bonetti⁴¹², Fr. Albino Cassini⁴¹³, Fr. Antonio Miori⁴¹⁴ and Fr.

⁴¹¹ IL BERTONIANO, 1952, *Supplemento* al N. 4, p. 133-200.

⁴¹² Fr. Carlo Bonetti. Born 5 September 1928; I prof. 8 October 1947; ordin. 1953. He left in 1971.

⁴¹³ Fr. Albino Cassini. Born 11 February 1927; prof. 1950; ordin. 1953; death 5 July 1993.

⁴¹⁴ Fr. Antonio Miori. Born 18 March 1927; I prof. 19 October 1947; ordin. 1953. He left in 1961.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1953

Augusto Mosconi⁴¹⁵. This celebration was felt as a solemn beginning of the celebrations for the centenary of the Founder's death.

- 30 Jun** The Superior General delegated Fr. Osvaldo Missoni for the Canonical visitation to the Province of Holy Cross, beginning in June 1953.
- 1 Jul** Italy. In Verona, the works for the new Apostolic School started.⁴¹⁶ The place chosen was no longer at the Stimate, but on S. Leonardo Hill, just overlooking the whole town of Verona, almost 'above' the Cathedral. It was completed on 7 May 1955.
- 9 Jul** Brazil. The Congregation held some celebrations for 100 years from the Founder's death. The major celebration was in Ribeirão Preto. (The Professed Students lived there at that time.) A triduum prepared the celebrations, with many priests alternating in preaching. Celebrations started on Thursday 9 July and went on until Sunday 12 July. On Sunday there was the highest moment, with representatives from all Stigmatine Houses and Parishes; there was a Pontifical Mass in the Cathedral and a lunch for more than 100 authorities, while about other 400 people were enjoying a 'churrasco'. More celebrations were held in other places: Rio Claro (on the 14 June) and Ituiutaba, where a public school, dedicated to St. Joseph, was inaugurated.
- Sep** Brazil. In September 1953, the Stigmatines were offered to conduct the Parish of Our Lady of Abadia in Tupaciguara, Minas Gerais, and to run the local High School (with the intention of purchasing it). A Minor Seminary started there on 20 February 1959. In 1960 it went under the '*Visitadoria*' of St. Joseph. It was closed on 16 November 1971.

⁴¹⁵ Fr. Augusto Mosconi. Born 17 October 1928; prof. 1950; ordin. 1953; death 15 March 1992.

⁴¹⁶ In charge of the reconstruction of the Apostolic School were the Stigmatines Fr. Luigi Fantozzi, appointed by the General Curia, Fr. Giovanni Cervini, Provincial Superior, and Fr. Joseph Cappellina, Superior of the Apostolic School. For the project there was the Municipal Inspector of Fine Art, Pietro Gazzola, the engineer Iseppo Loredan and the Architect Paolo Rossi de' Paoli. The building Company was '*Costruzioni ing. Andreotti & C*'.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1953

- 4 Nov** Italy. On the 4 November 1953, in Verona, there was the first national congress of all the former students of our schools and hostels.⁴¹⁷
- 14 Nov** Brazil and Italy. After an agreement between the two Provinces, 13 Brazilian professed students went to Verona, Italy, for their Theological studies. They arrived at the Stimmate on the 14 November, attending school with the Italian professed. All would move to S. Leonardo in February 1955.
- 22 Nov** Italy. The celebration for the Centenary of Fr. Bertoni, in Rome, was held at Holy Cross from Friday 20 November to Sunday 22. It was prepared by a triduum. On Friday and Saturday, there was a Mass in the morning and a conference in the evening by Alessandro Grigolli. On Sunday, there was an early Mass celebrated by the General Superior, Fr. Denis Martinis, and a Pontifical Mass celebrated by a Canon of St. Peter, Bishop Smit. In the evening there was the third lesson of Fr. Grigolli and the Eucharistic Benediction by Card. Borgognini Duca.
- 13 Dec** Italy. The apex of the great celebrations for the Centenary of Fr. Bertoni's death was in Verona, on 13 December 1953. There was a religious moment in the church of St. Firmus. Here the Bishop of Verona, Girolamo Cardinale, celebrated a Mass for the youth of Catholic Actions, while the Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis, celebrated at the Stimmate for the students of our Apostolic Schools. Again at Saint Firmus the Archbishop of Trent, Carlo De Ferrari, celebrated the Pontifical Mass⁴¹⁸. The official commemoration was held in the Boggian Hall⁴¹⁹ at Castelvechio: among the authorities, a commemoration speech was given by the Italian Minister of Education, Guido Gonella⁴²⁰. There intervened various choirs and then the Superior General pronounced the final thanksgiving.

⁴¹⁷ Cf. "*Breve Cronaca, IV, 1945-2000*": P. Mantovani, p. 62.

⁴¹⁸ "*Dal convento...*", p.373. Cf. *Il Bertonian*, 2 (1953), p 354. Cf. *Cronaca Casa Stimmate*, p.178.

⁴¹⁹ Boggian Hall could accommodate 1200 people, but it was overcrowded.

⁴²⁰ Guido Gonella, by then Senator, would make another speech on Fr. Gaspar Bertoni, at the parish of St. Paul in Campo Marzio, on 28 February 1978, commemorating the second centenary of Bertoni's birth; when he underlined four main aspects of Bertoni: studiousness; poverty; humility; and suffering.

1954

- 20 Feb** Brazil. The Stigmatines took over the Parish of Our Lady of Carmel, in Ituverava, SP. First confreres were Fr. Cesar Luzio Junior⁴²¹ and Fr. Dario de Romedis⁴²². It would be closed in 1989.
- 1 Apr** Thailand. Because of the necessity of having English speaking Fathers in Thailand, the General Curia asked the North American Province of the Holy Spouses to send some priests to Thailand. Fr. Joseph Flood⁴²³ and Fr. Rocco Leotilo⁴²⁴ left from New York, directed to Thailand in March 1954 and reached Phuket on the 1st April.⁴²⁵ There, they immediately gave help to the School '*Morning Star*' of Phuket with English evening classes.
- Jul** Italy. A property was purchased at Pontebba (Udine) through the mediations of Fr. Alessio De Marchi⁴²⁶, for the summer holidays of the students of 'Bertoni High School' in Udine.
- 27 Nov** Italy. In Milan, from the Parish of Holy Cross the confreres started serving another area of the city⁴²⁷. There, a new University Students' Hostel was built and, in September 1955, an independent community was established. The confreres were: Fr. Olinto De Carli, Fr. Marino Furlani⁴²⁸ and Fr. Adolfo Viero (in charge of the Hostel). At the beginning they were using temporary chapels, dedicated to the Holy Spouses. The Parish got its name in 1960, dedicated to St. Leo the Great. The church building started in 1963 and was completed on 21 March 1964; the church was consecrated on 26 March 1966 by the Cardinal Giovanni Colombo. After its

⁴²¹ Fr. Cesar Luzio Junior. Born 8 March 1927; I prof. 9 December 1944; ordin. 1951. He left in 1965.

⁴²² Fr. Dario De Romedis. Born 23 September 1911; prof. 1932; ordin. 1936; death 19 June 1999.

⁴²³ Fr. Joseph Flood. Born 17 April 1916; prof. 1946; ordin. 1949; death 31 October 1996.

⁴²⁴ Fr. Rocco Leotilo. Born 21 August 1926; prof. 1950; ordin. 1953; first Vice Provincial of Mary Morning Star (1982-1988); death 3 March 2002.

⁴²⁵ Cf. "History of the Stigmatines in North America" p. 472, compiled by Fr. Joseph Henchey, 1986; typed book. IL BERTONIANO, 1954, p. 406.

⁴²⁶ Fr. Alessio De Marchi. Born 12 August 1914; prof. 1935; ordin. 1938; Provincial of Sc. Heart (1958-1964); death 17 May 2007.

⁴²⁷ The place was located in via Carnia.

⁴²⁸ Fr. Marino Furlani. Born 18 June 1913; ordin. 1939; death 11 October 1987.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1955

official erection as 'Urban Parish' in November 1964, the first parish Priest (*Prevosto*) was Fr. Marino Furlani.

26 Dec China. Msgr. Tarcisio Martina was freed from prison and expelled from China on 26 December 1954. He spent few days at Hong Kong, for medical attention and for regaining some strength. He stopped few days in Thailand. He arrived in Italy on the 25 January 1955.

27 Dec Italy. All Stigmatine candidates and students moved to S. Leonardo, Verona, from Sezano in the days between 27 and 29 December 1954. The theology students from the Stimmate, including the Brazilian professed, moved to S. Leonardo on 9 February 1955 and the Novices from Cadellara moved in on 21 February 1955. The complex came to host almost 200 people preparing to Religious Life and Priesthood.

1955

Brazil. In 1955, the Brazilian Stigmatines were entrusted two parishes in Cafelandia, SP. The two parishes (St. Elizabeth of Hungary and Our Lady of Carmel) had some rivalry, so the hope was that, being led by a single Congregation, problems would ease. It went on until 1966.

Jan Italy. Since all students (aspirants and professed students) moved to San Leonardo, Sezano was now serving as a farming place, for the support of the Congregation.

23 Jan The Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis, sent to all the confreres a long letter on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Congregation's Decree of Praise, 16 March 1855.⁴²⁹ He spoke on the aims of the Institute and on the requirements to achieve them.

5 Feb The General Curia gave to each Province the mandate to formulate programs for celebrating the centenary of the Decretum Laudis and of the Canonical Erection of the Congregation (30 September 1855). But the chronicles do not report any activity responding to this invitation.

⁴²⁹ IL BERTONIANO, 1954, *Supplemento* al N. 3, p. 409-467.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1956

- 6 Sep** Thailand. The General Council decided that the community of Phuket, until then depending directly on the General Curia, would become part of the Province of Holy Spouses.
- 3 Nov** Italy. The Stigmatines arrived at this date at Noto, Siracusa, Sicily. They had been called by the Bishop of Noto, Angelo Calabretta. The confreres who went there were: Fr. Giuseppe Guglielmoni⁴³⁰, Fr. Ottavio Vallarsa and Bro. Armando Vicentini. The Provincial Superior, Fr. Vittorio Battisti, accompanied them up to Noto, by train. The Stigmatines were entrusted of the youth ministry by creating an inter-parish Oratory. Besides youth, they were in charge of the spiritual assistance of the Carmelite Sisters. They lodged at the 'House of Clergy' for two years. In 1957 they moved to the Parish of '*Ecce Homo*' (offering far better accommodation). They became also in charge of a Rectory attached to a College. Later on, they gave Sunday service to Rigolizia, 30 km from Noto. They left on 16 August 1965 because of lack of personnel, but having in mind that Noto was sufficiently served by Priests and Religious.

1956

During the year 1956, a Canonical Visitation was made to the Province of Holy Spouses, by Fr. Tarcisio Martina, Delegate of the Superior General.

During the year 1956, a Canonical Visitation was made to the Province of Sc. Heart by the Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis.

- 2 Feb** Brazil. The first Stigmatine to operate in Brasilia was Fr. Primo Scussolino, from the very outset of the new city⁴³¹. On 2 February 1957 he was entrusted of the Parish 'Nostra Senhora Aparecida'.

⁴³⁰ Fr. Giuseppe Guglielmoni. Born 6 January 1919; prof. 1942; ordin. 1948; death 21 September 2002.

⁴³¹ Fr. Primo Scussolino was named 'Founder of Brasilia', and after his death (28 March 1960) he was buried with the high ranking people of the Capital City. He had been unceasingly assisting the workers in their social and spiritual problems, moving from one building site to the next, in the City under construction. On 2 February 1959 the Archbishop (of Goiânia) made him Vicar General of Brasilia. (NB. The Diocese of Brasilia was instituted on 1 January 1960, out of the Diocese of Goiânia, and the first Bishop was José Newton de Almeida Batista).

HISTORICAL NOTES 1957

- 29 Apr** Brazil. The Stigmatine returned to Paraná⁴³², to its capital city, Curitiba, on 29 April 1954.⁴³³ The first to arrive was Fr. Vittorio Nardon; he was hosted in the Sacred Heart Hostel, near the church of Our Lady of Lourdes (to be entrusted to the Stigmatines). The place was called ‘little hell’.
- 12 Jun** The Superior General, Fr. Denis Martinis, made the Canonical visitation to the Province of Holy Cross, beginning in June 1956.
- Sep** USA. A community started at Washington, District of Columbia (DC) in 1956. A ‘House of Studies’ was opened (a small university hostel), with the capacity of 15 people, mostly for Religious attending the local Catholic University. The house was sold in 1973.

1957

Brazil. In 1957, the care of the Shrine of Santa Luzia was accepted, in Luziânia, GO. In 1960 it went under the ‘*Visitadoria*’ of St. Joseph.

- Jan** Brazil. In January 1957, Fr. Antônio Amélio⁴³⁴ took possession of the new parish of St. Edwiges, in Rio de Janeiro, Federal Capital City⁴³⁵. The parish was located on the place called ‘Quinta de Boa Vista’ (‘Area of nice view’). In 1995 this community was assigned to the Province of St. Joseph.
- 17 Mar** Brazil. In 1957, two parishes were entrusted to the Stigmatines in Palmeira, PR: Mary Immaculate and Porto Amazonas; surrounded, all together, by 37 rural chapels. First parish priest was Fr. Federico Vettori⁴³⁶, helped by Fr. Vittorio Nardon and Fr.

⁴³² The first Stigmatine ministry was in Paraná, at Tibagy.

⁴³³ P. Mantovani, in his ‘*Breve Cronaca, IV, 1945-2000*’ puts the date of arrival on the 29 April 1956. Bettini, *História dos Estigmatinos no Brasil*, p. 76, puts 29 April 1956. The booklet ‘STIMMATINI’ (2019, and previous versions as well) puts 29 April 1954 as the foundation date.

⁴³⁴ Fr. Antônio Amélio. Born 11 November 1923; I prof. 9 December 1943; ordin. 3 December 1950. He left in 1961.

⁴³⁵ Rio de Janeiro was Brazil’s Capital between 1763 and 1960. In 1960, the new Federal Capital became Brasília.

⁴³⁶ Fr. Federico Vettori. Born 2 February 1913; prof. 1934; ordin. 1936; death 3 September 1978.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1958

Valdemar Darcie⁴³⁷. In December 1958 a property was purchased, in order to have an Apostolic School, which took the name of Immaculate Conception Seminary.

2 Jun Italy. The President of the Italian Republic, Giovanni Gronchi, granted to the “Professor” Cornelio Fabro the title of Commendatore.⁴³⁸

22 Jul Brazil. In Brasilia, the Congregation took full charge of the parish of ‘Nostra Senhora Aparecida’; and, in honour to the Stigmatine Province, the name changed to ‘Holy Cross’. In 1960 it went under the ‘*Visitadoria*’ of St. Joseph. In 1999 it became also a House for the Philosophy students.

11 Nov Italy. A Professional Centre for Printing started with the Community in Via Mameli, Verona. At the beginning it involved some apprenticeship under the Ministry of Work, for composition, printing and binding: major responsibility was in the hands of Fr. Pietro Marchesini and Bro. Aldo Mecucci. But, starting from the academic year 1962/1963, under the direction of Fr. Pietro Mantovani⁴³⁹, it took a specific school structure, with specialization in composition and printing for both typography and lithography. New buildings were constructed, and the inauguration was on 23 April 1966.

1958

5 May The 27th *General Chapter* was held between 5 and 15 May 1958 at St. Agatha, Rome. On 8 May, **Fr. Gilbert Fini⁴⁴⁰ was elected Superior General.**

31 May Italy. On 31 May 1958, the cornerstone for the new Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes was blessed by the Bishop of Verona, Giovanni Urbani. The place chosen was close to the new Apostolic School on S. Leonardo Hill, using the basement of an old military fortress (built in strategic view position in 1938); actual works started in

⁴³⁷ Fr. Valdemar Darcie. Born 3 September 1914; I prof. 9 September 1932; ordin. 1939. He left in 1957.

⁴³⁸ IL BERTONIANO, 1958, p. 55.

⁴³⁹ Fr. Pietro Mantovani. Born 23 December 1934; prof. 9 September 1952; ordin. 24 June 1960; death 16 August 2017.

⁴⁴⁰ Fr. Gilbert Fini. Born 18 March 1916; prof. 1934; ordin. 1942; Provincial of Holy Spouses (1955-1958); Superior General (1958-1968); death 18 November 1968.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1959

July 1959. On 13 June 1964, the Shrine was blessed by the Bishop of Verona, Giuseppe Carraro.⁴⁴¹ Here, on a special place outside, but visible from inside the church, was put the statue of Mary Immaculate coming from the former Shrine at the '*Terese*'.⁴⁴² First Rector of the new Shrine was Fr. Alberto Tambalo.

Oct The General Superior, Fr. Gilbert Fini, announced his first Canonical Visitation to the Congregation, beginning from the Province of Holy Spouses, in October 1958; and then would follow the Province of Holy Cross and the Province of Sc. Heart.

1959

1 Jan The magazine '*Il Bertonian*', which started in 1912, was now to become the General Curia's Bulletin, while each of the three Provinces was supposed to start its own Bulletin. The Italian Province of Sacred Heart started '*Echi di vita Stimmatina*'. On 23 February 1959, the Brazilian Province of Holy Cross started the '*Buletin Provincial*'. The North American Province of Holy Spouses started the '*Newsletter*'. This change also implied that the chronicles of the Communities, which up to the whole year 1958 were published on '*Il Bertonian*', would now be published in the respective Provincial Bulletins.

7 Jan The Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, made the Canonical visitation to the Province of Holy Cross, from 7 January to 9 February 1959.

3 Jul The first official '*Ratio Studiorum*' of the Congregation was published on '*Il Bertonian*', with a presentation of the Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini.,⁴⁴³

28 Sep USA. The Stigmatine ministry in Woodbridge, Virginia, began in 1956, served from Manassas, VA. The place was established as a Parish on 28 September 1959, under the title of Our Lady of Angels and a Stigmatine community was established there⁴⁴⁴. First

⁴⁴¹ On the following day, Sunday 14 June 1964, the Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, celebrated in the new Shrine. Cf. Giuseppe Cappellina, *Storia della costruzione del Santuario*.

⁴⁴² About the statue, see footnotes for 21 June 1905 and 6 April 1945.

⁴⁴³ IL BERTONIANO, 1959, pp. 223-268.

⁴⁴⁴ A Stigmatine community in Woodbridge went on until about 1993.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1960

confreres were: Fr. George Ecker⁴⁴⁵, Fr. James Shea⁴⁴⁶ and Fr. Richard Woodarek⁴⁴⁷.

- 19 Oct** Brazil. In October 1959, the General Council established the Brazilian '*Visitadoria*' of Saint Joseph (São José), depending on the Province of Holy Cross. Fr. Leopoldo Camargo⁴⁴⁸ was chosen first Visitor.⁴⁴⁹
- 27 Nov** Canada. On 27 November 1959, a ministry was taken, from Timmins, in the town of South Porcupine, Ontario. It was closed in 1985.⁴⁵⁰

1960

Canada. A community was opened in 1960 at Sault Ste Marie, Ontario. It was closed in 1976.

Italy. The confrere Fr. Cornelio Fabro was appointed by Pope John XXIII to be a Member of the Pontifical Commission for Studies and Seminaries during the preparation for the Ecumenical Vatican Council II. Again, in 1962 he was appointed as "Perito" (expert) of the actual Vatican Council II.

- 19 Mar** On the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, sent a long letter to the "Priests and Brothers" of the Congregation, inviting each one to love the Congregation and to support it; and to be concerned with each other.
- 9 Nov** South Africa. The first Stigmatines to South Africa arrived at the airport of Johannesburg. They were: Fr. Lino Inama, Fr. Dario

⁴⁴⁵ Fr. George Francis Ecker. Born 9 February 1911; prof. 1934; ordin. 1936; death 25 January 1997.

⁴⁴⁶ Fr. James Gerard Shea. Born 31 January 1914; prof. 1938; ordin. 1943; death 2 August 1998.

⁴⁴⁷ Fr. Richard Woodarek. Born 3 December 1928; prof. 1954; ordin. 1957; death 5 August 2011.

⁴⁴⁸ Fr. Leopoldo Camargo. Born 14 December 1917; prof. 1942; ordin. 1944; first Visitor for St. Joseph (1959-1964); death 2 October 1984.

⁴⁴⁹ The Communities belonging to the *Visitadoria* were: Ituiutaba (1935), Uberaba (1936), Morrinhos (1936), Tupaciguara (1953) Luziânia (1957) and Brasília (1957); with 19 Priests and 10 Brothers.

⁴⁵⁰ From annotations of Fr. Geoffrey Decker.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1960

Wegher⁴⁵¹, Fr. Primo Carnovali and Bro. Joseph Modena⁴⁵². The convention with the Archbishop of Pretoria had been signed on 20 November 1959. They were welcomed personally at the airport by the Bishop of Pretoria, John Garner, who had long waited for the coming of the Stigmatines. The first Stigmatine community was in the African area near De Wildt, in a village called Mmakau, serving the Parish of Most Holy Redeemer and a mission school. But, due to heavy rain, they could not reach the Mission immediately: they were hosted at Brits, the closest town; they could have a quick visit on the 19th, but they could move fully into their Mission only on the 30 November 1960. Attached to the parish of Mmakau, from 1929, there was the outstation of Erasmus (St. Anne). Soon the Stigmatine moved around, and in 1961 they started serving Winterveldt area (20 km North), where many people lived displaced, in a precarious situation: here some outstation were started: Ten Morgen (Guardian Angels, 1961. Here an Old Age Home and a clinic were established in 1981), Five Morgen (St. Michael, 1964), Moiletswane (Holy Family), Shakung (St. Luke), Mmakaunyane (St. John the Baptist, 1968), Klipgat (Mary Queen of Peace, 1971), Madidi (All Saints), Makanyaneng (St. Martin de Porres) and Klippan (St. Peter Apostle, 1963). Another area served from Mmakau, from 1967, was Mabopane (but fully served by the Stigmatines from 1980, with Christ the King; and later St. Mark).

13 Nov Italy. The House of Grottaferrata became the House of Novitiate for the Italian Province of the Sacred Heart, for seven years.⁴⁵³

Dec The Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, left for North America for the second Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Spouses, with the intention to proceed then to Brazil for the Visitation to the Province of Holy Cross.

8 Dec Italy. Foundation of Catania, with the parish of St. John Evangelist, in the outskirts of the town, in a quarter called 'Village Cardinal Dusmet'. The community of Catania, in 1976, moved to the parish

⁴⁵¹ Fr. Dario Wegher was previously working in the USA and, at that time, he was belonging to the Province of Holy Spouses.

⁴⁵² Deac. Giuseppe Modena. Born 7 March 1919; prof. 1943; deac. 1976; death 7 December 1991.

⁴⁵³ Echi di Vita stigmatina, Anno 2°, n. 4, p. 275 e p. 322.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1961

of St. Mark, in the area called Tremestieri, still serving St. John Evangelist until 1999.

1961

USA. In 1961, in Waltham, the Retreat House *Holy Spouses* started functioning.

Thailand. A new community was opened in Ranong in 1961. In 1964, the School '*Sri Amnothai*' started.

4 Mar The Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, arrived in Brazil for his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Cross.

19 Mar Brazil. A solemn celebration was organized by the Congregation to honour 50 years of Stigmatine presence in Brazil (who arrived in December 1905). The event was held in Rio Claro, the oldest foundation in Brazil, with the presence of the Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini. There were Masses in the morning, then lunch, followed by some speeches. The diocesan Bishop, José Maria Melillo celebrated the evening Mass, after which there were musical entertainment and the main speech of the Provincial Superior, Fr. Mario Zucchetto.

8 Sep USA. A new house was constructed in Sangerfield for the Noviciate of the Province of Holy Souses. The first group of novices began on 8 September 1961; novice Master was Fr. Louis Antonelli⁴⁵⁴ and house Director was Fr. Joseph Fellin⁴⁵⁵. The place was near the town of Waterville, under the Diocese of Siracusa.

23 Nov Italy. The American confrere Fr. Charles Egan⁴⁵⁶ was appointed to be "Commissioner" within the Congregation for Religious.

1962

A Canonical Visitation took place in Thailand in 1962, by the General Councillor Fr. Mario Tais, as Delegate of the Superior General.

⁴⁵⁴ Fr. Louis Antonelli, Born 23 September 1918; I prof. 1943; ordin. 1949. He left in 1973 and was incardinated in Guam.

⁴⁵⁵ Fr. Joseph Henry Fellin. Born 27 August 1921; prof. 1942; ordin. 1945; death 25 January 2007.

⁴⁵⁶ Fr. Charles Egan. Born 8 December 1919; prof. 1938; ordin. 1946; Provincial of Holy Spouses (1964-1970); death 8 February 2003.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1962

Brazil. In 1962 there was a foundation at Campinas, called 'Chácara do Vovô' ('Grand-father's house'), as a Novitiate House. From 1969 to 1977 it hosted the pastoral community. From 1978 became also the residence of the Philosophy students, and from 1988 it hosted the sick confreres⁴⁵⁷ of the Province of Holy Cross. Thailand. A new community was opened in Trang in 1962. In 1967, the School 'Amnothai' (Dawn) started.

- 10 Jan** Italy. A new parish in Rome was entrusted to the Congregation, in Villa Chigi, 'Trieste' quarter. There was no church, and the territory was cut out from two other parishes (Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary & St. Mary Goretti). Confreres for this foundation were: Frs. Angelo Marcotti⁴⁵⁸ and Alberto Tambalo and Bro. Giulio Taller⁴⁵⁹. In August Fr. Vittorino Santi⁴⁶⁰ joined the community.
- 17 Mar** Italy. In Parma, the works for the new church of the Sacred Stigmata in Via Montanara started. For two years the Stigmatines were serving the new parish from St. James. The church building was completed in 1970.
- 28 Mar** South Africa. The Archbishop of Pretoria entrusted to the Stigmatine a second pastoral area, at Brits, with the parish of St. Joseph in the 'Location' and the small parish of Sacred Heart in town. Fr. Dario Wegher entered here officially on the 28 March 1962. From this community, other parishes and outstations were served: Mothutlung (St. Theresa Little Flowers), Oskraal (Uganda Martyrs) and Kgabalatsane (Holy Rosary); and, later on, Letlhabile (St. Zeno). The community was closed on 15 March 1989, though the parish ministry was retained, served from Jericho.
- 5 May** Italy. A property was purchased in Battipaglia, in the area called Castelluccia, for future developments.
- 4 Jun** Italy. The Parish in Villa Chigi, Rome, was formally established, dedicated to the Most Holy Trinity. At the beginning some

⁴⁵⁷ "Breve Cronaca, IV, 1945-2000": P. Mantovani says that the elderly confreres were hosted as from 1985.

⁴⁵⁸ Fr. Angelo Marcotti. Born 15 August 1910; prof. 1935; ordin. 1939; death 28 June 1998.

⁴⁵⁹ Bro. Giulio Taller. Born 25 January 1908; prof. 1939; death 31 January 1982.

⁴⁶⁰ Fr. Vittorino Santi. Born 25 May 1936; prof. 1957; ordin. 1961; death 19 December 1975.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1963

restructured shops were used as church and the community lived in a rented house. The actual buildings of the church, offices and community residence were built between 1975 and 1979.

- 12 Jun** In Rome, the Cardinal Protector, Pietro Fumasoni-Biondi, died on 12 July 1960, and the Congregation obtained a new Cardinal Protector, Cardinal Alberto Di Jorio, appointed on 2 January 1961. He took possession of his Protectorate with a ceremony celebrated on 12 June in the church of St. Agatha dei Goti.
- 25 Jul** South Africa. This was a memorable day for the Mission of Mmakau: the future Pope Paul VI, Cardinal John Baptist Montini, by then Archbishop of Milan, went to visit the Stigmatine Mission. He was accompanied by the Bishop of Pretoria, John Garner, and the Apostolic Delegate, Mc Geough. He celebrated Mass for the school and spent time talking with the elders of the village and with the Missionaries.
- 11 Oct** The **Vatican Ecumenical Council**, summoned by Pope John XXIII, opened solemnly in Saint Peter, Rome.
- 14 Dec** Italy. Archbishop Charles De Ferrari died at Trent. He had been appreciated by Pope Pius XII and Pope John XXIII, who had told him so in various letters. He is also remembered as the one who understood and promoted the charism of Chiara Lubich, foundress of the Focolari Movement, also giving them the Diocesan approval in 1947.

1963

North America. Beginning from 1963, the Province of Holy Spouses took the decision to help the Stigmatine missionary work in Brazil, sending confreres to the community of Paraná, initially at Palmeira, then, from 1967, also at Curitiba. As from 1972, the 'missionaries' were no longer tied to a specific location, but were helping here and there, according to the needs. No substitutes were sent, so the last confrere from Holy Spouses helping in Brazil was recorded in 2001.

Brazil. A house was purchased at Auro Fino, for the professed students' holidays.

South Africa. Due force removals by South African government, a lot of native were allocated to an area close to Mmakau, called Ga-Rankuwa. The first Stigmatine who helped there was Fr. Lino

HISTORICAL NOTES 1964

Inama in 1963. In 1966, Fr. Alexander Di Tullio⁴⁶¹ started the building of Holy Cross church in Zone 1, which was blessed in 1969. Then other two parishes were established to serve the huge area: in Zone 4 (Maria Mater Ecclesiae, 1979) and Zone 3 (Christ the New Man, 1980). In Zone 3, in 1985, promoted by Fr. Michael D'Annucci⁴⁶², a Pastoral Centre was built to host courses for the laity, about pastoral involvement and marriage preparation.⁴⁶³

- 16 Lug** Brazil. In the name of the Stigmatines, Fr. Federico Vettori started ministering to the parish of Holy Cross, in Campinas, SP. The parish was given back to the Diocese in 1980.
- 24 Sep** Italy. In 1963 '*Associazione Missionaria Bertoni*' moved from via Mameli, Verona, to S. Leonardo.
- 25 Sep** In Battipaglia, Salerno, by initiative of Fr. Luigi Mantovani⁴⁶⁴ and Fr. Vittorino Turrini⁴⁶⁵, on this date young people who were interested to become Stigmatines were welcomed to a school, called '*Casa Gaspare Bertoni*', not far from the parish church.
- 3 Nov** Fr. Domenico Rossi died. At one time, he was *Economus General*.

1964

Brazil. In 1964 the service to the parish of Nossa Senhora de Fátima had started, served from Ribeirão Preto, SP, under the Province of Holy Cross.

- 4 May** The 28th *General Chapter* was held between 4 and 22 May 1964 at St. Agatha, Rome. **Fr. Gilbert Fini was re-elected as Superior General.**

⁴⁶¹ Fr. Alexander Di Tullio. Born 30 December 1933; prof. 1955; ordin. 1960; death 29 August 2009.

⁴⁶² Fr. Michael D'annucci. Born 17 September 1941; prof. 1964; ordin. 1969; first Vice Provincial of Most Holy Redeemer (1995-2001); death 8 December 2001.

⁴⁶³ Together with this Centre, Fr. Michael D'Annucci promoted a huge activity about the formation of the laity. He had attended a specific course in Kenya, and - after returning - he inspired the whole Stigmatine confreres to embrace a new style of pastoral ministry, where the lay Christians were involved and cooperating in full.

⁴⁶⁴ Fr. Luigi Mantovani. Born 9 January 1931; prof. 9 September 1949; ordin. 26 June 1955.

⁴⁶⁵ Fr. Vittorino Turrini. Born 1 February 1937; prof. 1958; ordin. 1962; death 10 February 2013.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1965

- Oct** Italy. A ministry was offered to the establishing parish of Saint Benedict, in Valdona, Verona, from 1964 to 1966.⁴⁶⁶ The confreres who worked here were: Fr. Fausto Longo, Fr. Silvio Tomasi⁴⁶⁷ and Fr. Flavio Formenti⁴⁶⁸.
- 23 Oct** Italy. In Parma, in the new area of Montanara, the priests' house was completed – though the church not yet. Fr. Attilio Pasquali⁴⁶⁹ and Fr. Nereo Cengiarotti⁴⁷⁰, who were serving the parish from St. James' as from 1962, moved in as a new community.

1965

In the year 1965, the Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, made a Canonical Visitation to Thailand.

- Jan** South Africa. In the year 1965, two Perpetually Professed students from Italy went to South Africa to complete their Theological studies and then continue there with missionary and pastoral ministry. They were: Charles Mittempergher⁴⁷¹ and Lino Vinco⁴⁷².
- 6 Apr** Brazil. A new community was opened in Campinas, SP, Parish of Santa Edwiges in 1965.
- 24 Aug** The modifications to the Constitutions (work of the XXVIII General Chapter) were approved by the Congregation of Religious.
- 8 Dec** The **Vatican Ecumenical Council II** was closed by Pope Paul VI.

1966

In order to prepare the next extraordinary up-dating General Chapter, a questionnaire was prepared by the General Council,

⁴⁶⁶ From a personal research of Fr. Giovanni Zampieri; also: "*Breve Cronaca, IV, 1945-2000*": P. Mantovani, p.114.

⁴⁶⁷ Fr. Silvio Tomasi. Born 21 May 1937; prof. 25 September 1954; ordin. 24 June 1962; death 28 January 2020.

⁴⁶⁸ Fr. Flavio Formenti. Born 22 May 1939; prof. 25 September 1956; ordin. 21 June 1964.

⁴⁶⁹ Fr. Attilio Pasquali. Born 26 July 1912; prof. 1933; ordin. 1936; death 13 July 1978.

⁴⁷⁰ Fr. Nereo Cengiarotti. Born 21 September 1924; prof. 1947; ordin. 1952; death 18 February 1990.

⁴⁷¹ Fr. Charles Mittempergher. Born 18 January 1941; prof. 25 September 1958; ordin. 4 December 1966; death 11 December 2017.

⁴⁷² Fr. Lino Vinco. Born 23 September 1939; prof. 1961; ordin. 4 December 1966; death 13 April 2010.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1966

with 10 questions about the spirit of the Institute. Again, still in view of the next General Chapter, the General Council appointed a Commission for reviewing the Constitutions, composed of three confreres from each of the Provinces: Fr. Luigi Benaglia (Sc. Heart), Fr. Paul Zanini⁴⁷³ (Holy Spouses) and Fr. Felisberto Campagner⁴⁷⁴ (Holy Cross).⁴⁷⁵

Brazil. A new community was opened in Campinas, SP, serving the Rectory of Saint Benedict Moro in 1966.

- Mar** In the months of March to May 1966, the Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, made a Canonical Visitation to the Province of Sc. Heart, Italy.
- 28 May** Brazil. A property was purchased in a place called *Chácara* (farm) *do Capivari*, near Campinas, for a retreat house. It started functioning in 1969. It went on until 21 July 1975.
- Jun** In the months of June to August 1966, the Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, made a Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Cross, Brazil.
- Sep** In the months of September to November 1966, the Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, made a Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Spouses, North America.
- Sept** Italy. The Stigmatines accepted the offer, by the Bishop of Verona, Giuseppe Carraro, to serve the parish of Holy Trinity, close to the Stimate, also as a dutiful memory to the Founder. First confreres were: Fr. Lino De Marchi⁴⁷⁶, Fr. Sergio Faè and Fr. Augusto Mosconi. It was then given back to the Diocese in 1988.
- 4 Dec** In South Africa there was the first ordination of Stigmatine priests, Fr. Charles Mittempergher Lino Vinco, at Mmakau, at the time called De Wildt. They had arrived to South Africa in January 1965 and they had completed their studies in South Africa.

⁴⁷³ Fr. Paul Zanini. Born 27 November 1901; prof. 1919; ordin. 1926; death 9 March 1970.

⁴⁷⁴ Fr. Felisberto Campagner. Born 19 May 1914; prof. 1935; ordin. 1937; death 7 September 1999.

⁴⁷⁵ In a further communication, in 1968, the Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, announced that the “extraordinary Chapter for up-dating and renewal” was going to coincide with the next ordinary Chapter, at the beginning of 1970.

⁴⁷⁶ Fr. Lino De Marchi. Born 19 September 1913; prof. 1934; ordin. 1938; death 15 April 1982.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1967

- 15 Dec** The Church approved the Heroic Virtues of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni on 15 December 1966, and from this date he could be addressed as *Venerable*.
- 24 Dec** Brazil. A new community was opened in Praia Grande, SP, in 1966, serving the Parish Santo Antônio.

1967

Brazil. In 1967 the Stigmatines started a presence in Goiânia, GO, which was part of the '*Visitadoria*' of St. Joseph, serving the parish of St. Sebastian. In 1974, there was established a Vocational Centre and a House for the philosophers. Again, a house was built in 1994, which, in 1997, became the Provincial Curia of the Province of St. Joseph. Later the Stigmatines were entrusted of the parish of 'Sagrado Estigma de N.S.J. Cristo e Santo Expedito', on 12 October 1984; of the parish of Nossa Sra. das Graças, on 30 November 2007 (until 2016); and of the parish of Nossa Senhora Aparecida and Santa Edwiges, on 28 November 2017.

Italy. In Battipaglia, in 1967, on the property of Castelluccia (bought in 1962), the '*Opera Bertoni*' was built for hosting the Apostolic School, which had started at the '*Casa Gaspare Bertoni*'. Later on, it would host a private school. Nowadays, it hosts the Missionary Centre (Centro Missioni Euntes) for the Province of Holy Mary of Hope.

- 23 Mar** Brazil. The confrere of the Brazilian Province of Holy Cross, Fr. Hélio Paschoal⁴⁷⁷, was elected Bishop of Livramento, Bahia. He asked the Stigmatines to support him in the Diocese, and they accepted, so they were entrusted of the Cathedral of O.L. of Livramento.
- 22 Oct** Ivory Coast. The first Stigmatine foundation in Ivory Coast was in Aboisso, in 1967. Fr. Alberto Fontana⁴⁷⁸ and Fr. Oscar Zamburlini⁴⁷⁹, who left from Italy on 11 October, arrived to Aboisso on the 22 of the same month. They were entrusted the

⁴⁷⁷ Bish. Hélio Paschoal. Born 26 April 1927; prof. 1948; ordin. 1951; Bish. 1967; death 22 November 2005.

⁴⁷⁸ Fr. Alberto Fontana. Born 7 October 1921; prof. 1940; ordin. 1949; death 29 January 1986.

⁴⁷⁹ Fr. Oscar Zamburlini. Born 17 December 1925; prof. 1947; ordin. 1952; death 20 July 2004.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1968

Parish of St. Francis Xavier. It was also house of Novitiate until 2019, when the Novitiate moved to Offa. Not far from the community house, nowadays there is also the Spirituality Centre St. Jean Baptiste.

1968

Italy. The Boarding School in Parma was closed.

Ivory Coast. In 1968, a new community was opened in Ayamé, with the parish of Saint Joseph. The pastoral ministry reached Adjaké and Maferé:

Brazil. A new community was opened by the Province of Holy Cross in Ilha Solteira (1968-1970).

3 Apr Brazil. A new community was opened in Barra da Estiva, Diocese of Livramento, for the Province of Holy Cross.

18 Nov The Superior General, Fr. Gilbert Fini, after some discomfort at the end of October, was diagnosed to have angina pectoris, a heart disease. He went on declining, with increasing difficulties, until he passed away on the 18 November 1968 in the house of the General Curia, Rome. A first funeral service was held on 20 November, in the church of St. Agatha, in Rome. Then his body was brought to his native parish, Springfield, USA, where the actual funeral took place on the 25 November.

1969

South Africa. The Parish of St. John the Baptist, Pretoria North, was offered to the Stigmatines in 1969 by the Archbishop of Pretoria, John Garner. Fr. Joseph Delama⁴⁸⁰ was the first Parish Priest, assisted by Fr. Dario Wegher, who was also chaplain of the Italian community.

22 Jun Other two confreres were ordained in South Africa, namely Fr. Michael D'Annucci and Fr. Giuliano Melotto. They had arrived to South Africa in 1966 and they completed their studies in South Africa.

⁴⁸⁰ Fr. Joseph Delama. Born 16 July 1930; prof. 9 September 1949; ordin. 26 June 1955.

1970

Italy. In 1970, the Province of Sc. Heart, with a loan from the General Curia, purchased the house where the Founder, Fr. Gaspar Bertoni was born and lived for 33 years, in via Nicola Mazza, quite close to the church of St. Paul in Campo Marzio.⁴⁸¹

USA. In the Province of Holy Spouses. in the year 1970, the community of East Longmeadow, MA, which had started in 1947, was closed. In Waterville, NY, the novitiate and the community of Sangerfield (which started in 1961) were also closed in 1970.

8 Jan The 29th *General Chapter* was held between 8 January and 18 March 1970 at St. Agatha, Rome. It was an important Chapter, because its main task was to review the Constitutions according to the indications coming from the Vatican Council II. A huge work of preparation was done before the actual Chapter in each Province and by appointed Commissions, as well as by single confreres. On 9 March, **Fr. Joseph Cappellina was elected as Superior General.**

12 Jun The new Constitutions, '*ad experimentum*' for six years, were published.

Jul Italy. In 1970, the Italian Province of Sacred Heart changed the name of their provincial bulletin from '*Echi di vita Stigmatina*' to '*Comunità Stigmatina*'.

18 Sep The Brazilian '*Visitadoria of São José*', which was established in 1960, became the Vice Province of St. Joseph (São José).

28 Sep In the new Constitutions, a new body was established: the Council of Superiors; supposed to meet yearly, composed of the General Superior, his Councillors, and the various Provincial Superiors (and, later on, the Vice-Province). For the first time this Council was assembled in Waltham, MA, USA, which ran from 28 September to 5 October 1970.

⁴⁸¹ After Fr. Gaspar Bertoni's Beatification, an inscription was put on the façade of the building, saying: "In this house was born on the 9 October 1777 and dwelled here until 1810 Blessed Gaspar Bertoni, father of the Veronese youth, Founder of the Stigmatines."

1971

Italy. The Stigmatine Community at St. James in Parma was closed, though some activities went on for some years, served from the community of Via Montanara.⁴⁸²

The Stigmatines in Udine moved from the old to the new ‘Bertoni’.

- 9 Sep** The Council of Superiors met in Campinas, SP, Brazil, Province of Holy Cross, from 9 to 18 September 1971.

1972

USA. A Retirement House was established in Cape Cod, West Yarmouth, MA, by the Province of Holy Spouses in 1972.

- 18 Apr** The Council of Superiors met in San Leonardo, Verona, Italy, Province of Sc. Heart, from 18 to 22 April 1972.

- 1 Oct** The first interprovincial meeting of spirituality and up-dating was organized in Rome, Italy, lasting four months, at the Mexican College. Responsible of the meeting was Fr. Alziro Furlanis⁴⁸³. The participants were 13. It was meant to be a moment of prayer and of sharing on religious and apostolic life, with biblical, spiritual and pastoral conferences and experiences.

- 2 Nov** The Superior General, Fr. Joseph Cappellina, made his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Spouses, both in USA and in Canada, from 2 November to 17 December 1972.

- Dec** Italy. The Community of Belvedere, Battipaglia, Salerno, hosted the new team of Preachers. The activity, called ‘ministry of the Word of God’ had already started on 6 July 1972, with confreres

⁴⁸² The house of Parma near St. James remained Stigmatine property until 1980. The last activities were the Oratory, conducted by Fr. Angelo Marcotti, and the assistance to the drug-addicted, conducted by Fr. Fausto Torresendi (Born 22 August 1947; prof. 25 September 1965; ordin. 2 September 1973; death 17 March 2020.). Cf. *“Dal convento...”* p. 116, note.

⁴⁸³ Fr. Alziro Furlanis. Born 22 March 1913; prof. 1934; ordin. 1936; death 2 December 2010.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1973

getting together occasionally from different communities: now they were living together, for better planning and coordination. The preaching team was composed of: Fr. Alessio De Marchi, Fr. Ignazio Bonetti⁴⁸⁴ and Fr. Romolo Bertoni⁴⁸⁵.

1973

- 17 Sept** Italy. The preaching team (operating in the South of Italy) moved from Belvedere, Salerno, to Mormanno, Cosenza, until 1976⁴⁸⁶.
- 7 Feb** The Superior General, Fr. Joseph Cappellina, made his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Sc. Heart, beginning on 7 February and, with some breaks, closing on 19 June 1973.
- 12 Oct** The Superior General, Fr. Joseph Cappellina, made his Canonical Visitation to Mission of South Africa, under the Province of Sc. Heart, from 12 to 26 October 1973.
- 28 Dec** The Council of Superiors met in Waltham, MA, USA, Province of Holy Spouses, from 28 December 1973 to 3 January 1974.

1974

- 7 Jan** In Waltham, MA, USA, on the 7 to 9 January, it was held an interprovincial meeting on Stigmatine formation, with one representative for each Province.
- 13 Feb** Brazil. The confrere of the Brazilian Province of Holy Cross, Fr. Antonio de Souza⁴⁸⁷, was elected Bishop of Assis, São Paulo.
- 3 Apr** An extraordinary meeting of the Council of Superiors was held in the General Curia, St. Agatha, Rome, on 3 and 4 April 1974.
- 1 Jul** The second interprovincial meeting, of the duration of four months, was held in Campinas, SP, Brazil. Coordinator of the meeting was again Fr. Alziro Furlanis. 12 Confreres took part in it.

⁴⁸⁴ Fr. Ignazio Bonetti. Born 29 October 1919; prof. 1940; ordin. 1942; Provincial of Holy Mary of Hope (1980-1982); death 3 October 1998.

⁴⁸⁵ Fr. Romolo Bertoni. Born 3 December 1935; prof. 12 October 1953; ordin. 25 June 1961.

⁴⁸⁶ Fr. Giovanni Zampieri, in a personal research, says that the Stigmatine presence at Mormanno was concluded in 1978.

⁴⁸⁷ Bish. Antônio De Souza. Born 21 October 1929; prof. 16 february 1951; ordin. 1 July 1956; elect. 13 February 1974; consecr. 16 April 1974.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1975

- 2 Jul** The Superior General, Fr. Joseph Cappellina, made his Canonical Visitation to the communities of Thailand, from 2 to 15 July 1974.
- 21 Aug** In Barretos, SP, Brazil, from 21 to 23 August 1974, there was an interprovincial Missionary meeting for Stigmatine confreres.
- 1 Oct** The Superior General, Fr. Joseph Cappellina, made his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Cross, from 1 October to 12 December 1974.
- 1 Oct** In Verona, San Leonardo, an interprovincial Novitiate started. The conducting community was composed of Fr. Silvio Tomasi (Novice Master), Fr. Alberto Guimarães Rezende⁴⁸⁸ and Fr. Charles Armour. The Novices were 14: 5 from Italy⁴⁸⁹, 5 from Brazil and 4 from North America (2 from USA and 2 from Canada).
- 16 Dec** The Council of Superiors met in Ribeirão Preto, SP, Brazil, Province of Holy Cross, from 16 to 20 December 1974.

1975

Italy. A new community was opened in Crotona (Catanzaro), Calabria, South of Italy (1975-2003), serving the parish of St. Clare.

Brazil. A new community, for the Province of Holy Cross, was opened in Paraguaçu Paulista, SP in 1975 (it would be closed in 1982).

- Jan** South Africa. Invited by the Stigmatines during 1974, in January 1975, the Sisters of Mercy (from Ireland) opened a secondary school in Mmakau, South Africa. They were fully in charge of the school, but all plans and buildings were done together with the Stigmatines. On 12 June 1977, the Archbishop George Daniel blessed the new building of 'Tsogo' ('Resurrection') High School.

⁴⁸⁸ Bish. Antônio Alberto Guimarães Rezende. Born 3 May 1926; prof. 1949; ordin. 1953; Bish. 1982; death 13 April 2015.

⁴⁸⁹ Note of the editor (Fr. Daniel Giacomelli): humbly, I was part of this experience as a novice. It was very constructive and enjoyable, because of the contribution of both Priests and Novices, and it fostered a deep openness towards belonging and internationality. Problems of organization do not make these experiences less valuable.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1975

- 2 Jan** Brazil. The confrere of the Brazilian Province of Holy Cross, Fr. Joseph Lambert⁴⁹⁰, was elected Bishop of Itapeva, São Paulo.
- 2 Feb** The Superior General, Fr. Joseph Cappellina, made his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Sc. Heart, beginning on 2 February and, with some breaks, closing on 21 May 1975.
- Apr** Thailand. A small Seminary started in Trang, run by Fr. John Ceresatto.
- 28 Apr** The Superior General, Fr. Joseph Cappellina, made his Canonical Visitation to the communities of Ivory Coast, from 28 April to 10 May 1975.
- 12 Jul** Pope Paul VI gave the dispensation from the second miracle, towards the canonization of Gaspar Bertoni.
- 10 Sep** On this date there was the third and last examination of the body of the Venerable Gaspar Bertoni.⁴⁹¹
- 16 Sep** The Council of Superiors met in San Leonardo, Verona, Italy, Province of Sc. Heart, from 16 to 20 September 1975.
- Oct** Italy. Province of Sc. Heart. A new community started in Verona, within the building of the Stimate (with independent access from Vicolo Terese), depending directly on the Provincial Superior. It was a community for formation and vocational accompaniment, led by Fr Silvio Tomasi. It would be closed in September 1982.
- 24 Oct** The liturgical texts for the Mass of “Blessed” Gaspar Bertoni were approved.
- 1 Nov** In the square of St. Peter, Rome, celebrating the solemnity of All Saints, Pope Paul VI declared Fr. Gaspar Bertoni ‘Blessed’.⁴⁹² A huge painting, work of Fr. Bruno Facciotti⁴⁹³, was hanging on the front of the Basilica, behind the altar. Many confreres from all over the world came to Rome for the occasion, as well as many lay people from our parishes and works.

⁴⁹⁰ Archb. José Lambert. Born 15 March 1929; prof. 1950; ordin. 1954; Provincial of Holy Cross (1968-1975); Bish. 1975; death 26 February 2007.

⁴⁹¹ *Albero rigoglioso*, p. 55.

⁴⁹² Together with Fr. Gaspar Bertoni, the following Servants of God were Beatified: Bishop Ezequiel Moreno (Spain); Fr. Vincenzo Grossi (Cremona, Italy); Anna Michelotti (Annecy, France; she died in Turin); Maria Droste zu Vischering (Germany).

⁴⁹³ Fr. Bruno Facciotti. Born 1 July 1949; prof. 25 September 1966; ordin. 1 September 1974; Provincial of Holy Mary of Hope (1988-1994; and again from 2018 to date).

1976

Italy. The preaching team in the South of Italy moved from Mormanno, Cosenza, to Rocca Imperiale Marina, Cosenza. They remained until 1984.

Italy. A new community was opened in Conversano, Bari (1976-1977). It was a house of formation for professed students.

28 Feb Brazil. A new community was opened in Itararé, SP, for the Province of Holy Cross, serving the parish of Nossa Senhora da Conceição.

2 Mar The 30th *General Chapter* was held between 2 and 24 March 1976 at The Espousal Centre, Waltham, MA, USA. On 22 March, **Fr. Luigi Dusi was elected as Superior General**. After the Chapter, a Commission was established (composed of Fr. Ignazio Bonetti, Fr. Joseph Henchey⁴⁹⁴ and Fr. Modesto Nones⁴⁹⁵) for reviewing the Constitutions: they started in 1978.

Jul Brazil. Following the directives of the Provincial Chapter, the Brazilian Province of Holy Cross gave life to a new Missionary Group, promoted by Fr. Mario Perin⁴⁹⁶.

1977

The Superior General, Fr. Luigi Dusi, gave his plan for the next Canonical Visitations. South Africa and Ivory Coast: March-April 1977; Brazil, Provinces of Holy Cross and St. Joseph: August-November 1977; Italy, Province of Sc. Heart and Vice Province of Holy Mary of Hope: January-May 1978; Province of Holy Spouses: September-November 1978.⁴⁹⁷

⁴⁹⁴ Fr. Joseph Charles Henchey. Born 2 June 1930; prof. 8 September 1950; ordin. 1 July 1956; Provincial of Holy Spouses (1985-1988).

⁴⁹⁵ Fr. Modesto Nones. Born 10 October 1914; prof. 1935; ordin. 1937; death 3 March 1992.

⁴⁹⁶ Fr. Mario Domingos Perin. Born 2 October 1934; prof. 16 February 1954; ordin. 13 December 1959.

⁴⁹⁷ IL BERTONIANO 1977, p. 592.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1978

- 6 Jan** The Council of Superiors met in the General Curia, St. Agatha, Rome, from 6 to 11 January 1977.
- 14 Jan** Italy. The communities of South of Italy became 'Vice Province' with the name of '*Santa Maria della Speranza*' (Holy Mary of Hope). Fr. Angelo Mutterle⁴⁹⁸ was appointed as Vice-Provincial Superior.
- 16 Apr** The Stigmatine 'Proprium' was published. The three major celebrations were indicated as follows: the Solemnity of the Sacred Stigmata, celebrated on Friday before Ash Wednesday; the Feast of Holy Spouses, celebrated on 23 January; the Feast of Blessed Gaspar Bertoni, celebrated on 12 June.⁴⁹⁹
- 16 May** Italy. From 16 to 20 May 1977, the first interprovincial Stigmatine Missionary congress was held, in the Students' House of San Leonardo, Verona. From this meeting, the laity working side of the Stigmatines began to be felt part of the 'Family'. Specifically in the missionary area, many lay people already had started to give relevant contributions; and some of them took a deeper commitment by residing in the missions for long periods.
- Sep** In 1977, the Italian Province of Sacred Heart accepted the request of the Bishop of Ferrara, Filippo Franceschi, to start a Catholic High School in that town. First confreres there were: Fr. Lino Galliani⁵⁰⁰, Fr. Lino De Marchi, Fr. Gerardo Marchi⁵⁰¹, Fr. Novello Signorini⁵⁰² and Fr. Giuseppe Vignandel.
- 21 Nov** The Council of Superiors met in Campinas, SP, Brazil Province of Holy Cross, on 21-25 November 1977.

1978

⁴⁹⁸ Fr. Angelo Mutterle. Born 27 October 1929; prof. 1952; ordin. 1955; first Vice Provincial of Holy Mary of Hope (1977-1980) and then first Provincial of Holy Mary of Hope (1982-1988); death 28 November 1991.

⁴⁹⁹ In 1983 the day for the celebration of Sacred Stigmata was changed (see 7 Jan 1983). In 1994, during the XXXIII General Chapter, the rank of the festivities was changed (see 12 Apr 1994).

⁵⁰⁰ Fr. Lino Galliani. Born 23 September 1918; prof. 1940; ordin. 1943; death 2 June 1999.

⁵⁰¹ Fr. Gerardo Marchi. Born 1 March 1930; prof. 1952; ordin. 1955; death 4 December 2005.

⁵⁰² Fr. Novello Roberto Signorini. Born 21 October 1947; prof. 25 September 1965; ordin. 31 August 1974.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1979

- 31 Aug** In 1978, the Council of Superiors met in Waltham, MA, USA, Province of Holy Spouses, from 31 August to 6 September.
- 26 June** Italy. By appointment of Pope Paul VI, the Confrere Fr. Cornelio Fabro was made a Consultor of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith.
- Nov** South Africa. The parish church of St. Francis of Assisi in Jericho, Pretoria Diocese, was blessed in November 1978. The Stigmatines had started serving that Christian Community as from 1965, coming regularly from Mmakau and celebrating in the families. In 1968 a hall was built in the yard of Mr Herman Letlape.⁵⁰³ In 1970 the Christian Community could acquire a site, but the church was built only in 1977, under the care of Fr. Lino Vinco. A convent house was built, and the Sisters of Mary Immaculate, from White River, stayed there for two years (1979-1980). Only in 1983 the Stigmatine entered as a community, with the first Stigmatine Noviciate for South Africa. The pastoral area of Jericho was including the outstations of Legonyane (St. Andrew), Kwarriekraal, Klipvoor (St. Bernadette), Fafung (St. Francis Xavier), Jonathan (Shrine of Mary Assumed into Heaven), Maboloka (Sts. Peter and Paul), Letlhakaneng (St. Steven) and Madinyane (St. Paul).
- 4 Dec** Brazil. Between 4 to 9 December 1978, there was an interprovincial Congress of Stigmatines about vocational animation and initial formation, at Campinas, SP.

1979

USA. During the year 1979 a community was opened in Watertown, Ma. It started as a Noviciate house. It was closed in 1884.

- 4 Mar** Italy. The new church of The Most Holy Trinity in Villa Chigi, Rome⁵⁰⁴, with annexed offices, rooms and residence, was inaugurated.

⁵⁰³ This Hall was named by the Stigmatine Oblate Fr. Ugo Bosoni, “*Dilmokabo*” (*Direlang Modimo ka boitumelo* = serve the Lord with gladness), which was his personal motto. (Oblate priest Ugo Bosoni. Born 10 February 1924; ordin. 1947; death 14 December 2013.)

⁵⁰⁴ The architect of the Church of the Trinity in Rome was Pietro Sanpaolo.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1980

- 15 May** Italy. A new community, for the Vice Province of Holy Mary of Hope, was opened in Bari, Via Napoli in 1979. It was meant as a House for Theology Students. First confreres were Fr. Romolo Bertoni and Fr. Mauro Paternoster. The Community moved out in 2013, and now some lay persons keep the house open for sheltering people who come to the city of Bari for work or for assisting people in the hospitals.
- Sep** UK. A Stigmatine presence started in London in September 1979, with the coming of Fr. Natalino Mignolli⁵⁰⁵. He was (and still is) giving assistance to Italian emigrants and hosting confreres and students who attend language courses.
- 13 Nov** The Council of Superiors met in Battipaglia, Salerno, Italy, Vice Province of Holy Mary of Hope, from 13 to 17 November 1979.
- 27 Nov** Brazil. The Brazilian Vice Province of St. Joseph became a Province. First Provincial Superior was Fr. Vicente Ruy Marot⁵⁰⁶.

1980

- 5 Feb** The Superior General, Fr. Luigi Dusi, sent to all confreres a copy of the new Constitutions.
- 11 Mar** Thailand. In 1980, the Mission of Thailand became a Vice Province with the name of 'Mary Morning Star'; Fr. Rocco Leotilo was appointed as Superior.⁵⁰⁷
- 20 Mar** Chile. In 1980, the Stigmatines, started their presence in Chile upon request of the Archbishop of Santiago, Cardinal Raul Silva Henriquez, and took the charge of the parish of Divino Redentor at Santiago. At the beginning it was an international mission, under the responsibility of the General Council. First confreres in Chile were: from the Province of Holy Cross: Fr. Devanir da Silva⁵⁰⁸, Fr.

⁵⁰⁵ Fr. Natalino Mignolli. Born 25 December 1946; prof. 25 September 1965; ordin. 15 September 1973.

⁵⁰⁶ Fr. Vicente Ruy Marot. Born 7 April 1931; prof. 9 December 1947; ordin. 1 July 1956; first Vice Provincial of St. Joseph (1970-1979) and first Provincial of St. Joseph (1979-1982).

⁵⁰⁷ The Vice-Province was composed of 10 confreres, inclusive of 2 brothers, in 4 communities: Samphran, Phuket, Ranong and Trang.

⁵⁰⁸ Fr. Devanir Da Silva. Born 4 August 1930; prof. 16 February 1952; ordin. 29 June 1957; death 10 February 2018.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1981

Pedro Zappini⁵⁰⁹, and Bro. Luiz Gonzaga Zanchetta⁵¹⁰; From the Province of Holy Mary of Hope; Fr. Luigi Tortella⁵¹¹; and from the Province of Sacred Heart: Fr. Daniele Giacomuzzi⁵¹². In the following year, a second mission started in Chile, in the Diocese of Iquique⁵¹³, upon request of the Bishop Giuseppe del Carmen Valle (Gollardo), at Iquique (parish of O.L. of Perpetual Help).

- 4 Aug** The Council of Superiors met in Campinas, SP, Brazil, Province of Holy Cross, from 4 to 9 August 1980.
- 11 Aug** Italy. The Italian Vice Province '*Santa Maria della Speranza*' (Holy Mary of Hope) became a Province.
- 23 Oct** Italy. First Provincial Chapter of the newly instituted Province of Holy Mary of Hope⁵¹⁴ was celebrated. The first Provincial Superior elected was Fr. Ignazio Bonetti.

1981

Italy. A new community, for the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, was opened in Sapri, Salerno, serving the parish of the Immaculate Conception (1981-2003)

- 8 Mar** Brazil. The community of Palmeira-Porto Amazonas, PR, Brazil, belonging to the Province of Holy Cross, which was opened in 1957, was closed in 1981.
- 29 Mar** Brazil. Entrusted by the Bishop of Palmas, PR, Agostino Sartori, a new community, for the Province of Holy Cross, was opened in 1981 in Santo Antônio do Sudoeste, PR, with the parish of Santo Antônio de Pádua. From here, in 1982, the community began to serve also the nearby parish of Salgado Filho ('Salty Child'). It was closed on 8 April 1989.

⁵⁰⁹ Fr. Pedro Zappini. Born 23 September 1937; prof. 25 September 1954; ordin. 24 June 1962.

⁵¹⁰ Bro. Luiz Gonzaga Zanchetta. Born 27 December 1940; prof. 1963; death 6 May 1982.

⁵¹¹ Fr. Luigi Tortella. Born 5 June 1937; prof. 25 September 1955; ordin. 21 June 1964.

⁵¹² Fr. Daniele Giacomuzzi. Born 8 March 1948; prof. 1 October 1967; ordin. 7 September 1975.

⁵¹³ "*História dos Estigmatinos no Brasil*", p. 122. Fr. Luigi Tortella, who arrived in Iquique on 25 March 1981, was the first confrere to live there.

⁵¹⁴ Just before the Provincial Chapter, up to August 1980, the new Province of Holy Mary Mother of Hope counted 40 confreres, distributed in 10 communities. Average age was 46 years.

- 15 Jun** The Council of Superiors met in Cape Cod Retirement House, West Yarmouth, MA, USA, Province of Holy Spouses, from 15 to 20 June 1981.

1982

Italy. A new community, for the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, was opened in Villapiana Scalo, Cosenza, in 1982.⁵¹⁵ On 1 September 1994 it hosted a community of Preachers, a team dedicated especially to Parish Missions. It was closed at the end of 1994.

USA. A new community, for the Province of Holy Spouses, was opened in Los Altos, California, in 1982. It went on until 1985.

- 6 Jan** Italy. After many years of being only a farming place, a permanent community was established again in Sezano (Verona). The intent was to have a house of spirituality. At the beginning it was especially for the Congregation's internal needs (hosting confreres and also some stages of formation). From 1984 it opened more and more to ecclesial and spiritual-cultural requests from outside. Many lay people found here a safe centre of reference.

- 6 Jan** Italy. In the Basilica of St. Peter, Rome, the Brazilian confrere Fr. Alberto Guimarães Rezende, from the Province of Holy Cross, was ordained Bishop of the Diocese of Caetité, BA, by the hands of the Pope John Paul II.

- 8 Jan** The *31st General Chapter* was held between 8 January and 5 February 1982 at Chácara do Vovô, Campinas, SP, Brazil. On 4 February, **Fr. José Alberto Moura⁵¹⁶ was elected as Superior General.**

- 12 Feb** Brazil. The community of Paraguaçu Paulista, SP, of the Province of Holy Cross, was closed in 1982.

- 29 Apr** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, appointed a new commission (the fifth one) for reviewing the Constitutions.

⁵¹⁵ Information by Fr. Giovanni Zampieri, personal research.

⁵¹⁶ Bish. José Alberto Moura. Born 23 October 1943; prof. 9 December 1964; ordin. 9 January 1971. Superior General from 1982 to 1988. Episcopal elect. 18 April 1990; consecr. 14 July 1990.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1983

Members of this commission were: Fr. Antonio Corigliano⁵¹⁷, Fr. Giampietro De Paoli⁵¹⁸, Fr. Romolo Bertoni, Fr. Alessio De Marchi, Fr. Alberto Mariani⁵¹⁹, Fr. Rocco Leotilo, Fr. José Nemes⁵²⁰ and Fr. Ruy Marot. They were in charge also of preparing some commentaries to the constitutions, which would be dispatched to the confreres regularly (monthly) for personal and community deepening.

- 15 June** The text of the new Constitutions was presented for approval to the Congregation for Religious.
- 23 Jul** Brazil. The Brazilian confrere Fr. Gerardo Do Valle⁵²¹ was ordained Bishop of Almenara, MG.
- 12 Sep** Italy. A new community, for the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, was opened in at the Shrine of Getsemani, Paestum, Naples, in 1982. It was a spirituality Centre. First confreres were: Fr. Ignazio Bonetti, Fr. Silvano Controne⁵²² and Fr. Silvano Zanella⁵²³. It was closed at the end of September 1986.
- 6 Oct** The Council of Superiors met in Rieti, Italy, Province of Sc. Heart, from 6 to 11 October 1982.

1983

Ivory Coast. A new community was opened in 1983, in Anonkoua-Kouté, Abidjan, as a House of Formation and serving the parish of St. Matthew.

- 6 Jan** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, after his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Sc. Heart, sent a letter to all the

⁵¹⁷ Fr. Anthony Mary Corigliano. Born 29 May 1929; prof. 13 June 1949; ordin. 8 May 1955; Provincial of Holy Spouses (1980-1985).

⁵¹⁸ Fr. Giovanni Pietro De Paoli. Born 17 October 1937; prof. 20 February 1955; ordin. 30 June 1962; Provincial of Sc. Heart (1982-1988).

⁵¹⁹ Fr. Alberto Francisco Mariani. Born 5 October 1930; prof. 15 August 1949; ordin. 1 July 1956.

⁵²⁰ Fr. José Luiz Nemes. Born 8 September 1944; prof. 9 December 1963; ordin. 7 December 1969; he was Superior General (1988-2000); death 24 August 2018.

⁵²¹ Bish. José Geraldo Oliveira Do Valle. Born 3 December 1929; prof. 9 December 1946; ordin. 10 January 1954; elect. 19 May 1982; consecr. 23 July 1982.

⁵²² Fr. Silvano Controne. Born 14 July 1943; prof. 25 September 1961; ordin. 28 June 1969; Provincial of Holy Mary of Hope (2012-2015).

⁵²³ Fr. Silvano Zanella. Born 16 February 1950; prof. 1 October 1967; ordin. 27 June 1976.

confreres of the Province on matters which arose from the visitation.⁵²⁴

- 7 Jan** With approval of the Holy See, the Solemnity of the Sacred Stigmata, up to now celebrated on Friday of the second week of Easter, was transferred to Friday after the Second Sunday of Easter.⁵²⁵
- 25 Jan** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, after his Canonical Visitation to the Vice Province of Mary Morning Star, sent a letter to all the confreres of the Province on matters which arose from the visitation.⁵²⁶
- 10 Mar** Brazil. Province of Holy Cross. In Santo Antônio do Sudoeste, PR, the pre-seminary of 'Santa Cruz' was officially opened.
- May** Italy. The parish of Belvedere, Salerno, Italy (Province of Holy Mary of Hope), was given back to the Diocese.
- 22 Jun** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, after his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Spouses, sent a letter to all the confreres of the Province on matters which arose from the visitation.⁵²⁷
- 8 Aug** A meeting was held in South Africa, for Stigmatine educators (or formators) of English Language from 8 to 20 August 1983.
- 24 Aug** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, after his Canonical Visitation to the Province of St. Joseph, sent a letter to all the confreres of the Province on matters which arose from the visitation.⁵²⁸
- 17 Oct** In 1983, the Council of Superiors met at Brasilia, Brazil, Province of St. Joseph, from 17 to 22 October.
- 24 Nov** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, after his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Cross, sent a letter to all the confreres of the Province on matters which arose from the visitation.⁵²⁹

⁵²⁴ IL BERTONIANO 1983, p. 55.

⁵²⁵ IL BERTONIANO 1983, p. 238.

⁵²⁶ IL BERTONIANO 1983, p. 58.

⁵²⁷ IL BERTONIANO 1983, p. 60.

⁵²⁸ IL BERTONIANO 1983, p. 62.

⁵²⁹ IL BERTONIANO 1983, p. 64.

1984

Chile. A house was established in Santiago, for pre-novices, in 1984.

- 21 Jan** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, after his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, sent a letter to all the confreres of the Province on matters which arose from the visitation.⁵³⁰
- 12 Feb** Brazil. A new community, for the Province of St. Joseph, was opened in Joaima, MG, in 1984.
- 3 Apr** Philippines. The Provincial Superior of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, Fr. Angelo Mutterle, together with the Vicar General, Fr. Robert White⁵³¹, went to Manila, Philippines, to meet with the Cardinal Jaime Sin, for a foundation in the great Manila. A new establishing parish was accepted in Talon, area of Las Piñas.
- 5 Apr** Chile. Stigmatine Formation activity started in Chile, at Santiago.
- 12 Jun** The Congregation of Religious gave the approval to the Constitutions.
- 17 Sep** The Council of Superiors met in Waltham, MA, USA, Province of Holy Spouses, from 17 to 22 September 1984.
- 10 Oct** Philippines. The first Stigmatine Community began in Manila. They were entrusted of the Shrine of the Five Wounds of Our Lord Jesus Christ, in 1984. The pioneers were Fr. Romolo Bertoni, Fr. Danilo Panato⁵³², of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope; and Fr. Charles Sinesi⁵³³, of the Province of Holy Spouses. At the beginning, English language was the means of ministry.
- 4 Nov** Italy. From 4 to 18 November 1984, there was a town Mission at Tricesimo, Matera, organized by the preachers' community of Villapiana Scalo. It involved 6 confreres from the Province of Holy Mary of Hope and other confreres from other Stigmatine communities.

⁵³⁰ IL BERTONIANO 1984, p. 5 [*which should be corrected to p.127*].

⁵³¹ Fr. Robert Stanley White. Born 28 April 1947; prof. 9 September 1967; ordin. 28 May 1973; Provincial of Holy Spouses (1988-2000; again 2009-2012; again 2015 to date).

⁵³² Fr. Danilo Panato. Born 30 June 1944; prof. 1967; ordin. 1971; death 9 March 2009.

⁵³³ Fr. Charles A. Sinesi. Born 13 October 1924; prof. 1947; ordin. 1950; Provincial of Holy Spouses (1970-1976); death 15 October 1996.

1985

Italy. The School of the Stimate, in Verona, after a process which had started in 1980, managed to get the official approval for the Science section, in addition to the Arts section.⁵³⁴

- 6 Jan** Brazil. The community of Barra da Estiva, pertaining to the Province of Holy Cross, was closed. It had started in 1968.
- 23 Sep** The Council of Superiors had an extra meeting in Italy, at the Getsemani of Paestum, Salerno, Province of Holy Mary of Hope, from 23 to 27 September 1985.
- 4 Oct** Italy. The Parish of St. Leo the Great was given back to the Archdiocese of Milan and the community was withdrawn⁵³⁵. The Hostel was sold shortly after.
- 12 Oct** Italy. From 12 to 27 October 1985, there was a Parish Mission in the Parish of Sacred Heart of Bellizzi, Salerno. It involved 6 confreres and some lay people.

1986

- 8 Mar** Italy. From 8 to 23 March 1986, there was a town Mission at Casarano, Lecce. It involved 8 confreres from the two Italian Provinces, Holy Mary of Hope and Sacred Heart; important was also the contribution of 10 Sisters, Missionaries of Immaculate (founded by Fr. Maximilian Kolbe), who resided in Casarano.
- 27 Jun** Italy. The *'Associazione Bertoni Cooperazione e Sviluppo'* (ABCS) got started, for the coordination of lay activities in the context of the Missions and other areas of need. Significant was the commitment of Fr. Albino Cassini. First President of the Association was Mr. Renzo Benedetti.⁵³⁶
- Aug** A Canonical Visitation was held by the Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, to the communities of the Province of St. Joseph, in the month of August 1986.
- 15 Sep** The Council of Superiors met in Campinas, SP, Brazil, Province of Holy Cross, from 15 to 19 September 1986.

⁵³⁴ The School Principal, at that time, was Fr. Pietro Mantovani.

⁵³⁵ Fr. Giovanni Zampieri, in a personal research, says that the Stigmatine presence at St. Leo the Great (via Carnia) was concluded in 1986.

⁵³⁶ A precious consultant was the finance and management expert, Ennio Falezza.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1987

- 20 Sep** A Canonical Visitation was held by the Vicar General, Fr. Robert White, to the communities of Chile, from 20 to 27 September 1986.
- Oct** A Canonical Visitation was held by the Vicar General, Fr. Robert White, to the communities of Holy Spouses, during the month of October 1986.
- 14 Oct** A Canonical Visitation was held by the General Secretary, Fr. Giovanni Zampieri⁵³⁷, to the Italian communities of Holy Mary of Hope, between 14 October and 16 December 1986, with some breaks.
- 28 Oct** A Canonical Visitation was held by the General Secretary, Fr. Giovanni Zampieri, to the communities of Ivory Coast, from 28 October to 2 November 1986.
- Nov** A Canonical Visitation was held by the Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, to the Brazilian communities of the Province of Holy Cross, in the month of November 1986.

1987

South Africa. In 1987, a property, named Wildwoods, was purchased for the professed students, in Nina Park, a developing area near Pretoria North. At the beginning the existing buildings were used, but soon, with the support of benefactors from Italy⁵³⁸, appropriate buildings were constructed.

Italy. The lay group '*Cooperativa Ta Stigmata*' started in Italy in 1987, committed for spreading the knowledge of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni's writings and spirituality, through studies and publications. The confrere Fr. Pasquale Cavallo⁵³⁹ was assisting them. They opened and took charge of a spirituality house in Massa Martana, Perugia.

- 17 Sep** The Council of Superiors met in the General Curia, St. Agatha, Rome, from 17 to 23 September 1987.

⁵³⁷ Fr. Giovanni Zampieri. Born 24 June 1942; prof. 25 September 1959; ordin. 25 June 1967; Provincial of Sc. Heart (1988-1997).

⁵³⁸ The main donors were the Family Zanfretta (with the in-laws, Toscano), in memory of their daughter, Susi Zanfretta, who died in 1974 at the age of 23.

⁵³⁹ Fr. Pasquale Cavallo. Born 15 April 1945; prof. 25 September 1963; ordin. 14 June 1975.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1988

- 8 Dec** Canada. On 8 December 1987, Fr. Geoffrey Deeker met with Bishop Landriault to inform him that the Stigmatines would be leaving Timmins & South Porcupine during the following year.

1988

South Africa. In 1988, at Pretoria North, the 'Bertoni Centre' was built side with the parish of St. John the Baptist, as a house of religious meetings and retreats.

- 13 Jan** Brazil. The Provincial Superior of the Province of Holy Cross, Fr. Moacyr Vitti,⁵⁴⁰ was ordained Bishop of Curitiba, PR.
- 18 Jan** The 32nd *General Chapter* was held between 18 January and 2 February 1988 at Borgata Ottavia, Rome. On 1 February, **José Luiz Nemes was elected as Superior General.**
- 12 Jul** Brazil. From 12 to 27 July 1988, a Diocesan Mission was run by the Stigmatines in the Diocese of Caetité, BA, Brazil (whose Bishop was the Stigmatine Alberto Guimarães Rezende).
- 8 Aug** The General Council appointed a Commission for the organization of the celebration for the canonization of the Founder. Members were: Fr. Nello Dalle Vedove⁵⁴¹ (Postulator), Fr. Silvio Tomasi (Procurator), Fr. Marcellino Pantano⁵⁴² (Superior of St. Agatha) and Fr. Angelo Mutterle (Vicar General).
- 19 Sep** Canada. The Parish of Sacred Heart in Timmins, Ontario, was closed. It had been opened in 1936. This was the last Stigmatine presence in Canada.
- 4 Nov** The Superior General, Fr. Louis Nemes, with a letter to all the Confreres, announced the celebration of a 'Bertonian Year', to be observed from 23 January 1989 to 12 June 1990.

1989

⁵⁴⁰ Archb. Moacyr José Vitti. Born 9 December 1940; prof. 1963; ordin. 1967; Provincial of Holy Cross (1982-1988); Bish. 1988; death 26 June 2014.

⁵⁴¹ Fr. Nello Dalle Vedove. Born 2 April 1917; prof. 1938; ordin. 1941; death 14 August 2006.

⁵⁴² Fr. Marcello Gustavo Pantano. Born 9 February 1936; prof. 12 October 1953; ordin. 25 June 1961.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1989

Italy. In 1989, close to the Opera Bertoni, Battipaglia, a new house was built for the Provincial Curia.

Tanzania. The Stigmatines entered the Diocese of Morogoro in 1989. Earlier on (from 1975), two confreres, namely Fr. Cesare Orler⁵⁴³ and Fr. Alessandro Di Tullio, had been working in Tanzania, in the Diocese of Dodoma, at Hombolo, with personal agreements with the local Bishop. When the Italian Province of Sacred Heart wanted to establish a permanent community, the Bishop of Dodoma did not accept. So the Provincial Superior, Fr. Giovanni Zampieri, together with the two confreres, met with the Bishop of Morogoro, who was very happy about the Stigmatine availability and offered them some proposals. The final choice was for Kisanga Parish, in the District of Kilosa (about 150 km from the town of Morogoro).⁵⁴⁴ Very soon the two confreres were joined by Fr. Assuero Mascanzoni⁵⁴⁵, coming from Ivory Coast. In 1995, the community of Tanzania would be assigned to the Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer.

- 3 Feb** The General Council approved the renovations for the Founder's room, upon requests of the Sacred Heart Provincial Council.
- 11 Feb** The miracle towards the Canonization of Fr. Gaspar Bertoni was approved. It was about the sudden healing of a doctor, Mario Moreira Neves, who was suffering of a gangrene. It happened on 22 February 1984, at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- 30 Mar** The date for the Canonization of Gaspar Bertoni was announced: it would be on 1 November 1989.
- 2 Apr** The Superior General, Fr. Louis Nemes, sent a letter to the Congregation giving the official information about the Canonization of the Founder.

⁵⁴³ Fr. Cesare Orler. Born 22 March 1932; prof. 1956; ordin. 1960; death 21 April 1994.

⁵⁴⁴ The request from the Province of Sacred Heart to open a new community had reached the General Superior on 16 January 1989.

⁵⁴⁵ Fr. Assuero Mascanzoni. Born 30 August 1945; prof. 25 September 1964; ordin. 23 June 1973.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1989

- 6 Jun** Chile. The community of Iquique, belonging to Holy Cross Province, (serving the parish of O.L. of Perpetual Help), was closed in the year 1989⁵⁴⁶.
- 12 Jun** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, sent a long letter to all Confreres, to the candidates in our Congregation and “to all who are united in the spirituality of Fr. Bertoni”, about Fr. Gaspar Bertoni, his spirituality and the need to learn from him.⁵⁴⁷
- Oct** Italy. Just some days before the Canonization of the Founder, a Congress was held in Rieti for Stigmatine Professed students from all over the world.
- 1 Nov** Great moment for the Congregation, and in fact for the whole Church: Fr. Gaspar Bertoni was canonized. The celebration was held in St. Peter’s Square, Rome, by Pope John Paul II.⁵⁴⁸ A good number of confreres was present, representing the communities from all over the world, together with many lay people, especially friends of the Congregation and those assisted in our institutions.
- 2 Nov** The Council of Superiors had a non-official meeting on 2-3 November 1989, in St. Agatha, Rome, Italy.
- 4 Nov** Italy. The Superior General was in Verona for the celebrations of the beginning of the Congregation. On that occasion, he held a conference to the Stigmatine Professed Students from all over the world, who had come for the Canonization.
- 10 Nov** Brazil. The community of Ituverava, SP, Province of Holy Cross, was closed. It had been opened in 1954.
- 21 Nov** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, made a non-official Visitation to the Asian communities of Thailand and Philippines from 21 November to 16 December 1989.
- 20 Dec** Brazil. The Seminary of Curitiba, PR, Province of Holy Cross, was closed. It had started functioning in 1957.

⁵⁴⁶ After the official closing date, Fr. Daniele Giacomuzzi remained few months to sort out some pending matters, leaving completely in 1990. The Stigmatines would return in Iquique in 2005. Personal information by Fr. Daniele Giacomuzzi.

⁵⁴⁷ The text in English is found in IL BERTONIANO 1989, pp. 323-337.

⁵⁴⁸ He was Canonized together with Riccardo Pampuri, of Fatebenefratelli. The previous evening, in the solemn Vespers in St. Peter’s Basilica, another saintly person from Verona was Beatified, Fr. Giuseppe Baldo, founder of the Little Daughters of St. Joseph: there was a huge pilgrimage from the Diocese of Verona to follow the two events.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1990

- 20 Dec** Italy. The community of Ferrara, Province of Sacred Heart, was closed.⁵⁴⁹ It had started in 1977.
- 31 Dec** Brazil. A new community was opened in Ituaçu, BA, with the parish of Nossa Senhora do Alívio, for the Province of Holy Cross.

1990

Brazil. In 1990 a house was established in Belo Horizonte, MG, for the professed theology students of the Province of St. Joseph. The community served also the church of São Gaspar Bertoni in Belo Horizonte (established as parish in 2002).

Philippines. A new community was opened in Carmona in 1990, with St. Gaspar Bertoni Seminary; in 2009 the spirituality house 'Bertoni Evangelization Centre' was built.

- Jan** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, made a non-official Visitation to the communities of Ivory Coast, during the month of January 1990.
- Feb** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, made a Canonical Visitation to the Province of Sc. Heart in the months of February-March 1990.
- 3 Mar** Brazil. The Province of Holy Cross took the parish of Divino Espírito Santo in Guarapuava, PR ⁵⁵⁰. Main activities were the parish and vocational animation. First confrere there was Fr. Sebastiano Marson⁵⁵¹.
- 25 Mar** Chile. A new house was opened in 1990 at Quilpué-El Belloto, for the Province of Holy Cross, serving the Parish of St Pius X. First confreres were: Fr. Giuseppe Bonomi⁵⁵² and Fr. Pedro Zappini.
- 26 Mar** The Council of Superiors met in Waltham, MA, USA, Province of Holy Souses, from 26 March to 1 April 1990.

⁵⁴⁹ Fr. Giovanni Zampieri, in a personal research, says that the Stigmatine presence at Ferrara was concluded in 1990.

⁵⁵⁰ It is located near Tibagy, the first ever Stigmatine community in Brazil.

⁵⁵¹ Fr. Sebastião Marson. Born 31 July 1931; prof. 16 February 1953; ordin. 26 February 1977.

⁵⁵² Fr. Giuseppe Bonomi. Born 28 April 1940; prof. 1961; ordin. 1966; death 9 September 2008.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1990

- 11 Apr** Brazil. The community of Joaima, MG, Brazil, Province of Holy Cross, was closed. It had started in 1984.
- 11 Apr** Brazil. The community of St. Sebastian, Goiânia, GO, Province of St. Joseph, was closed. It had started in 1967.
- 11 Apr** Brazil. A new house was opened in 1990 at Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil, for the Province of St. Joseph, to host professed students for higher studies and serving the Parish of O.L. of Guadalupe.
- 6 May** Italy. In the Cathedral of Verona, there was a thanksgiving Mass, presided over by the Bishop Giuseppe Amari, for the sanctification of two children of Verona, Blessed Giuseppe Baldo, whose Beatification happened on 31 October 1989 in Rome, and Saint Gaspar Bertoni, canonized the following day. For the occasion, the mortal remains of St. Gaspar Bertoni and Bl. Joseph Baldo were brought to the Cathedral.
- 13 May** Italy. The former President of Tanzania, Julius Nierere, paid a visit to the Stimate in Verona.⁵⁵³
- 19 May** The civil authorities organized a memorial event for Blessed Giuseppe Baldo and Saint Gaspar Bertoni, at the 'Filarmonico' theatre.
- 14 Jul** Brazil. The Brazilian confrere Fr. Alberto Moura, former General Superior, was ordained Coadjutor Bishop of Uberlândia. After two years, he assumed the full leadership of the Diocese, until 2007. Then he was transferred to Montes Claro, MG, taking the title of Archbishop. His request of retirement was accepted on 21 November 2018, and now, emeritus, still resides in the Archdiocese of Montes Claros.
- 13 Aug** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the Province of St. Joseph from 13 August to 14 September 1990.
- Sep** In Chile, the lay association FaBer (*Familia Bertoniana*) was born.

⁵⁵³ The *Servant of God* Julius Kambarage Nierere was the first President of the United Republic of Tanzania, a historical figure, called 'Mwalimu' (The Teacher). The Stigmatine Fr. Ceasar Orlor was a persona friend of his. He was proposed for a cause of canonization by the Tanzania Bishop Conference and the acceptance to the process by Pope Benedict XVI bears the date of 13 May 2005: he is now *Servant of God*.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1991

- 5 Sep** A correspondence Course for Stigmatine Formators started. The first topic (to be answered by 31 January 1991) was prepared by Fr. Joseph Henchey, on the theme '*Perfectio sui ipsius*'.⁵⁵⁴
- 17 Sep** The Superior General, Fr. José Alberto Moura, made a Canonical Visitation to the Province of Holy Cross from 17 September to 14 December 1990.

1991

- 3 Feb** Italy. The Archbishop of Pretoria, South Africa, George Daniel, celebrated in the church of the Stimate.
- Mar** The second topic for a correspondence Course for Stigmatine Formators (to be answered by 31 July 1991) was prepared by Fr. Giancarlo Bregantini⁵⁵⁵, with the topic: *Community Life*.⁵⁵⁶
- 15 May** Brazil. The service to the Shrine of Our Lady of Desterro, served from Casa Branca, SP, Brazil, Province of Holy Cross, was terminated. The activity had started in 1947.
- Jul** Brazil. In July 1991, a Diocesan Mission was run by the Stigmatines in the Diocese of Livramento, BA (whose Bishop was the Stigmatine Hélio Paschoal). It lasted for 20 days, conducted by 6 priests and 22 students. The aim was to strengthen the Basic Christian Communities. It was particularly successful in Ituaçu and Tauhaçu.
- 5 Sep** The third topic for a correspondence Course for Stigmatine Formators was prepared by Fr. Giampietro De Paoli, with the topic: *Mastering (perfect possession of) ecclesiastic sciences*.⁵⁵⁷
- 12 Oct** The Council of Superiors met in Samphran, Thailand, Vice Province of Mary Morning Star, from 12 to 18 October 1991.

⁵⁵⁴ This lesson is published, but unfortunately only in Italian, on IL BERTONIANO 1990, pp. 64-87.

⁵⁵⁵ Bish. Giancarlo Bregantini. Born 28 September 1948; prof. 25 September 1966; ordin. 1 July 1978; elect. 12 February 1994; consecr. 7 April 1994.

⁵⁵⁶ This lesson is published, but unfortunately only in Italian, on IL BERTONIANO 1991, pp. 144-161.

⁵⁵⁷ This lesson is published, but unfortunately only in Italian, on IL BERTONIANO 1991, pp. 197-205.

- 9 Dec** USA. The Province of Holy Spouses opened a Noviciate House in Cromwell, Connecticut. In 1996 it would become students' house. It was closed in 1998.

1992

- 5 Mar** The fourth topic for a correspondence Course for Stigmatine Formators (to be answered by 31 July 1992) was prepared by Fr. Livio Guerra⁵⁵⁸, with the topic: *Living of obedience, chastity and poverty*.⁵⁵⁹
- Apr** Ivory Coast. At Aboisso, a Catholic Radio broadcasting was started in April 1992, with the name of Radio Paix Sanwi ('paix' means peace; 'Sanwi' refers to an old name of the territory). It covers up to about 75 Km distance, with programs running from 5:30am to 10pm. It is a joint responsibility of the Congregation and of the Parish. It has by now become a very important means of communication, together with human and Christian formation. The broadcasting includes religious moments, but mostly brings social and cultural information and development.
- 1 Jul** Italy & Tanzania. Fr. Vittorio Zanon⁵⁶⁰, Principal at the Stigmatine for the High School, Arts section, organized a working visit to the Stigmatine mission of Kisanga, Tanzania, with students of the school, for 20 days. This type of empowering and fruitful activity would be repeated (almost) every year during school holidays time. The last expedition was in 2019.⁵⁶¹
- 5 Sep** The fifth topic for a correspondence Course for Stigmatine Formators was prepared by Fr. Alberto Francisco Mariani, with the topic: *Witnessing or Exemplarity of a life of perfection within the local Church*.⁵⁶²

⁵⁵⁸ Fr. Livio Guerra. Born 5 August 1945; prof. 25 September 1962; ordin. 28 June 1970.

⁵⁵⁹ This lesson is published, but unfortunately only in Italian, on IL BERTONIANO 1992, pp. 281-295.

⁵⁶⁰ Fr. Vittorio Giuseppe Zanon. Born 15 August 1935; prof. 25 September 1954; ordin. 24 June 1962.

⁵⁶¹ The intention is to continue this activity, but in 2020 it was not possible to go, because of the pandemic disease (COVID-19) which hindered a lot of travelling.

⁵⁶² This lesson is published, but unfortunately only in Italian, on IL BERTONIANO 1991, pp. 348-357.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1993

- 21 Sep** Italy. On this day, a group of pilgrims from South Africa, led by Fr. Michael D'Annucci, visited the Stimate.
- 5 Oct** The Council of Superiors met in Brasilia, Brazil, Province of St. Joseph, from 5 to 9 October 1992.

1993

- 25 Jan** Botswana. In 1993, moving from South Africa, a new community was opened in Botswana, in the capital city of Gaborone⁵⁶³, assuming the parish of St. Bernadette.
- 8 Feb** USA. All Saints, Manassas, VA, of the Province of Holy Spouses, was closed. It had started in 1945.
- 7 Jan** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, and the Vicariate of Rome, renewed the agreement for the use of the premises in St. Agatha, Rome.
- 4 Mar** Italy. From 4 to 14 March 1993, there was a Diocesan Mission at Fuscaldo, Cosenza, as a preparation to the Diocesan Synod, with the theme: "Christians fostering the civilization of love". It involved 25 Stigmatines: 15 Priests from both Italian Provinces; and also Professed (7) and Novices (3) of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope.⁵⁶⁴
- 21 Mar** Italy. The lay group '*Cooperativa Ta Stigmata*' published the "Regulations of the Stigmatine Collaborators".
- 5 Jul** Between 5 to 25 July 1993, a congress was organized by the General Council for Stigmatine Formators, at Pretoria North, South Africa. The preparation went on for three years with a correspondence course, made of 5 questionnaires and various bibliographic references. Main responsible for the organization of the correspondence course and the congress was Fr. Alberto

⁵⁶³ At that time, the Diocese of Gaborone was the only Diocese for the whole country of Botswana.

⁵⁶⁴ "*Breve Cronaca, IV, 1945-2000*": P. Mantovani, p.199.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1994

Mariani. At the end of the congress, a lengthy document in English was published.⁵⁶⁵

- 11 Aug** Philippines. The Provincial Council of Holy Mary of Hope, South of Italy, on 11 August 1992 established the Delegation of the Philippines with the name of *Santo Niño* (Holy Child). Fr. Romolo Bertoni was appointed as Delegate, Vicar was Fr. Danilo Panato, Bursar was Fr. Charles Sinesi and Secretary was Fr. Donato Lovito⁵⁶⁶.
- 18 Oct** The Council of Superiors met in Battipaglia, Salerno, Italy, Province of Holy Mary of Hope, from 18 to 21 October 1993.
- 29 Oct** Brazil. The service to the parish of O.L. of Sorrows, served from Casa Branca, SP, Province of Holy Cross, was terminated. The community left Casa Branca in January 1994. The activity had started in 1936.

1994

South Africa. Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer. In 1994 the Stigmatines assumed the pastoral care of St. Anthony, Soshanguve (Pretoria).

- 7 Feb** Tanzania. The community of Kisanga opened a new High School and College in the nearby village of Msolwa, after two years of preparation. All activities were done in collaboration with the Tertiary Capuchin Sisters of the Holy Family (from Colombia), who had arrived on 5 March 1992. The Stigmatines were in charge of management and administration; the Sisters of the academic running of the school and the direction of the boarding; and, together, of the spiritual animation.
- 13 Mar** Chile. A new community was opened in Lolol, for the Province of Holy Cross, serving the parish of Natividad de la Virgen Maria.
- 7 Apr** Italy. The Italian Stigmatine confrere Fr. Giancarlo Bregantini, of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, was consecrated Bishop for the Diocese of Locri-Gerace, Calabria (South of Italy). His nomination was on 12 February 1994. In 2007 he was transferred

⁵⁶⁵ The text can be found on IL BERTONIANO 1993, pp. 79-115.

⁵⁶⁶ Fr. Donato Antonio Lovito. Born 15 April 1946; prof. 25 September 1965; ordin. 24 May 1975.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1994

to the Diocese of Campobasso-Boiano, with the title of Metropolitan Archbishop.

- 12 Apr** The 33rd *General Chapter* was held between 12 and 27 April 1994 at The Espousal Centre, Waltham, MA, USA. On 27 April, **Fr. José Luiz Nemes was re-elected as Superior General**. During this Chapter, the rank of Stigmatine festivities was changed: Holy Spouses and Stigmata were declared Feasts; Saint Gaspar Bertoni's celebration was converted into a Solemnity.⁵⁶⁷
- 10 Sep** Georgia. The first Stigmatines who arrived to Georgia, East Europe,⁵⁶⁸ were Fr. Giuseppe Pasotto⁵⁶⁹ and Fr. Gabriele Bragantini⁵⁷⁰, of the Italian Province of Sacred Heart. The Country, formerly under the Soviet Union, became independent on 9 March 1990. The confreres remained few months in the capital city, Tbilisi, hosted by the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Jean Paul Gobel, taking time for studying and getting in touch with the new culture. At the beginning of 1995, they moved to Kutaisi, in charge of the Western part of Georgia. Catholics in Georgia are a tiny minority, while the great majority are Orthodox (Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia).
- 22 Sep** Italy. The parish community of Holy Cross, Rome, of the Province of Sacred Heart, was transferred under the jurisdiction of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope.
- 26 Sep** Italy. The community of Villapiana Scalo, Cosenza, Province of Holy Mary of Hope, was closed on 26 September 1994.
- 16 Nov** Ivory Coast. The Stigmatine communities in Ivory Coast became 'Delegation of the Holy Family' (*Saint Famille*), depending on the Province of Sacred Heart.
- 14 Dec** Botswana. In 1994, a property was purchased, about 10 km South of Gaborone, in a place called Notwane, in view of the Noviciate. It was opened in December 1994 and beginning the Novitiate

⁵⁶⁷ For previous setting of dates and ranks see 16 May 1977 and 7 Jan 1984.

⁵⁶⁸ Some scholars list Georgia within Asia.

⁵⁶⁹ Bish. Giuseppe Pasotto. Born 6 July 1954; prof. 23 September 1973; ordin. 12 May 1979; elect. Apostolic Administrator 29 November 1996; elect. Bish. 9 November 1999; consecr. 6 January 2000.

⁵⁷⁰ Fr. Gabriele Bragantini. Born 17 February 1955; prof. 28 September 1975; ordin. 3 May 1981.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1995

activity in January 1995. Some years later, on the same property, a spirituality Centre was also built.

1995

South Africa. During 1995, two confreres from Thailand, went to South Africa for a full year to have an international experience of pastoral work with the Stigmatines there, and, of course, to give the help they could. They were: Fr. Peter Chinnacode⁵⁷¹ (who stationed in Mmakau) and Fr. Andrew Boonyai⁵⁷² (who stationed in Jericho).

- 9 Jan** Paraguay. The General Council approved the opening of a new community in Villeta, Diocese of Assunción, Paraguay, under the Province of St. Joseph, serving the Parish of Nuestra Señora del Rosario. First confreres there were: Fr. Giuseppe Bonomi and Fr. Custódio José do Amaral.⁵⁷³ About the year 2000 the community went under the jurisdiction of the Province of Holy Cross.
- 10 Jan** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the communities of Ivory Coast, Province of Sc. Heart, from 10 to 24 January 1995.
- 22 Feb** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the communities of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, from 22 February to 4 April 1995.
- 25 Apr** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the communities of South Africa and Botswana, Province of Sc. Heart, from 25 April to 16 May 1995.
- 14 Jun** The Council of Superiors met in Waltham, MA, USA, Province of Holy Spouses, from 14 to 20 June 1995.
- 20 Jun** Eastern Africa. In 1995, the Communities of South Africa, Tanzania and Botswana, became jointly the Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer. First Vice Provincial Superior was Fr. Michael D'Annucci.

⁵⁷¹ Fr. Peter Pramote Chinnacode. Born 22 June 1966; prof. 25 April 1988; ordin. 10 June 1994.

⁵⁷² Fr. Andrew Boonyai. Born 14 July 1967; prof. 25 April 1988; ordin. 10 June 1994. He left the Congregation. [*His name is recorded up to 2004*]

⁵⁷³ Fr. Custodio José Do Amaral. Born 26 December 1945; prof. 3 February 1969; ordin. 16 January 1977.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1996

- 1 Aug** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the communities of the Province of St. Joseph, from 1 August to 9 September 1995.
- 18 Sep** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the communities of the Province of Holy Cross, from 18 September to 4 November 1995. He could not complete, so he returned there on 23 February, up to 3 April 1996.
- 20 Dec** Brazil. The Stigmatine confrere of the Brazilian Province of Holy Cross, Fr. Mauro Montagnoli⁵⁷⁴, was elected Bishop of Ilhéus, BA.

1996

In 1996, in Brazil, the Province of St. Joseph took care of the Shrine of Nossa Senhora de Fátima at Palmas, TO.

- 27 Apr** Tanzania. Fr. Giuseppe Schiavo⁵⁷⁵ was killed by robbers, inside the house, at Kisanga. After the death of Fr. Schiavo, the community moved to the nearby village of Msolwa (belonging to the same parish jurisdiction), where a Secondary School had started 2 years earlier.
- 5 May** Georgia. The Stigmatine community of Kutaisi received a great help with the arrival of the Little Daughters of St. Joseph, from Italy⁵⁷⁶. They would assist in the pastoral activities, and give a great boost to the social and charitable progress (dispensary, assistance to the elderly, after-school activities for disadvantaged children, kitchen for the poor, a Family Centre and an embroidery group).
- 12 Jun** The Superior General, Fr. Louis Nemes, informed the Congregation that the General Curia would prepare material for reflection in the next three years, approaching the year 2000, in unity with the whole Church, following the three main themes: the Son, the Holy Spirit, the Father. The first reflection on Jesus

⁵⁷⁴ Bish. Mauro Montagnoli. Born 4 July 1945; prof. 9 December 1964; ordin. 24 January 1971; Provincial of Holy Cross (1988-1994); Bish. elect. 20 December 1995; consecr. 24 February 1996.

⁵⁷⁵ Fr. Giuseppe Schiavo. Born 11 May 1944; prof. 1966; ordin. 1970; death 27 April 1996.

⁵⁷⁶ The Little Daughters of St. Joseph were founded by Blessed Giuseppe Baldo, from Verona, whose Beatification happened in Rome the evening before the Canonization of St. Gaspar.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1996

Christ, prepared by the very Superior General, was published on the same day.⁵⁷⁷ Another text for reflection on Jesus Christ was published on 9 March 1997.⁵⁷⁸

- 22 Jun** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the community of Georgia, Province of Sc. Heart, from 22 to 26 June 1996.
- 16 Sep** The Council of Superiors met in Pretoria North, South Africa, Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer, from 16 to 20 September 1996.
- 20 Sep** Thailand. The new Province of ‘Mary Morning Star’, in Thailand, was instituted.⁵⁷⁹ First Provincial Superior was Fr. Peter Pakpoom Worraporntassana⁵⁸⁰.
- 25 Sep** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the communities of Tanzania, Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer, from 25 to 27 September 1996.
- 4 Nov** The Superior General, Fr. Louis Nemes, sent out the official text of the “Ratio Formationis”, i.e. the guidelines for formation, which could be considered the follow up of the Congress of formators in South Africa of 1993.
- 6 Nov** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the communities of Philippines, Province of Holy Mary of Hope, from 6 to 14 November 1996.
- 15 Nov** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the communities of the Province of Mary Morning Star, from 15 November to 2 December 1996.
- 29 Nov** Georgia. Fr. Giuseppe Pasotto was nominated “Apostolic Administrator” of the Southern Caucasus, comprising of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan⁵⁸¹. He then moved to the capital city, Tbilisi.

⁵⁷⁷ IL BERTONIANO 1996, pp.32-51. [Only in Italian.]

⁵⁷⁸ IL BERTONIANO 1997, pp.218-249. [Only in Italian.]

⁵⁷⁹ IL BERTONIANO 1996, p. 154. At the time of becoming a Province, Thailand was having 28 final professed and 3 temporary professed. (cf. “*Breve Cronaca, IV, 1945-2000*”: P. Mantovani, p.174).

⁵⁸⁰ Fr. Peter Pakpoom Worraporntassana. Born 29 June 1958; prof. 29 April 1979; ordin. 12 April 1986; first Provincial of Mary Morning Star (1996-2000).

⁵⁸¹ On 11 October 2000 Azerbaijan became a ‘Missio Sui Iuri’ and was no longer under the Administration of the Southern Caucasus.

1997

Chile. A house was established in Santiago for professed students, in 1997.

- 18 Mar** Thailand. A new community was opened in Buayai in 1997, in the District of Nakhon Ratchasima. It was a house for missionary activities.
- 1 Apr** Brazil. A foundation was made at Vitória da Conquista, BA, in 1997 for the Province of Holy Cross. The parish of Santa Luzia was established on 14 June 1997.
- 7 May** Philippines. The first novitiate in Philippines started in the new house of Cagayan de Oro, in 1997. It hosted Stigmatine novitiate until 2012. Now it is a house of spirituality.
- 9 Mar** The first working paper from the General Curia about Jesus Christ, preparing the year 2000, was circulated to the Congregation. It would become the on-going formation theme for the year.
- 8 Jul** Tanzania. After a period of initial formation in Msolwa, the first group of candidates to Stigmatine life⁵⁸², together with their formator, Fr. Daniel Giacomelli⁵⁸³, moved to Morogoro, in the area called Kola Hill, close to the Jordan Institute for Philosophy and Theology, run by the Salvatorian Congregation. The candidates would begin their philosophical studies in September.
- 23 Jun** Chile. On 23 June 1997, the Delegation of Chile was established, bearing the name of '*Cristo del Perdón*' (Christ of Forgiveness).
- 29 Sep** Two young confreres, Fr. Brian Ramongalo Makeketa⁵⁸⁴ (Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer) and Fr. Mark Weerasak Jantarungsi⁵⁸⁵ (Prov. Mary Morning Star) took part in the International Congress for young Religious in Rome, organized by the Union of General Superiors.

⁵⁸² The initial formation in Tanzania was hosting young people for Tanzania and from neighbouring countries: Malawi, Zambia, Congo and Kenya.

⁵⁸³ Fr. Daniel Giacomelli. Born 12 December 1955; prof. 28 September 1975; ordin. 24 October 1981.

⁵⁸⁴ Fr. Brian Ramongalo Makeketa, born 14 July 1970; p. 23 Janury 1992; ordin. 4 May 1996. He left in December 2001.

⁵⁸⁵ Fr. Mark Weerasak Jantarungsi. Born 17 November 1968; prof. 25 April 1989; ordin. 9 December 1995.

HISTORICAL NOTES 1998

- 6 Oct** The Council of Superiors met in Fazenda Santana, Corumbataí, Brazil, Province of Holy Cross, from 6 to 11 October 1997.
- 4 Nov** The second working paper from the General Curia about the Holy Spirit, in preparation for the year 2000 and guiding the on-going formation theme for the year 1998, was circulated to the Congregation.

1998

- 8 Jan** Chile. A new community was opened in Hijuelas in 1998, serving the parish of San Nicolás de Tolentino, and the homonymous School.
- 26 Jan** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the Italian communities of the Province of Sc. Heart from 26 January to 4 April 1998.
- 4 May** The Superior General, Fr. José Luiz Nemes, made a Canonical Visitation to the communities of the Province of Holy Spouses, from 4 to 19 May 1998.
- 1 Jul** An international congress was held for young Stigmatines from 1 July to 1 August 1998, at Rieti, Italy. The last week was spent in Verona, visiting the Bertonian places and taking part to a large Youth gathering in Boscochiesanuova, Verona.
- 19 Aug** Brazil. A house was purchased in São Caetano do Sul, SP in 1998, for the students of Theology of the Province of Holy Cross.
- 4 Nov** The third working paper from the General Curia, about God the Father, preparing for the year 2000 and guiding the on-going formation theme for the year 1999, was circulated to the Congregation.
- 7 Dec** The Council of Superiors met in Carmona-Cavite, Philippines, Province of Holy Mary of Hope, from 7 to 12 December 1998.
- 13 Dec** USA Sacred Heart, Waltham, MA was closed. On the same day the House of formation of Cromwell, Connecticut, was closed.

1999

- 8 Apr** The Superior General sent to all confreres a document of reflection in preparation for the next General Chapter of 2000. It was divided into three parts: Sharing and fraternal life; Sharing and apostolic life; Formation for sharing.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2000

- 28 Apr** Brazil. The community of Santa Cruz do Rio Prado, Rio de Janeiro, Province of Holy Cross, was closed. It had started in 1944; we were serving the Parish of Nossa Senhora da Conceição.
- 9 Nov** Georgia. During his Apostolic visitation to Georgia, Pope John Paul II announced the nomination as a Bishop⁵⁸⁶ of the Stigmatine confrere Fr. Giuseppe Pasotto, Province of Sacred Heart, already serving in Georgia as Apostolic Administrator. The actual ordination was done in St. Peter Basilica by the Pope himself, on 6 January 2000.

2000

- 1 Feb** The 34th *General Chapter* was held in Rome between 1 and 12 February 2000 at the house of the Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception of Ivrea. On 11 February, **Fr. Andrea Meschi⁵⁸⁷ was elected as Superior General.**
- 18 Oct** The Council of Superiors met in Samphran, Thailand, Province of Mary Morning Star, from 18 to 24 October 2000. During this Council, one General Councillor who withdrew (Fr. Pious Murray⁵⁸⁸) was replaced with Fr. Valentino Wasan Pirulhwong⁵⁸⁹.

2001

- 23 Jan** The General Superior, Fr. Andrea Meschi, in a letter to the Congregation with this date, announced a series of reflections, to be delivered every calendar year on the Feast of our Patrons, about relevant themes for the growth of the Congregation, saying: “I only want to share some ideas, hopes, suggestions and prayers for our

⁵⁸⁶ Fr. Giuseppe Pasotto was elected titular Bishop of Musti, not of Tbilisi (Georgia), in order to respect an ancient rule that only one Christian Bishop is titular in one diocese, who, in this case, is the Orthodox Bishop of Tbilisi. Fr. Pasotto continued to be Apostolic Administrator of the Southern Caucasus.

⁵⁸⁷ Fr. Andrea Meschi. Born 11 August 1945; prof. 25 September 1962; ordin. 27 June 1970; Provincial of Sc. Heart (1997-2000); Superior General (2000-2012).

⁵⁸⁸ Fr. Pious Murray, born 24 July 1957; I prof. 14 August 1988; ordin. 1 July 1992. He left the Congregation in 2007.

⁵⁸⁹ Fr. Valentine Wasan Pirulhwong. Born 8 January 1965; prof. 25 April 1987; ordin. 1 May 1992; Provincial of Mary Morning Star (2006-2012).

future life”. The first theme for the year 2001 was “Euntes docete in ... mundo. The international character of the Congregation as a source of encouragement and of challenge”⁵⁹⁰. The next themes proposed⁵⁹¹ were: (2002) “Religious community: Family or collective of individuals?”; (2003) “Sons of Bertoni? Fidelity to the charism.”; (2004) Our Apostolate: Stigmatine activities and works in the light of history.”; (2005) “The significance of obedience: the value of Religious vows, particularly obedience, in the context of a life consecrated to God.”

- 12 Mar** A Commission for organizing the next international encounter for Stigmatine Formators took place in St. Agatha, Rome. Members of this Commission were: Fr. Livio Guerra, Fr. Charles Mittempergher and Fr. Staut Paulo Roberto⁵⁹², together with the General Councillors Fr. João Carlos Seneme and Fr. Valentino Wasan.
- 28 May** The Council of Superiors met in Brasilia, Brazil, Province of St. Joseph, from 28 May to 1 June 2001.
- June** After the Council of Superiors, the General Superior started his Canonical Visitation to the Province of St. Joseph, followed by the Province of Holy Cross, in Brazil, Chile and Paraguay.
- 17 Sep** From 16 September to 6 October 2001 an international meeting of Stigmatine Formators took place. It was held in Brazil, at Fazenda Santana, Corumbataí, SP, with 28 participants. The main purpose is to share on the *Ratio Formationis*.⁵⁹³
- 8 Dec** South Africa. Fr. Michael D’Annucci, Superior of the Most Holy Redeemer Vice Province, was brutally killed by car hijackers at Soshanguve, Pretoria.

⁵⁹⁰ Find full text in English in “IL BERTONIANO, 2004”, p. 435 ff.

⁵⁹¹ Along the way, the plan was changed, but the promise of relevant texts for reflection was fulfilled. Next themes would come on the following years, all on the 12 June: in 2002 about St. Gaspar Bertoni’s relevance; in 2003 about community life; in 2004 about poverty. And on 23 January 2005, preparing for the General Chapter of 2006, about being “Monks at home and Apostles outside”.

⁵⁹² Fr. Staut Paulo Roberto, born 6 December 1963; prof. 23 January 1989; ordin. 20 March 1993. He left the Congregation in 2017.

⁵⁹³ The text in English of the lectures given during the Formators’ meeting can be found in IL BERTONIANO 2001, pp. 572-632.

2002

India. A new community was opened in Aluva, Kerala, India, in 2002, with Berton Seminary and Stigmata Providence Home, under the Province of Holy Mary of Hope. On 1 January 2020 it passed under the jurisdiction of the Province of Mary Morning Star.

- 1 Feb** A Canonical Visitation was held in the communities of the Province of Mary Morning Star from 1 to 24 February 2002.
- 3 Mar** Brazil. The Stigmatine confrere Fr. Antônio Fernando Brochini⁵⁹⁴, of the Province of St. Joseph, was elected Bishop on 12 December 2001, and on 3 March 2002 he was consecrated Coadjutor Bishop of Joboticabal, SP. He became Bishop of Joboticabal in 2003. In 2015 he was moved to the Diocese of Itumbiara, GO.
- 29 May** A Canonical Visitation was held in the communities of the Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer from 29 May to 22 June 2002.
- 12 Jun** The Superior General wrote a letter to the whole Congregation declaring the next year a Bertonian Year, from 12 June 2002 to 12 June 2003. The announcement was accompanied by a long text for reflection by the title: “Saint Gaspar Berton, a Saint for the Church, the Saint for the Stigmatine life”⁵⁹⁵.
- 19 Aug** The Council of Superiors was held in Waltham, MA, USA, Province of Holy Spouses, from 19 to 24 August 2002.
- 25 Aug** A Canonical Visitation was held in the communities of the Province of Holy Spouses from 25 August to 16 September 2002.
- 11 Nov** The Newsletter from the General Council, *Euntes Docete*, on this date declared: “The General Council of the Congregation of the Sacred Stigmata of Our Lord Jesus Christ, constitutes the Centre of Bertonian Studies (CSB). The CSB depends directly on the General Curia and has its venue in the same General Curia. The General Council appoints the steering committee, composed of three confreres, including the representative of the General Curia; and a confrere for each linguistic area as a local responsible.”

⁵⁹⁴ Bishop Antônio Fernando Brochini, Born 10 November 1946; prof. 9 December 1965; ordin. 8 December 1973; Provincial of St. Joseph (1988-1994; and again 1997-2001); Bish. elect. 12 December 2001; consecr. 3 March 2002.

⁵⁹⁵ Find full text in English in “IL BERTONIANO, 2004”, p. 507 ff.

- 7 Dec** Thailand. All confreres of the Province of Mary Morning Star gathered in Ranong on the 7 December 2002 for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Stigmatine presence in Thailand. On that occasion there was also the ordination of the 24th Stigmatine priest from Thailand, Fr. Dominic Wasit Deesri⁵⁹⁶.

2003

During the year 2003, a Commission was established by the General Council for preparing the next International Meeting on Stigmatine Religious Life of June 2004. Members were: Fr. Roberto Ongaro⁵⁹⁷, Fr. Romolo Bertoni, Fr. Simone Piacentini⁵⁹⁸, Bro. Adriano Baldo⁵⁹⁹ and Fr. Fulvio Procino⁶⁰⁰.

Italy. In 2003, a new community was opened in Palombaio, Bari, by the Province of Holy Mary of Hope; it was meant to be a spirituality house, under the name of '*Santi Sposi*' (Holy Spouses) Brazil. A new community started in Ilhéus, SP, for the Province of Holy Cross during the year 2003. It was closed in 2014.

- Jan** A Canonical Visitation was held in the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, beginning from the communities of Philippines, between January and March 2003.
- 12 Jun** The Superior General sent to the Congregation another text for reflection, by the title: "Starting afresh from Community life"⁶⁰¹.
- 22 Sep** The Council of Superiors was held in Sezano, Italy, hosted by the Province of Sc. Heart, from 19 to 24 August 2003.
- 6 Oct** Italy. A new community was opened in 2003 in Vescia, Foligno, Perugia, by the Province of Sacred Heart, using the church and buildings of San Martino, for pastoral ministry in the local Pastoral Unity and to serve in Diocesan Ministries. The first confreres were

⁵⁹⁶ Fr. Dominic Wasit Deesri. Born 4 August 1971; prof. 25 April 1994; ordin. 7 December 2002.

⁵⁹⁷ Fr. Roberto Ongaro. Born 21 June 1943; prof. 1964; ordin. 1968; death 15 September 2007.

⁵⁹⁸ Fr. Simone Piacentini. Born 28 January 1967; prof. 8 September 1987; ordin. 8 October 1995.

⁵⁹⁹ Bro. Adriano Baldo. Born 13 March 1970; prof. 14 September 1990.

⁶⁰⁰ Fr. Fulvio Procino. Born 23 September 1970; prof. 18 September 1993; ordin. 17 October 1998; Delegate Superior Holy Mary of Hope (2015-2018).

⁶⁰¹ Find full text in English in "IL BERTONIANO, 2004", p. 616 ff.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2004

Fr. Claudio Montolli⁶⁰² and Bro. Adriano Baldo. The community would move its residence to Pontecentesimo in 2008.

Nov A Canonical Visitation by the General Superior was held in the Province of Sc. Heart beginning from November 2003.

2004

6 Feb A Canonical Visitation by the General Superior was held in the communities of Ivory Coast, under the Province of Sc. Heart, from 16 February to 12 March 2004.

15 Feb The General Commission for the Regime, composed of Fr. Ruy Marot, Fr. Bob White and Fr. Silvio Tomasi, met at St. Agatha, Rome, from 15 to 22 February 2004.

12 Jun The Superior General sent to the Congregation another text for reflection, by the title: “Poverty and its many faces”⁶⁰³.

16 Jun From 16 June to 1 July 2004, Sezano (VR), Italy, became a central point for Stigmatines all over the world, as delegates from the Philippines, Thailand, India, South Africa, Zambia, Lesotho, Ivory Coast, Georgia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, United States, and Italy attended the *International Meeting on Stigmatine Religious Life*.

2 Jul After the International Meeting on Religious Life, the leadership of Bertoni Study Centre met with some confreres from different places, starting a list of possible coordinators.

18 Aug The Council of Superiors was held in Rio Claro, SP, Brazil, hosted by the Province of Holy Cross, from 18 to 25 August 2004.

4 Oct The General Commission for the Study of the Founder’s Constitutions, composed of Fr. Joseph Henchey, Fr. Giampietro De Paoli and Fr. Alberto Mariani, met in Waltham, MA, USA, from 4 to 11 October 2004. They arrived to a document, called *Convergences*, which would be published soon.

5 Oct The General Superior made a visit to China, trying to re-establish links with our past presence and to meet with the Sisters of the “Congregation of the Sacred Heart for the Propagation of Faith”,

⁶⁰² Fr. Claudio Montolli. Born 20 March 1955; prof. 28 September 1975; ordin. 10 May 1980.

⁶⁰³ Find full text in English in “IL BERTONIANO, 2004”, p. 734 ff.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2005

who were founded by Msgr. Martina⁶⁰⁴. He met with some priests who said they were much lacking proper formation. They were also eager to hear about Fr. Martina's and about our Congregation as a specific style of being missionary priests. There was no possible dialogue with the "official" Catholic Church, which was hindered from connecting to the outside Catholic world.

- 20 Oct** Paraguay. The General Council approved the opening of a new community in Assunción, under the Province of Holy Cross, serving the Parish of Most Holy Trinity. It was closed around 2018.

2005

Chile. In 2005 the Stigmatines returned to at Iquique, in the parish of O.L. of Perpetual Help, where they had left in 1989⁶⁰⁵. In 2008, the Bishop asked to move to the parish of St. Rita, which was served until the Congregation left again in 2017.

- 23 Jan** The Superior General sent a letter to the whole Congregation announcing the XXXV General Chapter, to be held in February 2006 in Brazil, within the territory of the Province of St. Joseph, inviting each one to prepare himself for this important occasion. Together with the declaration letter, he sent a document for reflection, preparing for the General Chapter, by the title: "Monks in the house and Apostles outside"⁶⁰⁶.
- 14 Feb** The General Commission for the Regime, met again at St. Agatha, Rome, from 14 to 19 February 2005.

⁶⁰⁴ At present there are two groups of Sisters who follow the same rules written by Fr. Tarcisius Martina. The Superior General's remark was that, hopefully, they will eventually become one.

⁶⁰⁵ In his report, Fr. Daniele Giacomuzzi said: "I closed Iquique with the promise to open it again with new members, coming from the Seminary that I was going to direct". And this is what happened! The confreres who went there in 2005 were Fr. Juan Germain Arquez Baeza (Born 14 September 1961; prof. 23 January 2000; ordin. 18 December 2004) and the student Juan Carlos Pacheco Vivanco (Born 12 March 1966; prof. 23 January 2001; ordin. 24 March 2007).

⁶⁰⁶ The original Italian "Monaci in casa" is normally translated "Monks at home": but in this case another translation, based on the USA, was favoured. You can find the full text in English on "IL BERTONIANO, 2005", p.74 ff.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2006

- 19 Feb** Botswana. In a tragic car accident at Gaborone, the young professed brother Matthew Mwimbe⁶⁰⁷, of the Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer, lost his life.
- 28 June** USA. This day marks the beginning of the Stigmatine experience in Sacramento, California⁶⁰⁸ with the arrival of Fr. Charles Mittempergher (Italian, from the Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer). The other two confreres arrived on the 30th, namely Fr. Antônio Luiz Medeiros dos Santos⁶⁰⁹ (Brazilian, from the Province of Holy Cross) and Fr. Edwin Limpiado⁶¹⁰ (from Philippines, from the Province of Holy Mary of Hope). This community was established directly under the General Council, not depending on the American Province of Holy Spouses. They were serving the parish of Holy Cross, on the outskirts of the town, where they had also their residence; and the Parish of St. Elizabeth of Portugal, downtown in Sacramento. They went on until 2013.

2006

- 1 Feb** The 35th *General Chapter* was held between 1 and 14 February 2006 at the Centro de Convenções Israel Pinheiro, Brasília, DF, Brazil. **Fr. Andrea Meschi was re-elected as Superior General.**
- Mar** Brazil. In Livramento, BA, a new parish was assumed by the Province of Holy Cross: Bom Jesus do Taquari. The parish was born out of a splitting of the Cathedral Parish.⁶¹¹
- Jul** Brazil. A new community was approved in Brasília, Province of S. Joseph, under the name of Estância Bertoni. This would go on as separate community until December 2010, then it would be incorporated in the other community of Brasília, though remaining independent residence.

⁶⁰⁷ Bro. Matthew Mwimbe. Born 16 May 1977; prof. 23 January 2005; death 19 February 2005.

⁶⁰⁸ Cf. IL BERTONIANO, 2013, pp. 69-125.

⁶⁰⁹ Fr. Antônio Luiz Medeiros Dos Santos. Born 8 May 1964; prof. 23 January 1997; ordin. 23 September 2000.

⁶¹⁰ Fr. Edwin Limpiado. Born 26 March 1970; prof. 12 June 1997; ordin. 2004; left the Congregation in April 2008.

⁶¹¹ I found no annotation, but seemingly on this occasion the Stigmatines abandoned the service to the Cathedral (taken in 1967) and took the new Parish.

- Sep** South Africa. A new community started in the diocese of Bethlehem, at Tsheseng, in Qwaqwa region. The Bishop Hubert Bucher had asked the Stigmatines to conduct the Diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Bethlehem. First confreres there were Fr. Benedict Leseteli⁶¹² and Fr. Harry Kalonga⁶¹³.
- 25 Sep** The Council of Superiors was held at the community of Holy Cross, Rome, Italy, hosted by the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, from 25 September to 1 October 2006.
- 4 Nov** On the 4 November 2006, “on the occasion of the 190th Anniversary of Foundation of our Congregation”, the Superior General, Fr. Andrea Meschi, sent to the whole Congregation the theme of reflection for on-going formation for the year 2007. This was the first of 4 topics, by the title: “Searching for the first LOVE.”⁶¹⁴
- Dec** Botswana. The Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer organized a Symposium on the Ratio Formationis for the Formators of the Vice Province, conducted by Fr. Bruno Facciotti, at Notwane.
- Dec** The General Council appointed the confreres for the China Commission. From the General Council was chosen Fr. Winai Plienbumrung⁶¹⁵; then Fr. Renato Carcereri⁶¹⁶ Fr. Michele Curto⁶¹⁷, Fr. Steven Senaldi⁶¹⁸ and Fr. John Pipat Rungruangkanokkul⁶¹⁹.

⁶¹² Fr. Benedict Mohapi Leseteli. Born 4 June 1970; prof. 23 January 1994; ordin. 5 September 1998; Vice Provincial of Most Holy Redeemer (2012-2015).

⁶¹³ Fr. Harry Blessings Kalonga. Born 3 November 1975; prof. 23 January 2002; ordin. 22 July 2006.

⁶¹⁴ The English text is found in IL BERTONIANO 2010, pp. 122-144.

⁶¹⁵ Fr. Joseph Winai Plienbumrung. Born 28 May 1965; prof. 25 April 1987; ordin. 1 May 1992; Provincial of Mary Morning Star (2012-2018).

⁶¹⁶ Fr. Renato Carcereri. Born 25 October 1935; prof. 12 October 1953; ordin. 25 June 1961.

⁶¹⁷ Fr. Michele Curto. Born 18 February 1968; prof. 8 September 1989; ordin. 22 April 1995.

⁶¹⁸ Fr. Steven Senaldi. Born 16 March 1963; prof. 25 September 1983; ordin. 13 May 1989.

⁶¹⁹ Fr. John Pipat Rungruangkanokkul. Born 2 December 1960; prof. 14 April 1980; ordin. 29 October 1987; Provincial of Mary Morning Star (2000-2006).

2007

Tanzania. During 2007, a new community was opened in Mtoni, Dar es Salaam, under the Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer, serving the parish of St. Josephine Bakhita. The first Stigmatine there was Fr. Alexander Di Tullio (returning to Tanzania, after he had left in 1998).

South Africa. The community of Jericho was officially closed and the parish was given back to the Diocese. Then a community was re-established in Brits, for the pastoral needs of the area and also for formation activities.

- 11 Jan** A Canonical Visitation was held in the communities of the Province of Mary Morning Star, Thailand, from 11 January to 19 February 2007.
- 10 Apr** A Canonical Visitation was held in the communities of Chile of the Province of Holy Cross from 10 to 27 April 2007.
- 27 Apr** A Canonical Visitation was held in the communities of Paraguay of the Province of Holy Cross from 27 April to 2 May 2007.
- 3 May** A Canonical Visitation was held in the communities of Brazil of the Province of Holy Cross from 3 May to 15 July 2007.
- 1 Jul** An International Gathering of Formators was held in Sezano (VR) from 1 to 14 July 2007. Coordinators were Fr. Bruno Facciotti and Fr. Winai Plienbumrung. The meeting was prepared with some texts of reflection and some questionnaires, sent to the participants during the preceding six months.
- Sep** A book of short necrologies was published by the General Curia, edited by Fr. Luigi Mantovani, in order to help the daily remembrance of our deceased confreres.
- 17 Oct** Brazil. The Provincial Superior of the Brazilian Province of Holy Cross, Fr. João Carlos Seneme⁶²⁰, was elected Auxiliary Bishop of Curitiba, PR. He was ordained as a Bishop on 16 December 2007. On 26 June 2013 he was appointed as Bishop of Toledo, PR.

⁶²⁰ Bish. João Carlos Seneme. born 11 December 1958; prof. 23 January 1982; ordin. 15 December 1985; Provincial of Holy Cross (2006-2007); Bish. elect. 17 October 2007; consecr. 16 December 2007.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2008

- 23 Oct** The Council of Superiors was held in Phuket, Thailand, hosted by the Province of Mary Morning Star, from 23 to 28 October 2007.
- 21 Nov** After the approval of the recent Council of Superiors, the General Superior, Fr. Andrea Meschi, sent a letter to the Provincials and the Formators of the Congregation presenting the new guidelines for admission to the Final Profession and to Priesthood (available in 5 languages)⁶²¹.

2008

Brazil. A new community was opened in Salvador, BA in 2008, under the Province of Holy Cross, serving the parish of São João Evangelista.

- 20 Jan** Italy. The Archbishop of Cagliari, Sardinia, had organized a City Mission, asking for priests and religious from all over Italy to conduct it. 375 missionaries answered – and among them there were 11 Stigmatines, who were entrusted of the suburb called Selargius; and, together with 7 Sisters from 3 Congregations, they run the Mission of that area from 20 January to 3 February 2008. In fact they covered three areas, i.e. there were three contemporary Missions.
- 23 Jan** On 23 January 2008, the Superior General, Fr. Andrea Meschi, sent to the whole Congregation the second theme of reflection for on-going formation, for the year 2008. The title was: “The precious pearl.”⁶²²
- 25 Jan** A Canonical Visitation to the Brazilian Province of St. Joseph was conducted by the General Council from 25 January to 27 February 2008. The Visitation was conducted by the Superior General, Fr. Andrea Meschi, and Fr. José De Souza Primo⁶²³.
- Apr** South Africa. During the year 2008, the Stigmatines in the Diocese of Bethlehem moved from the Shrine in Qwaqwa to the town of Lindley, in charge of three parishes. Only one confrere was there

⁶²¹ IL BERTONIANO 2007. The languages are: Italian, English (p.264-271), Portuguese, Spanish and French.

⁶²² The English text is found in IL BERTONIANO 2010, pp. 197-228.

⁶²³ Fr. José De Souza Primo. Born 13 December 1943; prof. 9 December 1964; ordin. 13 May 1978.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2009

at the moment, Fr. Bernard Rakeketsi⁶²⁴. The house was then closed in March 2010.

- 23 Jun** The Second International Meeting on Stigmatine Religious Life was held in Sezano (VR) from 23 June to 6 July 2008. This was addressed to the confreres who did not take part in the First International meeting on Stigmatine Religious life (2004, Sezano) nor to the Forth International Meeting of Formators (2006, Sezano). The theme was: “A journey of filial abandonment into the hands of God. – Four stages of development of the Stigmatine religious and ministerial life.” Coordinator was Fr. Bruno Facciotti.
- 5 May** A Canonical Visitation was conducted to the North American Province of Holy Spouses from 5 to 19 May 2008.
- 14 Jul** The Council of Superiors was held in Brasilia, Brazil, hosted by the Province of St. Joseph, from 14 to 20 July 2008.
- 9 Oct** Italy. The community of the Province of Sacred Heart, which began in Vescia in 2003, in the Diocese of Foligno, Perugia, was transferred to Pontecentesimo, using the church and buildings of Pievefanonica, though still serving the same Pastoral Unity (Valle del Topino) and collaborating with Diocesan Ministries. The community also served as a house of formation. It is now also open to hospitality of people for personal and spiritual reflection.

2009

- 10 Jan** Brazil. A new community was opened in Várzea Grande, MT, in 2009 under the Province of St. Joseph; serving the parish of Santa Edwiges, in the Diocese of Cuiabá.
- 23 Jan** On 23 January 2009, the Superior General, Fr. Andrea Meschi, sent to the whole Congregation the third theme of reflection for on-going formation, for the year 2009. The title was: “Servant of all, out of Love.”⁶²⁵
- 2 Feb** A Canonical Visitation to the Indian community, Province of Holy Mary of Hope, was conducted by the General Councillor Fr. Winai Plienbumrung from 2 to 6 February 2009.

⁶²⁴ Fr. Bernard Keketsi Rakeketsi. Born 1 February 1963; prof. 12 February 1984; ordin. 26 October 1991.

⁶²⁵ The English text is found in IL BERTONIANO 2010, pp. 302-347.

- 13 Mar** Brazil. Again, in the year 2009, the Province of St. Joseph opened another new community in Pirapora, MG, in charge of the parish of Our Lady of Fatima. The approval of the General Council bears the date of 13 March 2009. The service was closed in February 2015.
- 14 Apr** A Canonical Visitation to the communities of Philippines, Province of Holy Mary of Hope, was conducted by the General Superior, Fr. Andrea Meschi, with Fr. Winai Plienbumrung, from 14 to 20 April 2009.
- 1 Jun** A Canonical Visitation to the Italian communities of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, was conducted by the General Superior, Fr. Andrea Meschi, with Fr. José De Souza Primo, from 1 to 30 June 2009.
- 13 Aug** A Canonical Visitation took place for the Communities of Tanzania, Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer, from 13 to 22 Aug 2009.
- 13 Sep** The Council of Superiors was held in Rio Claro, SP, Brazil, hosted by the Province of Holy Cross, from 13 to 20 September 2009.
- 11 Oct** Botswana. The Bishop of Gaborone, Valentine Seane (former Stigmatine confrere) asked the Stigmatines to take charge of the Cathedral of Gaborone. The confreres appointed there were Fr. Benedict Leseteli and Fr. Richard Rathari⁶²⁶. The administration of the Cathedral was given back to the Diocese during the year 2020.

2010

Ivory Coast. A new community was opened in Abobo PK18, Abidjan, in 2010, serving the parish of Sainte Marie d'Aguèto. During the same year, another community was opened in Agboville, Offa, with a Spiritual Centre and the parish of Offa; also with pastoral ministry to Aboudé-Kouassikro.

Philippines. A new community was opened in 2010 in Prosperidad, serving San Roque Quasi Parish.

- 22 Jan** A Canonical Visitation to the communities of the Delegation of Holy Family, in Ivory Coast, under the Province of Sc. Heart, was

⁶²⁶ Fr. Richard Rathari. Born 2 June 1979; prof. 23 January 2003; ordin. 30 June 2007. He left in 2018.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2010

conducted by the General Superior, Fr. Andrea Meschi, with Fr. José de Souza Primo from 22 January to 4 March 2010.

- 23 Jan** On 23 January 2010, the Superior General, Fr. Andrea Meschi, sent to the whole Congregation the fourth theme of reflection for on-going formation, for the year 2010. The title was: “And he sent them two by two.”⁶²⁷
- 11 Mar** A Canonical Visitation to the community of Georgia, of the Province of Sc. Heart, was conducted by the General Superior, Fr. Andrea Meschi, with Fr. Bruno Facciotti from 11 to 16 March 2010.
- 22 Mar** Brazil. A new community was opened in Morrinhos, GO, by the Province of St. Joseph, serving the Parish of Christ Redeemer. It went on until 2016.
- 6 Apr** A Canonical Visitation to the Italian communities of the Province of Sc. Heart was conducted by the General Superior, Fr. Andrea Meschi, with Fr. Bruno Facciotti from 6 April to 2 June 2010.
- June** A Canonical Visitation to the communities of Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer was conducted by the General Superior, Fr. Andrea Meschi, with Fr. Winai Plienbumrung in June and July 2010. They went to the Countries of Tanzania, South Africa and Botswana.
- 9 June** An international meeting of the Stigmatine laity was held at Verona, San Leonardo from 9 to 13 June 2010. Participants, about 50, were from all over the Stigmatine world: Italy, USA, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, South Africa, Ivory Coast, Philippines and Thailand.
- 22 Nov** The Council of Superiors was held in Pretoria North, South Africa, hosted by the Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer, from 22 to 26 November 2010.
- 27 Nov** South Africa. The Province of Most Holy Redeemed wanted to celebrate well their Golden Jubilee of Stigmatine presence in the land of South Africa. The General Council and all Provincial Superiors were present, since they gathered for the Council of Superiors as well. An initial celebration was for the Clergy of the Archdiocese, on Friday 19 November, held in Pretoria North, in the parish church of St. John the Baptist, with a Mass presided over

⁶²⁷ The English text is found in IL BERTONIANO 2010, pp. 429-465.

by the Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop James Paul Green. But the main activities were held in Mmakau, the first missionary place in South Africa, on Saturday 27 November. Many people came from all over the Stigmatine pastoral areas, and even from Botswana. After blessing a memorial stone for the lay and religious people who marked the beginnings and the growth of the local parish (which became mother parish for a huge missionary area), a solemn thanksgiving Mass was held in the big parish church, presided over by the Archbishop-Emeritus of Pretoria, Archbishop George Daniel. Some speeches followed, then lunch was offered to all.

2011

- 23 Jan** Together with the best wishes for the Feast of the Holy Spouses, the Superior General, Fr. Andrea Meschi, send the convocation letter for the next 36th General Chapter, to be held in Italy in February 2012. He attached 10 Working Papers for reflection and preparation for the Chapter.⁶²⁸
- 9 Oct** Italy. The Bishop of Parma, Enrico Solmi, entrusted officially to the Stigmatines the parish of Family of Nazareth, where they were already assisting the elderly diocesan priest Fr. Adelmo Monica. First Stigmatine parish priest was Fr. Assuero Mascanzoni.

2012

- Italy. In 2012 the community of Cadellara, Verona, was closed. The property remains, for the use of the Diocesan School “Cappelletti”, which had started working in the premises around 2000.
- 5 Jan** South Africa. A new community was opened in South Africa, at Bapong, Diocese of Rustenburg. The first confreres were: Fr. Nel Matlala⁶²⁹, Fr. Samuel Kasawala⁶³⁰ and Bro. Lino Bokaba⁶³¹.

⁶²⁸ The English text of these 10 Working Papers is found in IL BERTONIANO February 2012, pp.43-78.

⁶²⁹ Fr. Nel Sello Matlala. Born 4 January 1972; fin. prof. 2002; ordin. 2002; death 3 March 2016.

⁶³⁰ Fr. Samuel James Kasawala. Born 16 November 1976; prof. 23 January 2006; ordin. 8 December 2010.

⁶³¹ Bro. Lino Bokaba. Born 25 April 1967; prof. 23 January 1997.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2013

- 2 Feb** The 36th *General Chapter* was held in Rome, between 2 and 14 February 2012, at the house of the Sisters of the Child Mary. On 13 February, **Fr. Maurizio Baldessari**⁶³² was elected as **Superior General**.
- 19 Feb** On 19 February 2012, because of their help to the Hebrews during World War II, Fr. Emilio Recchia and Fr. Alberto Tambalo were nominated for enrolment in the list of the '*Just among the Nations*'; in 2014 an olive tree was dedicated to them in the '*Garden of the Just Ones*' and their names were written on the walls of the Yad Vashem Museum of Jerusalem.
- 12 Jun** Asia. In Phuket, Thailand, from 12 to 16 June 2012, there was the first Stigmatine inter-Asian Congress. The gathering was promoted by the Vicar of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, Fr. Anthony Piccirillo⁶³³, and by the Provincial Superior of the Province Mary Morning Star, Winai Plienbumrung. Fourteen confreres took part in it.
- 7 Oct** The Council of Superiors met in Battipaglia, Salerno, Italy, Province Holy Mary of Hope, from 7 to 14 October 2012.
- 18 Oct** Brazil. The General Council approved the opening of a new community of Juazeiro, BA, under the Province of Holy Cross, serving the parish of Santo Afonso, beginning from February 2013.

2013

- Jan** Asia. The second Stigmatine inter-Asian Congress took place in the first weeks of January 2013, in Manila, Philippines. There were 16 participants, from five nations, including China, represented by Sr. Maria Liang (Superior of the Congregation of the Sacred Heart for the Propagation of Faith, founded by Fr. Tarcisio Martina).
- 1 May** The first Stigmatine Asian Noviciate began in Phuket, Thailand, where Novice Master was Fr. Joseph Wattanasak (Thailand,

⁶³² Fr. Maurizio Baldessari. Born 16 June 1950; prof. 10 October 1976; ordin. 8 December 1978; Provincial of Sc. Heart (2006-2012); Superior General (2012-2018).

⁶³³ Fr. Anthony Piccirillo. Born 18 September 1943; prof. 25 September 1961; ordin. 28 June 1969; Provincial of Holy Mary of Hope (1994-2000) and again (2006-2012).

Province of Mary Morning Star) and his assistant was Fr. Jimado Pura⁶³⁴ (Philippines, Delegation of Santo Niño).

- 2 Jul** USA. The Stigmatine presence was concluded in Sacramento, California. Firstly because of lack of personnel (Fr. Limpiado left the Congregation to join a Diocese in California in 2008; and other confreres who had volunteered to join, could not get immigration permits); and partly because of some tensions within the confreres of the Community, especially due to the huge gap of age and of cultures among the confreres.
- 4 Nov** The Superior General, Fr. Maurizio Baldessari, as a response to the Mission Statement of the 36th General Chapter, sent to all confreres a letter for reflection on the theme “Belonging”.⁶³⁵
- 2 Dec** The Council of Superiors met in Phuket, Thailand, Province of Mary Morning Star, from 2 to 8 December 2013.

2014

- 16 Feb** A Canonical Visitation to some Asian communities was conducted by the General Superior, Fr. Maurizio Baldessari, with Fr. Charles Mittempergher as Assistant: to the Philippines (16-28 February) and India (1-5 March), both belonging to the Province of Holy Mary of Hope.
- 3 May** Asia. The second Interprovincial Asian Stigmatine Novitiate began in Phuket, Thailand, with 8 Novices (two from Thailand and six from Philippines). They were accepted by the Superior of the Province of Mary Morning Star, Fr. Winai Plienbumrung. Novice Master was Fr. Joseph Wattanasak Srivorakul⁶³⁶.
- 12 June** An international Course for Perpetual Professed students was organized by the General Council, under the name of AIFA (“Anno Internazionale Formazione Apostolato”, International Year of Formation for the Apostolate), at S. Leonardo (VR), Italy, from 12 June 2014 to 12 June 2015. 15 young Stigmatines took part, from Brazil, Chile, Ivory Coast, Philippines and Thailand.

⁶³⁴ Fr. Jimado Gegajo Pura. Born 23 October 1982; prof. 16 January 2005; ordin. 8 July 2011.

⁶³⁵ IL BERTONIANO 2013, p.126 – No English translation is given.

⁶³⁶ Fr. Joseph Wattanasak Srivorakul. Born 28 April 1973; prof. 25 April 1993; ordin. 27 January 2001; Provincial of Mary Morning Star from 2018 to date.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2015

The formators were Fr. José Pértile⁶³⁷ and Fr. Charles Mittempergher. They spent two months for the study of Italian language, then they started with some teachings and sharing by various Stigmatine Confreres. They also visited Stigmatine communities and Bertonian places as well as other Institutes of Consecrated life.⁶³⁸

- 20 Sep** The Council of Superiors took place in Rio Claro, SP, Brazil, hosted by the Province of Holy Cross, from 20 to 26 September 2014.
- 26 Sep** A Canonical Visitation to the Brazilian Province of St. Joseph was conducted by the General Council from 26 September to 12 October 2014, subdivided into two groups: Fr. Maurizio Baldessari, with Fr. Tadeu Lima⁶³⁹ for some of the communities; Fr. Bruno Facciotti and Fr. Abel Maglines⁶⁴⁰ for the other ones.

2015

- 1 Jun** An international Congress of Stigmatine formators took place in Brazil, at Fazenda Santana, Corumbataí, SP. Three General Councillors were present, with representatives from the Province of Sacred Heart; from the Delegation of Ivory Coast, from the Vice Province of Most Holy Redeemer; from the Delegation of Philippines; from the Province of St. Joseph; from the Province of Holy Cross: for a total of 28 confreres.
- Feb** At the beginning of February, the Superior General, Fr. Maurizio Baldessari, together with Fr. Bruno Facciotti, made a Canonical visitation to the Italian communities of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, in anticipation to the scheduled time of visit, because of some problems within the Province.
- 29 Jun** Eastern Africa. The Vice-Province of the Most Holy Redeemer, comprising of the Communities of South Africa, Botswana and

⁶³⁷ Fr. José Odail Pértile. Born 13 March 1952; prof. 24 January 1978; ordin. 23 January 1982; Provincial of Holy Cross (1994-2000); death 12 July 2019.

⁶³⁸ Cf. BERTONIANO, 2014, p 48-72.

⁶³⁹ Fr. José Tadeu Aguiar Lima. Born 6 May 1958; prof. 23 January 1983; ordin. 8 December 1987.

⁶⁴⁰ Fr. Abel Lauro Maglines. Born 28 April 1971; prof. 12 June 1993; ordin. 24 May 1997.

Tanzania, became a Province. In its first Provincial Chapter, celebrated in July, Fr. David Kalyosi⁶⁴¹ was elected Provincial Superior. Councillors were: Fr. Harrison Mulenga⁶⁴² (Vicar), Fr. Frank Paul Phiri⁶⁴³, Fr. Anthony Mashaka⁶⁴⁴, Fr. Nel Matlala.

- 21 Jul** Brazil. A new community was opened in Piracicaba, SP, in 2015, under the Province of Holy Cross; serving the parish of Maria, Estrela da Evangelização.
- 26 Aug** Italy, Province of Holy Mary of Hope⁶⁴⁵. Because of the resignation of the Provincial Superior, Fr. Silvano Controne, the General Superior, Fr. Maurizio Baldessari, after various consultations, arrived to the decision to have the Province under direct dependence on the General Council, electing as Delegate Superior Fr. Fulvio Procino.
- 20 Sep** The Council of Superiors was held in Waltham, MA, USA, Province of Holy Spouses, from 20 to 26 September 2015.
- 26 Oct** The General Superior, Fr. Maurizio Baldessari, sent a letter to all confreres and to the Stigmatine lay friends and collaborators opening the Bertonian Year, which will take place from 4 November 2015 to 4 November 2016. The activities proposed included various international experiences for the Stigmatine themselves and for lay people close to the Congregation, with special attention to the Youth.⁶⁴⁶

2016

Ivory Coast. In Ayamé, in 2016 the College Père Guillaume was opened.

⁶⁴¹ Fr. David Augustus Kalyosi. Born 19 November 1972; prof. 23 January 2000; ordin. 26 June 2004; first Provincial of Most Holy Redeemer (2015-2018). In 2018 he was appointed as General Councillor.

⁶⁴² Fr. Harrison Bwalya Mulenga. Born 19 January 1976; prof. 23 January 2000; ordin. 26 June 2004.

⁶⁴³ Fr. Frank Kan'khumba Phiri. Born 21 January 1968; prof. 23 January 2004; ordin. 20 August 1995.

⁶⁴⁴ Fr. Anthony Kijuu Mashaka. Born 10 January 1972; prof. 23 January 2000; ordin. 25 July 2004; Provincial of Most Holy Redeemer from 2018 to date.

⁶⁴⁵ Cf. IL BERTONIANO, 2015, p 24.

⁶⁴⁶ Cf. IL BERTONIANO, 2015, p 33.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2016

Brazil. A new community was opened in 2016, in Goiatuba, GO, Diocese of Itumbiara, with the parish of Santissima Trinitade. Again, another new community was opened in 2016 in Panamá, GO, with the Shrine of Divino Pai Eterno. Both under the Province of St. Joseph.

- 11 Apr** Indonesia. The Stigmatine presence in Indonesia started in 2016, at Maumere, with ‘San Gaspare Bertoni Seminary’, under the Province of Holy Mary of Hope. On 1 January 2020 it passed under the jurisdiction of the Province of Mary Morning Star.
- 11 Apr** Thailand. A new community was opened in 2016 in Chian Rai, under the Province of Mary Morning Star.
- 13 Apr** A Canonical Visitation took place in the Brazilian Province of Holy Cross from 13 April to 20 May 2016. The General Councillors were subdivided into two groups: Fr. Maurizio Baldessari, with Fr. Tadeu Lima for some of the communities; Fr. Bruno Facciotti and Fr. Abel Maglines for the other ones.
- 12 June** A second international Course under the name of AIFA (“Anno Internazionale Formazione Apostolato”, International Year of Formation for the Apostolate) for recently ordained Priest (6), organized by the General Council, was held in Italy from 12 June 2016 to January 2017. They had an initial period studying the Italian language; they took part in the gathering of “Stigmatine” Youth in preparation for the World Youth Day of Cracow; they spent some days in Rome; as from September, they all spent 4 months in different Italian communities (in one or the other Italian Province).
- 16 Jul** Youth from all over the Stigmatine world met in Italy, preparing for the WYD of Cracow. They stayed in Rome from 16 to 18 July. Then they went to Verona from 19 to 24; and from there they travelled to Poland. They were involved in various activities of catechesis, sharing and visiting.
- 8 Sep** An International gathering of Stigmatine laity took place in Italy from 8 to 19 September 2016. The Congress started in Rome, with the main focus on the “Jubilee Year of Mercy”. From the 13th they were in Verona, with the main focus on “200 years of Stigmatine life”. There were 42 permanent lay persons from all over the Stigmatine world (and some others, from Italy, joined them time to time) and 5 Religious Stigmatines. The reports show an

appreciation for the initiative and a thanksgiving for the occasion of growth and of unity.

2 Oct South Africa. The Province of Most Holy Redeemer wanted to celebrate in a special way the 200 years of Stigmatine history. There was a huge gathering of faithful and priests in Mmakau. A special very large tent was put into place where more than 1000 people assembled. In the tent, the Mass was celebrated and speeches were given after Mass. Lunch for all people followed. Four Bishops were present to this celebration: the Archbishop of Pretoria, William Slattery; Bishop Valentine Seane of Gaborone (Botswana), a former Stigmatine; the Bishop Boniface Setlhalekgosi, Emeritus of Gaborone; and Bishop Victor Phalana of Klerksdorp (born in Erasmus, the first outstation of Mmakau). On the same day, there was remembered the Golden Jubilee of Priesthood of Fr. Charles Mittempergher, who was ordained in South Africa in 1966 and had travelled from Italy for the occasion.

30 Oct Among the activities for the bicentennial celebrations, there were scheduled two “International Stigmatine Weeks”, one in May and one at the end of October 2016. The first one could not be held, but the second one was implemented. So, some confreres from various nationalities gathered together in Verona, hosted at S. Leonardo, reflecting on the Bertonian spirituality while visiting the Bertonian places. The activities went on until the days of the main celebrations.

3 Nov Italy, Verona, Palace of Gran Guardia: in the morning, for students from various town schools, a play was offered on St. Gaspar Bertoni, “A history beyond time”. In the evening there was the presentation of the biographies of Bertoni and Naudet.

4 Nov In the evening there was a concelebrated Mass in the Church of St. Gaspar. All Provincials were present, and there was a good representation of Stigmatines and lay people from all over the Stigmatine world. Then, in the theatre of the Stimate, the play on St. Gaspar Bertoni, “A history beyond time” was presented to the Stigmatines, friends and guests.

6 Nov The Diocese of Verona took part in the Celebrations with a solemn Mass at the Cathedral of Verona for the 200 years of the Stigmatines, together with the Srs. of Holy Family (Naudet), who had their beginning on the same year.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2017

- 8 Nov** The Council of Superiors, held after the Bi-centennial celebrations, gathered in Rome, St. Agatha (General Curia) from 8 to 12 November 2016.

2017

During the year 2017, The General Council made a Canonical Visitation to the Italian communities of the Province of Sc. Heart.

- 11 Jan** The Superior General, Fr. Maurizio Baldessari, with the Councillor Fr. Tadeu Lima, made a Canonical Visitation to the Stigmatine Community in Kutaisi, Georgia, from 11 to 18 January. They took the occasion also to pay a visit to the Stigmatine Bishop Giuseppe Pasotto, in the capital City of Tbilisi.
- 17 Jan** South Africa. A new community was established by the Province of Most Holy Redeemer in Winterveldt, in the Archdiocese of Pretoria. First confreres were: Fr. Moses Mafui⁶⁴⁷, Fr. Geoffrey Mkumbata⁶⁴⁸ and Fr. Jacob Banda⁶⁴⁹.
- 13 Mar** In Pretoria, South Africa, hosted by the Province of Most Holy Redeemer, there was an International Congress for Stigmatine Formators from 13 to 24 March 2017. Participants were 26, from all Stigmatine Provinces. There were some inputs from experts and then a lot of work in language groups for reviewing the Ratio Formationis. Leaders were two General Councillors, namely Fr. Bruno Facciotti and Fr. Abel Maglines.
- 10 May** The General Superior started his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Most Holy Redeemer, in the country of Tanzania from 10 to 21 May 2017; his Assistant was Fr. Charles Mittempergher.
- 22 Jul** The General Superior took the second part of his Canonical Visitation to the Province of Most Holy Redeemer, in the countries of South Africa and Botswana, from 22 July to 9 August 2017; his Assistant was Fr. Daniel Giacomelli.

⁶⁴⁷ Fr. John Moses Mafui. Born 12 November 1971; prof. 23 January 2003; ordin. 30 June 2007.

⁶⁴⁸ Fr. Geoffrey Constantine Mkumbata. Born 2 April 1976; prof. 23 January 2006; ordin. 8 December 2010.

⁶⁴⁹ Fr. Jacob Banda. Born 6 May 1980; prof. 23 January 2007; ordin. 3 December 2011. He left in 2018.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2018

- Sep** Fr. Maurizio Baldessari and Fr. Bruno Facciotti went to Ivory Coast for a Canonical Visitation from mid September to 2 October 2017.
- 9 Dec** Malawi. A new community was established in Malawi, by the Province of Most Holy Redeemer, at Matawale, Diocese of Zomba, serving Holy Trinity Parish. First confreres were: Fr. Moses Mafui and Fr. Samuel Kasawala.

2018

- 1 Feb** The 37th *General Chapter* was held in Rome, between 1 and 15 February 2018, at the house of the Sisters of the Child Mary. On 15 February, **Fr. Rubens Sodr  Miranda⁶⁵⁰ was elected as Superior General.**
- 10 Feb** While the General Chapter was open, the Capitular Confreres went to a special Audience with Pope Francis, in the Apostolic Palace, Consistory's Hall. The out-going Superior General addressed the Pope first, then Pope Francis made his reply, and, dropping the prepared text, spoke freely to the assembly. He underlined especially: fraternity and community life; the "name" of the Congregation, as 'wounds of Mercy'; and the Holy Family, Mary and Joseph.⁶⁵¹
- Jun** USA. In June 2018, the Municipal Council of Waltham decided, for building a High School with its College, to expropriate the big Stigmatine property where there were the Provincial Curia, the Espousal Centre and the house for the elderly. The Stigmatines tried to contest this decision.
- 7 Oct** The Council of Superiors met at the General Curia's, S. Agatha, in Rome, from 7 to 13 October 2018.
- 28 Nov** Thailand. A new community was started in Thailand, Province of Mary Morning Star, at Muang, Chiang Rai, in the Diocese of Chiang Rai, for the care of The Nativity of Our Lady Cathedral, with the approval of the General Council dated 28 November

⁶⁵⁰ Fr. Rubens Sodr  Miranda. Born 2 October 1962; prof. 23 January 1984; ordin. 25 July 1987; Provincial of St. Joseph (1994-1997), again (2002-2009) and again (2015-2018); Superior General as from 2018.

⁶⁵¹ Texts of these speeches [only in Italian] are found on IL BERTONIANO, 2018, p. 9ff.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2019

2018. Fr. Philip Pornchai⁶⁵² and Fr. Peter Bancha⁶⁵³ were sent there as pioneers as soon as 2016, while celebrating 200 years of the Congregation. The purpose of this Community was to take care of pastoral activities and offer missionary work for different ethnic groups with their own languages and cultures, for their dignity and well-being.

- 15 Dec** On this date, the Superior General, Fr. Rubens Sodré Miranda, sent a letter to all confreres setting the proposed Canonical visitations for the next six years. 1. Philippines, Delegation of Santo Niño (April 2019). 2. India (April 2019). 3. Indonesia (April 2019). 4. Italy, Province of Holy Mary of Hope (May 2019). 5. Brazil, Province of St. Joseph (November/December 2019). 6. Chile, Delegation of Cristo del Perdón (October 2020). 7. Paraguay (October 2020). 8. Brazil, Province of Holy Cross (October /November/December 2020). 9. Province of Most Holy Redeemer (September 2021). 10. Georgia (June 2021). 11. London (June 2021). 12. Ivory Coast, Delegation of Holy Family (October 2021). 13. Italy, Province of Sc. Heart (November 2021). 14. Thailand, Province of Mary Morning Star (December 2021). 15. USA, Province of of Holy Spouses (to be defined).

2019

- 6 Jan** Lesotho. A new community of the Province of Most Holy Redeemer was established in Lesotho, at Bethel, Qhuting, diocese of Mohali's Hoek, serving the parish of Sc. Heart. First confreres were Fr. Clement Senekane⁶⁵⁴ and Fr. Michael Motlhamme⁶⁵⁵.
- 15 Jan** The youth linked to the Stigmatines, before moving to Panama for the WYD (World Youth Day), met in Brazil, hosted by the Province of St. Joseph, from 15 to 21 January 2019.

⁶⁵² Fr. Philip Pornchai Techapitaktham. Born 10 March 1961; prof. 25 April 1984; ordin. 13 October 1990.

⁶⁵³ Fr. Peter Bancha Aphichartworakun. Born 16 January 1969; prof. 25 April 1993; ordin. 23 October 1998.

⁶⁵⁴ Fr. Clement Kokoana Senekane. Born 4 February 1964; prof. 23 January 1986; ordin. 26 September 1992.

⁶⁵⁵ Fr. Michael Solomon Motlhaba Motlhamme. Born 15 March 1981; prof. 23 January 2009; ordin. 26 October 2013.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2020

- 19 June** Italy. On the official Italian Government Gazette it was published that the Italian President, Sergio Mattarella, enrolled our Bishop confrere, Giuseppe Pasotto, operating in Georgia, as Official of the Order of Italian Solidarity.
- 30 Jun** USA. After a quite long litigation with the City of Waltham, the City took over the Stigmatine property, by 'imminent domain', for a construction of a high school there, with the pretext that it was not used. The Stigmatines left the property on 30 June 2019. The provincial Curia moved to a rented house in Dover, MA.
- 26 Feb** Ivory Coast. A new Community was started in Ivory Coast, Province of Sc. Heart, Delegation of Holy Family, at Aboudé, which was previously served from Offa. The approval of the General Council was dated 26 February 2019.
- 25 Jun** Some professed confreres from Ivory Coast and from Brazil⁶⁵⁶ went to the community of the Stimate, in Verona, for their theological studies. They spent some time for studying Italian language and in October they began their courses.
- 21 Oct** Council of Superiors was held in Samphran, Thailand, 21-26 October 2019, in the Pastoral Centre of Bangkok Archdiocese. The decision was taken that the Communities of the Province of Holy Spouses, North America, should be directly under the General Council (no more called 'Province'). And also that the Communities of the Province of Holy Mary of Hope, would return within the Province of Sacred Heart on 1 January 2021; Philippines will be under the Province of Sacred Heart, while India and Indonesia will be under the Province of Mary Morning Star.

2020

- 1 Jan** Both communities of India and Indonesia passed under the Province of Mary Morning Star.

⁶⁵⁶ The young confreres went to Verona on 25 June 2019. Formator was Fr. Thiago Cordeiro De Moura (Born 27 June 1985; prof. 23 January 2011; ordin. 20 February 2016). The students were: from Brazil, Adriano Lopes da Cruz and Valdinei Alves da Silva (both from the Province of Holy Cross), Jonathan Borges Cunha (Province of St Joseph. He had to return to Brazil in October because of his father's illness); then, from Ivory Coast, N'Goran Abaukan Bathy and Ehui Adjei Jean William Kemmler.

HISTORICAL NOTES 2020

- 17 Feb** A gathering started in Rome for Stigmatine Formators from all over the world. They attended a course organized by the Pontifical Salesian University for Religious Formators and Vocational Animators, February to May 2020. They resided at St. Agatha, in the General House. After about a month of sessions, because of the pandemic eruption of the so called COVID-19, the formal course had to continue on-line. The whole experience was closed with the participation to the Solemnity of St Gaspar Bertoni on 12th June, in Verona. The Formators were: Fr. Bruno Henrique Silva Cunha⁶⁵⁷, Brazil, Province of St. Joseph; Deac. Ericksson Joao Abaroa Bravo⁶⁵⁸, Chile, Province of Holy Cross; Fr. Frank Paul Phiri, Zambia, Province of Most Holy Redeemer; Fr. Jose Edward Kizhakkekara⁶⁵⁹, India, Province of Mary Morning Star; Fr. José Raad Martínez⁶⁶⁰, Chile, Province of Holy Cross (Delegation of Cristo del Perdón); Fr. Justice Kouadio Kouakou⁶⁶¹, Ivory Coast, Province of Sc. Heart (Delegation of Holy Family); Fr. MacLloyd Gray Mdzinga⁶⁶², Malawi, Province of Most Holy Redeemer; Fr. Valmir Vieira Cardoso⁶⁶³, Brazil, Province of Holy Cross.
- 27 Oct** The Church has approved the Heroic Virtues of Bro. Roberto Giovanni on 27 October 2020, and now is revered as *Venerable*.

⁶⁵⁷ Fr. Bruno Henrique Silva Cunha. Born 7 June 1989; prof. 23 January 2011; ordin. 12 September 2015.

⁶⁵⁸ Deac. Ericksson Joao Bravo Abaroa. Born 1 May 1987; prof. 23 January 2014.

⁶⁵⁹ Fr. Edward James Kizhakkekara. Born 18 May 1989; prof. 31 May 2012; ordin. 8 October 2016.

⁶⁶⁰ Fr. José Hugo Martinez Raad. Born 4 June 1971; prof. 23 January 1995; ordin. 7 November 1998.

⁶⁶¹ Fr. Kouadio Justice Kouakou. Born 8 March 1982; prof. 8 September 2014; ordin. 13 July 2019.

⁶⁶² Fr. Mac Lloyd Grey Mdzinga. Born 29 November 1978; prof. 23 January 2007; ordin. 3 December 2011.

⁶⁶³ Fr. Valmir Vieira Cardoso. Born 15 January 1977; prof. 23 January 2005; ordin. 23 August 2009.

index 1 - CONFRERES quoted in the text

(On the quoted date, one can find relevant information)

Abram Luigi: 26 Apr 1926
 Adami Enrico: 26 Dec 1907
 Airaghi Egidio: 30 Sep 1952
 Amaral Custódio José do: 1 Jan 1995
 Amélio Antônio: Jan 1957
 Anselmi Giuseppe: 27 May 1937
 Antonelli Louis: 8 Sep 1961
 Antonioli Joseph: 1888
 Armour Charles: 28 May 1946
 Avi Giovanni: 26 Apr 1926
 Baeza Juan Germain Arquez: 2005 (footnote)
 Baldessari Maurizio: 2 Feb 2013
 Baldo Adriano: 6 Oct 2003
 Balestrazzi Alfred: 26 Jul 1906
 Banca Peter: 28 Nov 2018
 Banda Jacob: 17 Jan 2017
 Bandoria John Baptist: 18 Mar 1846
 Baretella Emilio: 21 Dec 1895
 Bassi Mark: 27 May 1828
 Battisti Louis: 21 Feb 1880
 Battisti Vittorio: 14 Oct 1951
 Belli Aldo: Jul 1934
 Beltrami Peter: 3 Sep 1875
 Beltramini Quinto: 5 Mar 1945
 Benaglia Cesare: 12 Mar 1892
 Benaglia Luigi: 8 Nov 1929
 Benciolini Francis: 8 May 1806
 Benedetti Luigi: 1912
 Bernardi Emilio: 26 Oct 1885
 Bertapelle Joseph: 20 Dec 1884
 Bertoni Gaspar: 9 Oct 1777
 Bertoni Romolo: Dec 1972

HISTORICAL NOTES

Biadego Louis: 23 Jan 1808
Bianconi Pedro: 1 Jan 1936
Bissoli Charles: 16 Mar 1856
Blasutig Marco: 30 Sep 1952
Bokaba Lino: 5 Jan 2012
Bonetti Carlo: 14 Jun 1953
Bonfanti Cesare: 11 Jul 1899
Bongiovanni John Baptist: 29 Jun 1824
Bonomi Giuseppe: 25 Mar 1990
Bortignon Joachim: 14 Sep 1936
Bragantini Gabriele: 10 Sep 1994
Bragato Luigi: 12 Dec 1790
Bravo Ericksson Joao Abaroa: 17 Feb 2020
Bregantini Giancarlo: Mar 1991
Brochini Antônio Fernando, 3 Mar 2002
Brugnoli Cajetan: 25 Mar 1790
Brunelli Albino: 15 May 1942
Boonyai Andrew: 1995
Caimi Angelo: 30 Jul 1925
Cainer Modesto: 19 Nov 1798
Camargo Leopoldo: 19 Oct 1959
Campagner Felisberto: 1966
Campedelli Giovanni: 29 May 1847
Campi Pietro: 14 Oct 1937
Cappellina Giuseppe: 11 Jan 1946
Carcereri Renato: Dec 2006
Caresia Amadio: 13 Jan 1868
Carnovali Giovanni Battista: Oct 1946
Carnovali Primo: 30 Sep 1952
Carrara Bellino: 6 Jan 1865
Cartolari Francis: 4 Nov 1794
Casagrande Augusto: 23 Jan 1944
Casella Angelo: 13 Jul 1804
Casellato Osvaldo: Jun 1936
Cassini Albino: 14 Jun 1953
Castellani Edward: Aug 1897
Castellani John: 22 Sep 1894

Caucigh Anthony: 7 Jul 1850
Cavallo Pasquale: 1987
Cengiarotti Nereo: 23 Oct 1964
Ceresatto John: 30 Sep 1952
Chemello Joseph: 20 Dec 1884
Chesani Joseph: 22 Sep 1894
Chiesa Bruno: 7 May 1934
Chinnacode Peter: 1995
Clementi Francesco Gregorio: 12 Mar 1821
Consolaro Giovanni: 24 Mar 1935
Conte Anthony: 11 Apr 1883
Contino William: 3 Mar 1945
Controne Silvano: 12 Sep 1982
Corigliano Antonio: 29 Apr 1982
Correr Lourenço: 31 Jan 1950
Costa (Kuster) Joseph: 8 Aug 1922
Cruz Adriano Lopes da: 25 Jun 2019 (footnote)
Cunha Bruno Henrique Silva: 17 Feb 2020
Cunha Jonathan Borges: 25 Jun 2019 (footnote)
Curto Michele: Dec 2006
D'Annucci Michael: 1963
Da Prato Richard: 26 Nov 1854
da Silva Devanir: 20 Mar 1980
Dal Sasso Attilio: 7 Jan 1892
Dal Zoppo Luciano: 31 Jan 1950
Dall'Orto Paulo Campo: 31 Jan 1950
Dalla Porta Anthony: 1899
Dalle Vedove Nello: 8 Aug 1988
Dalmaso Giulio: Oct 1946
Daly Paul Vincent: 23 Jan 1944
Darcie Valdemar: 17 Mar 1957
De Carli Olinto: 28 May 1946
Deesri Dominic Wasit: 7 Dec 2002
De Ferrari Carlo: 12 Jan 1936
De Marchi Alessio: Jul 1944
De Marchi Lino: Sep 1966
De Paoli Giampietro: 29 Apr 1982

HISTORICAL NOTES

de Romedis Dario: 20 Feb 1954
de Souza Antonio: 13 Feb 1974
De Souza Primo José: 25 Jan 2008
De Vai Joseph: 4 Nov 1862
Deeker Geoffrey: 8 Dec 1987
Della Badia Leonard: 14 Sep 1936
Di Tullio Alexander: 1963
Dolzani Cesare: 20 Feb 1945
Dominici Ferdinando: 15 May 1941
dos Santos Antônio Luiz Medeiros: 28 Jun 2005
do Valle Gerardo: 23 Jul 1982
Dusi Luigi: 11 Jan 1946
Ecker George: 28 Sep 1959
Egan Charles: 23 Nov 1961
Fabro Cornelio: 30 Oct 1937
Facciotti Bruno: 1 Nov 1975
Fadanelli Enrico: 12 Oct 1909
Faè Sergio: 11 Jan 1946
Falzi Louis: 17 Sep 1855
Fantozzi Louis: 17 Feb 1897
Farinati Matthew: 1 Sep 1779
Fedelini Charles: 11 Jun 1810
Fellin Joseph: 8 Sep 1961
Fernandes Luiz Maria: 1 Jan 1936
Ferrari Louis (Bro.): 17 Jun 1812
Ferrari Louis (St.): 5 Sep 1820
Finetto Giuseppe: 1 Jan 1936
Fini Gilbert: 5 May 1958
Fioramonte Augusto: 21 Dec 1904
Fiorio Joseph: 1899
Flood Joseph: 1 Apr 1954
Fontana Alberto: 22 Oct 1967
Fontana Louis: 8 Aug 1922
Fontana Severino: 13 Sep 1951
Formenti Flavio: Oct 1964
Friedmann Goffredo: 12 Oct 1909
Furlani Marino: 27 Nov 1954

Furlanis Alziro: 1 Oct 1972
Gabos Henry: 1 Jan 1907
Gabos Pio: 21 Dec 1895
Galliani Lino: Sep 1977
Gardumi Vittorio: 7 Apr 1942
Gasperotti Louis: 5 Sep 1895
Gaudenzi Giacomo: May 1945
Gerussi Gianfranco: 26 Aug 1946
Giacomelli Daniel: 8 Jul 1997
Giacopuzzi Daniele: 20 Mar 1980
Giardinieri Ugo: Feb 1928
Golden John: 23 Jan 1944
Gradinati Paul: 15 Jan 1855
Gramego Michaelangelo: 28 Sep 1783
Graziani Angelo: 4 Nov 1885
Grigolli Alessandro: 21 Dec 1904
Guerra Livio: 5 Mar 1992
Guglielmini Alphonse: 30 Dec 1889
Guglielmoni Giuseppe: 3 Nov 1955
Gurisatti Pius: 6 Jan 1865
Gurisatti Victor: 20 Feb 1902
Guzzola Angelo: 8 Aug 1922
Henchey Joseph: 2 Mar 1976
Inama Lino: 30 Sep 1952
Jantarungsi Mark Weerasak: 29 Sep 1997
Job Vigilio: 1915
Junior Cesar Luzio: 20 Feb 1954
Kalyosi David: 29 Jun 2015
Kalonga Harry: Sep 2006
Kasawala Samuel: 5 Jan 2012
Kemmler Ehui Adjei Jean William: 25 Jun 2019 (footnote)
Kizhakkekara Jose Edward: 17 Feb 2020
Kouakou Justice Kouadio: 17 Feb 2020
Kuster (Costa) Joseph: 8 Aug 1922
Lambert Joseph: 2 Jan 1975
Lenaro M.: 6 Jan 1865
Lenotti John Baptist: 5 Sep 1817

HISTORICAL NOTES

Leonoris Francesco: 1 Jul 1952
Leotilo Rocco: 1 Apr 1954
Leseteli Benedict: Sep 2006
Lima Tadeu: 26 Sep 2014
Limpiado Edwin: 28 Jun 2005
Lona Erminio: 1902
Lona John: 1899
Longo Fausto: 11 Jan 1946
Lovito Donato: 11 Aug 1993
Ludeshier (Ludessi) William: 8 Aug 1922
Madussi Michele: 15 May 1941
Mafui Moses: 17 Jan 2017
Magagna Alexis: 8 Sep 1885
Maglines Abel: 26 Sep 2014
Makeketa Brian Ramongalo: 29 Sep 1997
Mantovani Fortunato: 26 Apr 1926
Mantovani Luigi: 25 Sep 1963
Mantovani Pietro: 11 Nov 1957
Marani John Mary: 5 May 1790
Marchesini John B.: 2 Apr 1856
Marchesini Joseph: 2 Jan 1956
Marchesini Pietro: Oct 1946
Marchi Gerardo: Sep 1977
Marcotti Angelo: 10 Jan 1962
Mariani Alberto: 29 Apr 1982
Marini James: 4 Nov 1862
Marot Vicente Ruy: 27 Nov 1979
Martina Tarcisio: 12 Oct 1909
Martinelli Angelo: 3 Aug 1914
Martínez José Raad: 17 Feb 2020
Martinis Denis (Dionigio): 28 May 1946
Mascanzoni Assuero: 1989
Mashaka Anthony: 29 Jun 2015
Masero Carlos (see Mazzero Carlo)
Matlala Nel: 5 Jan 2012
Mazzero Carlo: Aug 1938
Mdzinga MacLloyd Gray: 17 Feb 2020

Mecucci Aldo: Oct 1946
Meschi Andrea: 1 Feb 2000
Mignolli Natalino: Sep 1979
Milanese Ferruccio: 15 May 1941
Miori Antonio: 14 Jun 1953
Miori Beniamino: 15 May 1942
Miranda Rubens Sodré: 1 Feb 2018
Missoni Osvaldo: 28 May 1946
Mittempergher Charles: Jan 1965
Mkumbata Geoffrey: 17 Jan 2017
Modena Joseph: 9 Nov 1960
Montagnoli Mauro: 20 Dec 1995
Montolli Claudio: 6 Oct 2003
Morando Louis: 21 Jun 1846
Moresco Emilio: Jul 1934
Mosconi Augusto: 14 Jun 1953
Motlhamme Michael: 6 Jan 2019
Moura José Alberto: 8 Jan 1982
Moura Thiago Cordeiro De: 25 Jun 2019 (footnote)
Mulenga Harrison: 29 Jun 2015
Murray Pious: 18 Oct 2000
Mutterle Angelo: 14 Jan 1977
Mutterle Gaetano: 26 Aug 1946
Mwimbe Matthew: 19 Feb 2005
Nardelli C.: 6 Jan 1865
Nardon Joseph: 21 Dec 1895
Nardon Vittorio: 1941
Negro Horace: 16 Jun 1865
Nemes José Luiz: 29 Apr 1982
N'Goran Abaukan Bathy: 25 Jun 2019 (footnote)
Nicolini Joseph: 5 Mar 1879
Nicora Anthony: 4 Nov 1862
Nones Modesto: 2 Mar 1976
Ongaro Roberto: 2003
Orler Cesare: 1989
Oss Bals Anthony: 24 Feb 1877
Oss Balss Stephen: 30 Dec 1868

HISTORICAL NOTES

Panato Danilo: 10 Oct 1984
Pancheri Alberto: 13 May 1927
Pantano Marcellino: 8 Aug 1988
Papa Angelo: 28 Jan 1835
Paschoal Hélio: 23 Mar 1967
Pasotto Giuseppe: 10 Sep 1994
Pasquali Attilio: 23 Oct 1964
Pederzolli Carlo: Oct 1946 (footnote)
Pedot Fortunato: Feb 1908
Pedrotti Francesco: 1903
Pelanda Giovanbattista: 5 Oct 1915
Perazzani Bartholomew: 21 Jun 1863
Perenzoni Giovanni Battista: 22 Dec 1927
Perin Mario: Jul 1976
Pértile José Odail: 12 Jun 2014
Phiri Frank Paul: 29 Jun 2015
Piacentini Simone: 2003
Piccirillo Anthony: 12 Jun 2012
Piccoli Octavian: 1 Sep 1877
Piemonte Peter: 1910
Pirulhwong Valentino Wasan: 18 Oct 2000
Pisetta Francesco: 11 Jan 1946
Pivato Erminio: Aug 1897
Pizzighella Gaetano: 23 Dec 1876
Pizzini Lawrence: 21 Jun 1863
Plienbumrung Winai: Dec 2006
Pornchai Philip: 28 Nov 2018
Pozzani Angelo: Aug 1938
Pozzi Mario: 15 May 1942
Procino Fulvio: 2003
Pura Jimado: 1 May 2013
Raimondi Vincent: 16 Sep 1804
Rakeketsi Bernard: Apr 2008
Ramus Camillus: 1907
Rathari Richard: 11 Oct 2009
Reali Joseph: 10 Dec 1828
Recchia Emilo: Sep 1943

Rezende Alberto Guimarães: 1 Oct 1974
Righetti Gino: May 1945
Rigon Mario: May 1945
Rigoni John: 1 Feb 1857
Rosa Joseph: 1913
Rosa Stephen: Dec 1884
Rossi Domenico: 1903
Rungruangkanokkul John Pipat: Dec 2006
Russo Carmen: 21 Mar 1948
Ruzzanenti Anthony: 26 Nov 1854
Salocher Charles: 5 Jan 1832
Salvi Louis: 1 Aug 1859
Santi Vittorino: 10 Jan 1962
Scalet Michele: May 1945
Schiavo Giuseppe: 27 Apr 1996
Scotton Peter: 30 Dec 1889
Scussolino Primo: Jun 1936
Sella Albino: Aug 1897
Sella Leo: 1902
Sembianti Joseph: 4 Nov 1862
Senaldi Steven: Dec 2006
Senekane Clement: 6 Jan 2019
Seneme João Carlos: 12 Mar 2001
Shea James: 28 Sep 1959
Sieff Giulio: 26 Apr 1926
Signorini Novello: Sep 1977
Silva Valdinei Alves da: 25 Jun 2019 (footnote)
Simeoni Angelo: Nov 1898
Sinesi Charles: 10 Oct 1984
Sogaro Francis: 4 Nov 1862
Solari Francis: 9 Jun 1829
Solari Paolo Gaetano: 8 Nov 1834
Sozzi Paul: 1902
Spagnolo Louis: 6 May 1898
Srivorakul Joseph Wattanasak: 3 May 2014
Staut Paulo Roberto: 12 Mar 2001
Stefanini Mario: 13 Sep 1951

HISTORICAL NOTES

Sterza Andrew: 4 Nov 1862
Stevanoni Francis: 16 Oct 1812
Stofella Egidio: 1888
Stofella Giuseppe: 20 Mar 1905
Tabarelli Richard: 6 Jan 1865
Tais Mario: 26 Aug 1937
Taller Giulio: 10 Jan 1962
Tambalo Alberto: Sep 1943
Tomasi John Baptist: 30 Jun 1891
Tomasi Louis: 17 Feb 1876
Tomasi Silvio: Oct 1964
Tomasi Valerio: 8 Nov 1929
Tondin Giuseppe: 1903
Toniolli Anthony: 1913
Torresendi Fausto: 1971 (footnote)
Tortella Luigi: 20 Mar 1980
Tribos Ferruccio: Oct 1946 (footnote)
Turrini Vittorino: 25 Sep 1963
Valenti Carlo: 1920
Vallarsa Ottavio: 11 Jan 1946
Valmir Vieira Cardoso: 17 Feb 2020
Valzacchi Domenico: 10 Nov 1910
Varenna Luigi: 8 Aug 1922
Venturini Innocent: 25 Jul 1803
Vettori Federico: 17 Mar 1957
Vettori Modesto: 14 Oct 1937
Vicentini Armando: Oct 1946
Vicentini Dominic: 6 Jan 1865
Vicentini T.: 6 Jan 1865
Vidalli Bonaventura: 1 Feb 1877
Viero Adolfo: May 1945
Vignandel Antonio: 1 Lug 1952
Vignandel Giuseppe: 26 Aug 1946
Vignola Peter: 20 Jan 1859
Vignola Vincent: 28 Nov 1856
Vincio Lino: Jan 1965
Vitti Moacyr: 13 Jan 1988

Vivanco Juan Carlos Pacheco: 2005 (footnote)
Vivari Melchiade: 27 Apr 1850
Wegher Dario: Feb 1928
Wegher Pio: Oct 1946
White, Robert: 3 Apr 1984
Woodarek Richard: 28 Sep 1959
Worrapornntassana Peter Pakpoom: 20 Sep 1996
Zadra Attilio: 13 May 1927
Zadra Cirillo: 1920
Zadra James: 6 Jan 1865
Zadra Remigio: 1915
Zambiasi Julius: 20 Dec 1884
Zambiasi Riccardo: 1901
Zamburlini Oscar: 22 Oct 1967
Zampieri Giovanni: 14 Oct 1986
Zanchetta Luiz Gonzaga: 20 Mar 1980
Zandonai Joseph: 9 Jun 1874
Zanella Silvano: 12 Sep 1982
Zanetti Ferruccio: 21 Dec 1904
Zanetti Michaelangel: 13 Aug 1893
Zanghellini Giorgio: 1900
Zanini Julius: 23 Dec 1876
Zanini Paul: 1966
Zanoli Paul: 11 Jul 1793
Zanon Vittorio Giuseppe: 1 Jul 1992
Zanotelli Emmanuele: 1900
Zanotti Charles: 20 Oct 1893
Zappini Pedro: 20 Mar 1980
Zara Charles: 4 Nov 1862
Zaup John Baptist: 29 Jul 1883
Zocca Louis: 2 Jun 1831
Zucchetto Mario: 9 Mar 1946
Zuliani Joseph: 20 Apr 1922

HISTORICAL NOTES

index 2 - COMMUNITIES & STIGMATINE PLACES

(With date of the first appearance or most relevant entry)

(a question mark near a date means that the information is not confirmed)

A. ACTIVE COMMUNITES (in bracket the year of beginning)

Botswana: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Gaborone St. Bernadette's Parish (1993).
(cf. 25 Jan 1993)

Botswana: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Notwane (Gaborone) Stigmatine Novitiate
(1995). (cf. 14 Dec 1994)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Barretos (1950). (cf. 31 Jan 1950)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Campinas (1926). (cf. 26 Apr 1926)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Campinas, São Benedito (1966).
(cf. 1966)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Campinas Chácara do Vovô (1962). (cf. 1962)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Campinas Santa Edwiges (1965). (cf. 6 Apr 1965)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Corumbataí Fazenda Santana (1926).
(cf. 23 Dec 1926)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Curitiba (1954). (cf. 29 Apr 1954)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Curitiba O.L. Lourdes (1954). (cf. 29 Apr 1954)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Guarapuava (1990). (cf. 3 Mar 1990)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Itararé (1976). (cf. 28 Feb 1976)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Ituaçu (1989). (cf. 31 Dec 1989)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Juazeiro, BA (2013). (cf. 18 Oct 2012)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Livramento Bom Jesus do Taquari (2006).
(cf. Mar 2006)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Marília (1946). (cf. 9 Mar 1946)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Piracicaba (2015). (cf. 2015)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Praia Grande (1966). (cf. 24 Dec 1966)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Ribeirão Preto Seminary (1938). (cf. 2 Mar 1938)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Ribeirão Preto O.L. Fatima (1964). (cf. 1992)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Rio Claro (1915). (cf. 5 Oct 1915)

Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Rio Claro Cúria Provincial (2004).
(not recorded in this book)

HISTORICAL NOTES

- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Salvador (2008). (cf. 2008)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Santo Antonio do Sudoeste (1981). (cf. 29 Mar 1981)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - São Caetano do Sul Sagrada Família (1923). (cf. 22 Dec 1923)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - São Caetano do Sul Teologia (1998). (cf. 19 Aug 1998)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - São Paulo Alto da Mooca (1941). (cf. 15 Jan 1941)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Vitória da Conquista (1997). (cf. 1 Apr 1977)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Belo Horizonte Casa de Formação São Gaspar Bertoni (1990). (cf. 1990)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Belo Horizonte Paróquia São Gaspar Bertoni (1990). (cf. 1990)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Brasília Paróquia Santa Cruz (1957). (cf. 22 Jul 1957)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Goiânia Cúria Provincial (1967). (cf. 1967)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Goiânia Nossa Senhora Aparecida (2017). (cf. 1967)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Goiânia Sagrados Estigmas e Santo Expedito (1984). (cf. 1967)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Goiânia Seminário São José (1974). (cf. 1967)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Goiatuba Santíssima Trindade (2016). (cf. 2016)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Luziânia Santuário Santa Luzia (1957). (cf. 1957)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Morrinhos Ginásio Senador Hermenegildo de Moraes (1936). (cf. Jun 1936)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Morrinhos Paróquia Nossa Sra. do Carmo (1936). (cf. Jun 1936)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Palmas Santuário Nossa Sra. de Fátima (1996). (cf. 1996)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Panamá (2016). (cf. 2016)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Rio de Janeiro (1957). (cf. Jan 1957)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Uberaba Nossa Senhora Abadia (1935). (cf. 24 Mar 1935)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Várzea Grande Paróquia Santa Edwiges (2009). (cf. 2009)
- Chile: *Prov. Holy Cross* - El Belloto (1990). (cf. 25 Mar 1990)
- Chile: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Hijuelas (1998). (cf. 4 Jan 1998)
- Chile: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Lolol (1994). (cf. 13 Mar 1994)
- Chile: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Santiago Divino Redentor (1980). (cf. 20 Mar 1980)

HISTORICAL NOTES

Chile: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Santiago Filosofia (1984). (cf. 1984)

Chile: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Santiago Teologia (1997). (cf. 1997)

England: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - London (1979). (cf. Sep 1979)

Georgia: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Kutaisi (1994). (cf. 10 Sep 1994)

India - Kerala: *Prov. Morning Star* - Aluva Bertoni Seminary (2002).
(cf. 2002)

Indonesia: *Prov. Morning Star* - Maumere (2016). (cf. 2016)

Italy: *Gen. Curia* - Roma St. Agatha (1926). (cf. 19 Nov 1926)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Battipaglia (Salerno) Curia Provinciale (1989). (cf. 1989)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Battipaglia (Salerno) Opera Bertoni (1967).
(cf. 1967)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Battipaglia (Salerno) Parr. Santa Maria della
Speranza (1941). (cf. 10 Aug 1941)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Bellizzi (Salerno) (1942). (cf. 15 May 1942)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Catania St. Mark (1976). (cf. 13 Nov 1960)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Palombaio (Bari) (2001). (cf. 2003)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Poggiomarino (Napoli) (1951).
(cf. 14 Oct 1951)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Roma Holy Cross (1914). (cf. 7 Jul 1914)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Boscohiesanuova (Verona) (1948). (cf. 1 Jul 1949)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Caorle (Venezia) (1952). (cf. 1 Jul 1952)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Gemona del Friuli (Udine) (1901). (cf. 13 Jun 1899)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Malosco (Trent) (1911). (cf. 1911)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Milan Holy Cross, via Goldoni (1905). (cf. 17 Mar 1905)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Parma Sc. Stigmata (1964). (cf. 23 Oct 1964)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Pontecentesimo⁶⁶⁴ (Foligno, Perugia) (2003).
(cf. 6 Oct 2003)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Roma Holy Trinity (1962). (cf. 10 Jan 1962)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Sezano di Quinto (Verona) (1838). (cf. 7 Aug 1838)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Trent (1874). (cf. 26 Nov 1874)

⁶⁶⁴ The community began in Vescia in 2003 and then continued at Pontecentisimo from 2008.

HISTORICAL NOTES

- Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Udine (1898). (cf. Nov 1898)
- Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Verona - Curia Provinciale (1942). (cf. 7 Apr 1942)
- Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Verona - San Leonardo (1954). (cf. 1 Jul 1953)
- Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Verona - Stimmate (04/11/1816). (cf. 11 Oct 1813)
- Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Verona - Via Mameli (1953). (cf. 1953)
- Ivory Coast: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Abidjan - Abobo Pk18 (2010). (cf. 2010)
- Ivory Coast: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Abidjan - Anonkoua-Kouté (1983). (cf. 1983)
- Ivory Coast: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Aboisso (1967). (cf. 22 Oct 1967)
- Ivory Coast: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Aboudé (2019). (cf. 26 Feb 2019)
- Ivory Coast: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Ayamé (1968). (cf. 1968)
- Ivory Coast: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Ayamé College Père Guillaume (2016).
(cf. 2016)
- Ivory Coast: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Offa (Agboville) (2010). (cf. 2010)
- Lesotho: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Mohale's Hoek (2019). (cf. 6 Jan 2019)
- Malawi: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Matawale (Zomba) (2017). (cf. 9 Dec 2017)
- Paraguay: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Villeta N. S. del Rosario (1995).
[NB. Under St. Joseph 2000] - (cf. 9 Jan 1995)
- Philippines: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Cagayan de Oro City (1997).
(cf. 7 May 1997)
- Philippines: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Carmona-Cavite St. Gaspar Bertoni
Seminary (1990). (cf. 1990)
- Philippines: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Carmona Bertoni Evangelization Centre
(2009). (cf. 1990)
- Philippines: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Manila Shrine of the Five Wounds (1984).
(cf. 10 Oct 1984)
- Philippines: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Prosperidad (2010). (cf. 2010)
- South Africa: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Bapong (2012). (cf. 5 Jan 2012)
- South Africa: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Brits (2007). (cf. 2007)
- South Africa: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Mmakau (1960). (cf. 9 Nov 1960)
- South Africa: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Pretoria North (1969). (cf. 1969)
- South Africa: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Pretoria North Bertoni Centre (1988). (cf.
1988)
- South Africa: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Pretoria North Provincial Office (2018).
(not recorded in this book)

HISTORICAL NOTES

- South Africa: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Wildwoods (1987). (cf. 1987)
South Africa: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Winterveldt (2017). (cf. 17 Jan 2017)
- Tanzania: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Dar es Salaam (2007). (cf. 2007)
Tanzania: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Morogoro (1997). (cf. 8 Jul 1997)
Tanzania: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Msolwa (1989). (cf. 1989)
- Thailand: *Prov. Morning Star* - Buayai (1997). (cf. 1997)
Thailand: *Prov. Morning Star* - Chiang Rai (2018). (cf. 28 Nov 2018)
Thailand: *Prov. Morning Star* - Phuket (1953). (cf. 30 Sep 1952)
Thailand: *Prov. Morning Star* - Ranong (1961). (cf. 30 Sep 1952)
Thailand: *Prov. Morning Star* - Samphran (1976). (cf. 30 Sep 1952)
Thailand: *Prov. Morning Star* - Samphran Provincial Office (1980).
(cf. 11 Mar 1980)
Thailand: *Prov. Morning Star* - Trang (1962). (cf. 30 Sep 1952)
- USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Milford, MA (1913). (cf. Nov 1913)
USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Springfield, MA (1906). (cf. 13 Oct 1905)

B. TERMINATED COMMUNITES

(in bracket the year of beginning and ending)

- Austria: --- - Salé di Povo (Trent) (1872 - 1874). (cf. 17 Jun 1872)
Austria: --- - Villazzano, TN (1866 -1872). (cf. 14 Aug 1866)
- Botswana: *Prov. Holy Redeemer* - Gaborone Christ the King Cathedral (2009-
2020). (cf. 11 Oct 2009)
- Brazil: --- - Castro, PR (1921 - 1933). (cf. Feb 1921)
Brazil: --- - Formosa, GO (1938 - 1942). (cf. Aug 1938)
Brazil: --- - Ipameri, GO (1940 -1942). (cf. Dec 1940)
Brazil: --- - Limeira, SP (1914 - 1915). (cf. Jul 1914)
Brazil: --- - Sale Oliveira - Nupuranga, SP (1937 - 1942). (cf. 1937)
Brazil: --- - Tibagy, Pr (1911 - 1934). (cf. 6 Dec 1910)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Barra da Estiva (1968 - 1985). (cf. 3 Apr 1968)
Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Caconde - Tapiratiba SP (1941 - 1948). (cf. 1941)
Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Cafelandia, SP (1955 -1966). (cf. 1955)

HISTORICAL NOTES

- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Campinas Chácara do Capivari (1969 - 1975).
(cf. 28 May 1966)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Campinas Santa Cruz (1963-1980).
(cf. 16 Lug 1963)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Casa Branca (1936 - 1994). (cf. 1 Jan 1936)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Curitiba (Seminario) (1957-1989).
(cf. 20 Dec 1989)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Ilha Solteira (1968 - 1970). (cf. 1968)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Itobi (1936 - 1992). (cf. 1 Jan 1936)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Ituverava (1954 - 1989). (cf. 20 Feb 1954)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Livramento (Cathedral) (1967 - 2006).
(cf. 23 Mar 1967)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Palmeira, PR (1957-1981). (cf. 17 Mar 1957)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Parada Inglesa, SP (1942 -1949). (cf. 1942)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Paraguaçu Paulista, SP (1975 - 1982). (cf. 1975)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Porto Amazonas, PR (1957-1981).
(cf. 17 Mar 1957)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Santa Cruz das Palmeiras, SP (1941 - 1947). (cf. 1941)
- Brazil: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Santa Cruz do Rio Prado (1944-1999). (cf. 1944)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Goiânia Nossa Sra. das Graças (2007-2016). (cf. 1967)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Goiânia, GO St. Sebastian (1967-1990). (cf. 11 Apr 1990)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Ilhéus (2003 - 2014). (cf. 2003)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Ituiutaba (1935 - 2002). (cf. 18 Feb 1935)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Ituiutaba Nossa Senhora Abadia (1966 - 1972)
& (1985 - 2002). (cf. 18 Feb 1935)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Joaima (1984 - 1990). (cf. 12 Feb 1984)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Morrinhos Paróquia Cristo Redentor (2010-2016).
(cf. 22 Mar 2010)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Pirapora (2009-2015). (cf. 13 Mar 2009)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Tupaciguara (1953 - 1971). (cf. Sep 1953)
- Brazil: *Prov. St. Joseph* - Uberaba Interprovincial Novitiate (1990-2019).
(cf. 24 Mar 1935)
- Canada: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Sault Ste Marie, Ontario (1960 - 1976).
(cf. 1976)
- Canada: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - South Porcupine, Ontario
(1959 -1985). (cf. 27 Nov 1959)

HISTORICAL NOTES

Canada: *Prov. Holy Spouses* – Timmins, Ontario (1936 - 1988).

(cf. 10 Dec 1936)

Canada: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Vancouver (1936 - 1952).

(cf. 14 Sep 1936)

Chile: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Iquique (1981-1989). (cf. 25 Mar 1981)

Chile: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Iquique (2005-2008 + 2005-2017). (cf. 2005)

China: - Beijing (1947-1951). (cf. 25 Jun 1947)

China: - KaoSheChuang (1927 - 1939). (cf. 21 Apr 1927)

China: - LaiShui (1929 - 1947). (cf. 20 Sep 1937)

China: - LaiYuan. (1927-1939). (cf. 21 Apr 1927)

China: - LianKoChwang (1927 - 1947). (cf. 19 Mar 1927)

China: - San P'uò Pastoral Territory (1928 - 1938). (cf. Jan 1928)

China: - ShiShanNan (Shannon). (1927-1939). (cf. 21 Apr 1927)

China: - Yihsien (1930 -1947). (cf. 17 Oct 1930)

France: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Toulouse (1949 - 1951). (cf. Dec 1949)

Guam: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Guam M.I. (1948 - 1959). (cf. 13 Jun 1948)

Italy: --- - Affi - S. Andrea (Verona) (1932 - 1951). (cf. 1932)

Italy: --- - Bassano (Vicenza) (1877-1888). (cf. 1 Feb 1877)

Italy: --- - Belluno (1909 - 1915). (cf. 12 Oct 1909)

Italy: --- - Capodistria (1908 - 1920). (cf. Feb 1908)

Italy: --- - Civitavecchia (Rome) 1895-1896. (cf. Sep 1895)

Italy: --- - Fabriano (Ancona) (1902 -1903). (cf. Nov 1902)

Italy: --- - Genzano (Rome) (1929 -1937). (cf. 25 May 1929)

Italy: --- - Grottaferrata (Rome) c/o General Curia (1945 - 1958);

c/o Prov Sc. Heart (1960-1968). (cf. 24 Jul 1945)

Italy: --- - Lecco (1896 - 1897). (cf. Oct 1896)

Italy: --- - Milan via Cellini (1903-1907). (cf. Aug 1903)

Italy: --- - Ortonovo (1923 - 1930). (cf. 22 Jul 1923)

Italy: --- - Parma "Oltretorrente" (1876-1897). (cf. 2 Feb 1876)

Italy: --- - Pavia (1885 -1927). (cf. 4 Nov 1885)

Italy: --- - Piacenza (1903 -1914). (cf. 1 Jan 1903)

Italy: --- - Pistoia (1907 - 1920). (cf. Jan 1907)

Italy: --- - Reggio Emilia (1937 - 1942). (cf. 26 Aug 1937)

Italy: --- - Rome, San Nicola dei Prefetti (1891-1927). (cf. 23 Mar 1848)

Italy: --- - Rome, Santa Maria dei Miracoli (1892-1915). (cf. May 1892)

HISTORICAL NOTES

Italy: --- - S. Severino Marche (Macerata) (1937 - 1943). (cf. 14 Oct 1937)

Italy: --- - Vasto (Chieti) (1934 -1935). (cf. Jul 1934)

Italy: --- - Verona - Derelitti (1836 - 1912). (cf. 11 Oct 1813)
(cf. 27 Jul 1816)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Bari - Via Napoli (1978-2013).
(cf. 15 May 1979)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Belvedere (1942 - 1983). (cf. 15 May 1942)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Crotone (Catanzaro) (1975 - 2003).
(cf. 1975)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Mormanno (Cosenza) (1973 - 1976).
(cf. 17 Sept 1973)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Rocca Imperiale (Cosenza) (1976 -1984).
(cf. 1976)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Sapri (SA) (1981 - 2003). (cf. 1981)

Italy: *Prov. Holy Mary of Hope* - Villapiana Scalo (Cosenza) (1982-1994).
(cf. 1982)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Acqui Bagni (Alessandria) (May 1945 - 1946).
(cf. May 1945)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Cadellara (Verona) (1946 - 2012). (cf. 11 Jan 1946)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Catania - S. John Ev. (1960 - 1976). (cf. 13 Nov 1960)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Farinia di Pontecagnano (Salerno) (1942-1954).
(cf. 15 May 1942)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Ferrara (1977 - 1989). (cf. Sep 1977)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Galbiate (Como) (1945 - 1947). (cf. 14 Oct 1945)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Milan - Via Carnia (1954-1985). (cf. 27 Nov 1954)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Noto (Siracusa) (1955 - 1965). (cf. 3 Nov 1955)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Parma St. James (1897-1971). (cf. 22 Mar 1895)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Pavia (1949 - 2005). (cf. 22 May 1949)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Rieti - Antrodoco (1946-1948). (cf. 26 Aug 1946)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Rieti - Sta. Barbara (2000 - 2004) . (cf. 26 Aug 1946)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Rieti - Via Cintia (1946-1970). (cf. 26 Aug 1946)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Rieti - Via Terminillo (1970-2000). (cf. 26 Aug 1946)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Verona - Convento ss. Trinità (1857 - 1953). (cf. 2 Sep 1812)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Verona - Holy Trinity parish (1966 -1988). (cf. Sept 1966)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Verona - St. Benedict (1964 -1966). (cf. Oct 1964)

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Verona - St. Theresa's Convent (June 1874 - 1945)

HISTORICAL NOTES

Italy: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Verona - Vicolo Terese (1975 - 1982)

Paraguay: *Prov. Holy Cross* - Assunción H. Trinity (2004 - 2018 ? ⁶⁶⁵)
(cf. 20 Oct 2004)

Portugal: - - - - Lisbon (1899 -1901). (cf. 14 Nov 1899)

South Africa: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Brits (1962 -1989). (cf. 28 Mar 1962)

South Africa: *Prov. Sc. Heart* - Jericho (1983 - 2007). (cf. 28 Mar 1962)

USA: - - - - 'Raccoon Island' (1928 - ???). (cf. 1928)

USA: - - - - Hazleton, PA (1905 - 1922). (cf. 2 Oct 1905)

USA: - - - - Milwaukee, WI (1913 - 1922). (cf. 13 Oct 1905)

USA: - - - - Scranton, PA (1907 - 1922). (cf. 13 Oct 1905)

USA: (*c/o General Council*) - Sacramento, CA (2005-2013)- (cf. 28 Jun 2005)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Agawam, MA (1921 - 1999 ? ⁶⁶⁶). (cf. 26 Jul 1906)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Cape Cod Retirement House (1972 - 1994 ? ⁶⁶⁷). (cf. 1972)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Cromwell, CT (1991-1998). (cf. 9 Dec 1991)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - East Longmeadow, MA (1947 - 1970). (cf. 1970)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Feeding Hills, MA (1946 - 1987).
(cf. 26 Jul 1906)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Los Altos, CA (1982 - 1985). (cf. 1985)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Ludlow, MA (1949 - 1964). (cf. 21 Mar 1949)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Lynn, MA (1922 - 1996). (cf. 20 Apr 1922)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Manassas, VA (1944 - 1993). (cf. 1945)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Pittsfield, MA (1915 - 2008). (cf. 1915)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Waltham, MA Espousals Centre (1961 - 2019). (cf. 1961)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Waltham, MA Provincial Office (1987 - 2019).
(*not recorded in this book*)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Waltham, MA Sacred Heart parish (1922 - 1998).
(cf. 26 Nov 1922)

USA: *Prov. Holy Spouses* - Waltham, MA St. Joseph's Hall (1981 - 2019).
(*not recorded in this book*)

⁶⁶⁵ It was still open on 31 December 2010: cf. IL BERTONIANO [NB. After 2010, the lists of communities and confreres were no longer published by Il Bertonian].

⁶⁶⁶ Agawam was in STIMMATINI 1995 but no longer in IL BERTONIANO 1999.

⁶⁶⁷ Cape Cod Retirement House: the house is no longer mentioned after 1994.

HISTORICAL NOTES

- USA: Prov. Holy Spouses - Washington, DC (1956 - 1973). (cf. Sep 1956)
USA: Prov. Holy Spouses - Watertown (1979-1984). (cf. 1979)
USA: Prov. Holy Spouses - Waterville, NY (Sangerfield) Novitiate (1961 - 1970).
(cf. 1970)
USA: Prov. Holy Spouses - Wellesley, MA Elm Bank (1940 - 1966).
(cf. 13 Jul 1940)
USA: Prov. Holy Spouses - West Springfield, MA (1936 - 2007).
(cf. 26 Jul 1906)
USA: Prov. Holy Spouses - White Plains, NY (1922 - 2012). (cf. Jun 1922)
USA: Prov. Holy Spouses - Winslow, ARK (1944 - 1961). (cf. 1944)
USA: Prov. Holy Spouses - Woodbridge, VA (1956 - 1993⁶⁶⁸). (cf. 28 Sep 1959)

index 3 - QUOTED INSTITUTES OF CONSECRATED LIFE

(With date of first entry)

- Benedictines (of Subiaco) - 25 Jan 1874
Camillians - 1 Apr 1856
Cannossian Sisters - 11 Jun 1856
Capuchins - 20 Aug 1858
Carmelite Sisters - 3 Nov 1955
Carmelites - 1 Jan 1891
Congregation of the Daughters of Mary - 8 Jan 1813
Congregation of the Sacred Heart for the Propagation of Faith - 30 Jun 1935
Converted Sisters, Udine - 18 Sep 1865
Dominicans - 23 Mar 1848
Fatebenefratelli - Mar 1857
Focolari - 14 Dec 1962
Franciscan Sisters of Egypt - 13 Dec 1933
Handmaids of Charity - 18 Sep 1865
Lazarists - 23 Apr 1941
Lazzarist Missionaries - 12 Jan 1926

⁶⁶⁸ Woodbridge appeared in the lists of communities until 1993.

HISTORICAL NOTES

Little Daughters of St. Joseph - 5 May 1996
Little Sisters of St. Francis of Paola - 12 Feb 1806
Little Sisters of the Annunciation - 19 Jan 1937
Little Sisters of the Holy Family - Jan 1922
Madames of the Faith - 15 Aug 1799
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart - 23 Apr 1941
Oratorians of St. Philip Neri - 17 Dec 1790
Orsoline Sisters Daughters of Immaculate Mary - 29 Oct 1867
Ottolini Sisters - 5 May 1877
Pious Society of Don Nicola Mazza - 10 Mar 1790
Salesian Sisters - 20 Dec 1814
Salesians - Jan 1907
Salvatorian Congregation - 8 Jul 1997
Secular Institute "Handmaids of Christ the Priest" - 21 Jun 1950
Sisters Converted of St. Sylvester, Verona. - 23 Nov 1856
Sisters Daughters of O.L. of Mercy of Savona - 26 Jul 1906
Sisters Missionaries of Immaculate - 8 Mar 1986
Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception of Halifax - 26 Sep 1936
Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception of Ivrea - 1 Feb 2000
Sisters of Mary Immaculate - Nov 1978
Sisters of Mercy (from Ireland) - Jan 1975
Sisters of the Child Mary - 1 Feb 2018
Sisters of the Holy Family - 17 Nov 1811
Sisters of the Institute 'Seghetti' - 14 Oct 1945
Sons of Holy Immaculate Mary - 1917
Sons of Mary - 20 Jul 1813
Srs. of Providence, - Feb 1908
St. Clare Nuns (named 'Maddalene', in Verona) - Apr 1855
Tertiary Srs. of St. Bernardino, Verona - Oct 1855
Vallombrosians - 2 Sep 1812

index 4 - QUOTED NAMES**(With date of first entry)**

Achetti, Fr.: 26 Dec 1858
 Agostini, Blessed Zefirino: 29 Oct 1867
 Albertini, Fr.: 16 Nov 1834
 Alfieri, Fr.: 3 Mar 1855
 Allegri, Angelo: 27 Mar 1813
 Allegri, Fr. Gaetano: 12 Feb 1806
 Allorio, Bishop Carlo: 22 May 1949
 Amari, Bishop Giuseppe: 6 May 1990
 Ambrosini, Elizabeth: 11 Jan 1817
 Andreotti: 1 Jul 1953
 Angeli, Fr. Louis: 21 Sep 1834
 Arpesani, Cecilio: 28 Sep 1913
 Arrighi, Fr.: 28 Jan 1835
 Artini, Fr. Louis: 30 Sep 1865
 Ascalesi, Card. Alessio: 2 Mar 1941
 Avogadro, Bishop: 6 Sep 1791
 Bacilieri, Cardinal Bartholomew: 7 Mar 1883
 Baldo, Blessed Giuseppe: 23 Oct 1876
 Barreto, Bishop Francisco de Campos: 26 Apr 1926
 Battandier, Msgr.: 12 Jun 1890
 Bellavite, Fr. Dominic: 8 Jan 1813
 Bellotti, Benvenuta: 3 Sep 1816
 Bellotti, Joseph: 11 Oct 1813
 Bellotti, Teresa: 3 Sep 1816
 Beltrami, Fr. John: 3 Aug 1857
 Benasutti, Fr. Louis: 27 Dec 1835
 Benciolini, Fr. Cajetan: 26 Aug 1826
 Benciolini, Peter: 30 Aug 1837
 Benciolini, Peter: 8 May 1806
 Benedetti, Renzo: 27 Jun 1986
 Benedict XV, Pope: Jul 1915
 Benetti, Fr.: 16 Jun 1875
 Berchmans, John: 9 May 1865

HISTORICAL NOTES

Bernardino, Fr.: 31 Aug 1864

Bertinelli, Canon Raffaele: 28 Jun 1854

Bertoni, Fr. James: 1 Jun 1785

Bertoni, Francis Louis, father of Gaspar Bertoni.

See 29 Jul 1747, 30 May 1776, 9 Oct 1777, 27 Dec 1813.

Bertoni, Matilda: 18 Mar 1783

Bevilacqua, Fr. Giulio: 16 Nov 1924

Biadego, Cajetan: 23 Jan 1808

Bisetti, Doctor: 30 Apr 1834

Bisleti, Cardinal Gaetano: 19 Nov 1926

Bonald: 7 Apr 1828

Bonapart, Napoleon: 20 Sep 1806

Bondi, Aldo: 1952

Bongiovanni, Francis: 8 May 1826

Bonomelli, Bishop: 16 Apr 1874

Bonzano, Cardinal John: 22 Feb 1923

Bosco, Fr. Dal: 25 Feb 1838

Bozzi, Bishop Giuseppe Maria: 22 Mar 1828

Braga, Bishop João: 6 Dec 1910

Brandolini, Bishop: 23 Jan 1887

Bras, Anthony: 6 May 1898

Brasca, Alexander: 2 Mar 1868

Brazzelli, Fr.: 8 Sep 1875

Bresciani, Fr. Anthony: 17 Jan 1855

Brugnoli, Charles: 25 Mar 1790

Brunati, Achille Anselmo: 4 Aug 1874

Bucher, Bishop Hubert: Sep 2006

Bussetti, Sister: 8 Nov 1834

Calabretta, Bishop Angelo: 3 Nov 1955

Calligari: 28 Apr 1873

Camilleri, Fr. John Mary: 14 Jul 1888

Campanani, Santa: 31 Mar 1828

Campedelli, James: 29 May 1841

Campos, Bishop Paulo de Tarsos: 26 Apr 1926

Campostrini, Anthony: 9 Mar 1813

Campostrini, Serv. of G. Theodora: 13 Apr 1813

Canossa, Cardinal Louis di: 10 Apr 1833

HISTORICAL NOTES

Canossa, St. Magdalene di: 1 Mar 1774
Canossa, Matilda di: 20 Nov 1824
Canton, Clara: 12 Jan 1813
Canton: 10 Sep 1867
Cappello, Fr. Fancis: 12 Oct 1909
Cardinale, Bishop Girolamo: 16 Nov 1924
Carraro, Bishop Giuseppe: 31 May 1958
Carretto, Bishop Pietro: 30 Sep 1952
Cartolari, Anthony: 5 Jul 1846
Cartolari, Peter: 4 Nov 1794
Cartolari, Teresa Borghetti: 14 Aug 1843
Casiroli, Msgr.: 22 Dec 1927
Cassetta, Card. Francis: 17 Oct 1912
Cassulo, Msgr.: 14 Sep 1936
Castelli: 7 Sep 1855
Castiglioni, Cardinal: 23 Jul 1828
Castory, Msgr.: 18 Jan 1835
Cavanis, Fr. Anthony Angel: 4 Feb 1830
Cavanis, Fr. Mark Anthony: 4 Feb 1830
Ceretti, Cardinal Bonaventure: 19 Apr 1928
Chrisostom, St. John: 11 Jan 1809
Colombari, Fr. Ferdinand: 24 Sep 1886
Colombo, Cardinal Giovanni: 27 Nov 1954
Comboni, St. Daniel: 3 Aug 1857
Condillac, Abbé di: 22 Sep 1836
Conforti, Archbishop Guido: 26 Oct 1924
Corradi, Dr.: 1 Sep 1875
Corsini, Bishop Jordan: 29 Sep 1922
Daniel, Archbishop George: Jan 1975
De Maistre, Joseph: 7 Apr 1828
De Riccabona, Bishop Benedict: 23 Mar 1807
Debboni, Stephen: 8 Nov 1844
Del Bosco, Fr. Alexander: 3 Aug 1857
Del Buona, Fr.: 12 Aug 1810
Della Rizza, Fr. Louis: 25 Mar 1817
Dondi, Bishop Francesco Scipione de: 20 Sep 1806
Di Maggio, Francesco: 24 Jul 1945

HISTORICAL NOTES

Dionisi, Msgr.: 10 Mar 1813
Dionisi, Sr. Marianna Eleonora: 1 Aug 1821
Doria, Msgr.: 12 Aug 1810
Duca, Card. Borgognini: 22 Nov 1953
Duke, Archbishop William Mark: 14 Sep 1936
Emmerick, Alexander: 20 Jul 1827
Falezza, Ennio: 27 Jun 1986
Farina, Bishop Giovanni Antonio: Oct 1858
Fecchia, Fr.: 18 Sep 1865
Fedelini, Peter: 11 Jun 1810
Fenzi, Fr.: 16 Feb 1842
Ferrari, Cardinal Andrew: Oct 1896
Ferrari, James: 17 Jun 1812
Ferrari, Joseph: 18 Mar 1827
Fietta, Count and Countess: 12 Jun 1864
Finazzi, Fr.: 24 Sep 1858
Fortis, Fr. Louis: 26 Nov 1812
Foschiani, Bishop Joseph: 12 Oct 1909
Fossa, Fr.: 1 Jan 1891
Franceschi, Bishop Filippo: Sep 1977
Franchi, Cardinal: 8 Jun 1875
Francis I, Emperor: 14 Dec 1822
Frangipani, Msgr.: 5 Sep 1862
Fransoni, Cardinal: 12 Nov 1855
Fumasoni Biondi, Cardinal Peter: 10 Dec 1932
Fusari, Fr. Bernardo (Trent): 14 Aug 1866
Fusari, Fr. J. (S.J.): 23 Feb 1854
Fusari, Fr. John Louis: 5 Apr 1813
Gaggiotti, Fr.: 10 Aug 1854
Gagliardi, Louis: 24 Jun 1816
Gagnere, Maria: 9 Jan 1813
Galeotti: 4 May 1868
Galli, Fr. Peter: Oct 1896
Galvani, Fr. Nicholas: 27 Aug 1812
Garner, Bishop John: 9 Nov 1960
Gaspardis, Msgr.: 26 Aug 1862
Gasparini, Msgr.: 17 Feb 1856

HISTORICAL NOTES

Gazzola, Pietro: 1 Jul 1953
Gemma, Francis: 24 Mar 1873
Giacobbe, Fr. Gaetano: 21 Dec 1833
Gilardoni, Fr. Joseph: 10 Sep 1833
Giovannini, Msgr.: 17 Jul 1896
Girardelli, Fr. Francis: 22 Sep 1834
Girardi, Fr. Francis: 20 Jun 1802
Gobbi, Msgr John: 13 Apr 1876
Gobel, Archbishop Jean Paul: 10 Sep 1994
Gonella, Guido: 13 Dec 1953
Gramego, Sebastian: 27 Nov 1801
Grasser, Bishop Joseph: 15 Dec 1828
Graziani, Fr. Anthony: 2 May 1858
Green, Archbishop James Paul: 27 Nov 2010
Gregory XVI, Pope: 5 Sep 1833
Gronchi, Giovanni: 2 Jun 1957
Grossi, Fr. Vincenzo: 1 Nov 1975
Guerrieri, Fr.: 3 Jun 1826
Haller, Bishop: 19 Jan 1879
Hayes, Archbishop Patrick Joseph: Jun 1922
Heller, sisters: 25 Mar 1851
Henriquez, Archbishop Cardinal Raul Silva: 20 Mar 1980
John Paul II, Pope: 6 Jan 1982
John XXIII, Pope: 1960
Jordis: 7 Sep 1855
Kelley, Fr.: 26 Jul 1906
Kempis, Thomas a: 17 Dec 1808
Lammenais: 20 Apr 1826
Lenotti, Anthony: 5 Sep 1817
Lenotti, Francis: 19 Feb 1831
Lenotti, Joseph: 19 Feb 1831
Lenotti, Marietta: 2 May 1836
Lenotti, Paul: 19 Feb 1831
Leo XII, Pope: 28 Sep 1823
Leo XIII, Pope: 16 Jan 1872
Leon, Bishop Claudio José Gonçalves Ponce de: 23 Jun 1896
Leonori, Aristide: 6 Jul 1914

HISTORICAL NOTES

Letlape, Herman: Nov 1978
Liruti, Bishop Innocent: 20 Mar 1808
Lodi, Fr. Zefferino: 26 Aug 1937
Longinotti, Bishop Ferdinando: 14 Oct 1937
Lopez, Fr. Benedict: 8 Aug 1922
Loredan, Iseppo: 1 Jul 1953
Lorenzi, De: 25 May 1856
Lovato, Francesco: 13 Jun 1853
Lozza, Cesar: 10 Feb 1883
Lubich, Chiara: 14 Dec 1962
Lugoboni, Fr. Timoteo: 28 Jan 1944
Maceta (builder): 30 Jun 1817
Maestrelli, Louis: 20 Jul 1813
Manfredini, Bishop: 4 Mar 1860
Maggi, Dr. Lawrence: 22 Nov 1837
Maggi, Fr.: 31 Oct 1828
Malenchini, Alexander: 1 Sep 1867
Manfredi, Bishop: 11 Sep 1858
Manzoni, Dr.: 31 Dec 1840
Marai, Dr. Philip: 12 Jun 1891
Marani, Celestine: 5 May 1790
Marani, Ursula (Rabbi): 10 Oct 1838
Marchesini, brothers: 23 Sep 1833
Marchesini, Louis (Jr): 19 May 1903
Marchesini, Louis (Sr): 2 Jan 1856
Marchi, Msgr.: 17 Nov 1854
Marconi, Bishop: 21 Jun 1925
Martelli, Donna Dei Conti: 12 Mar 1809
Massalongo, Mrs.: 29 Oct 1867
Mattarella Sergio: 19 Jun 2019
Mazza, Ven. Nicholas: 10 Mar 1790
Mazzanti, Bishop Marcello: Jan 1907
Mc Geough, Apostolic Delegate: 25 Jul 1962
Melotti, Fr. Angelo: 3 Aug 1857
Menzoni, Dr.: 5 Mar 1842
Michelotti, Anna: 1 Nov 1975
Migliorini, Bishop Benigno Luciano: 26 Aug 1946

HISTORICAL NOTES

Mignardi, Fr.: 23 Feb 1854
Modena, Fr. Cajetan: 5 Mar 1860
Monica, Fr. Adelmo: 9 Oct 2011.
Monterisi, Archbishop Nicola: 23 Apr 1941
Monterossi, Fr. Joseph: 24 Jan 1822
Montini, Cardinal John Baptist: 25 Jul 1962
Moreno, Bishop Ezequiel: 1 Nov 1975
Morganti, Dr.: 2 Sep 1875
Morone, Garcia: 6 Aug 1875
Mutti, Patriarch Peter Aurelius: 12 Sep 1841
Nagl, Bishop Francis Xavier: Feb 1908
Naudet, Blessed Leopoldine: 13 May 1773
Negrelli, Fr. Nicholas: 7 Mar 1873
Neves, Mario Moreira: 11 Feb 1989
O'Connel, Bishop William: 20 Apr 1922
Oberrauch, Fr.: 19 Jun 1834
Odescalchi, Fr.: 22 Nov 1839
Oliboni, Fr. Francis: 3 Aug 1857
Oliveira, Archbishop Emanuel de: Jun 1936
Orlandi, Canon: 28 Sep 1862
Paccanari, Fr. Nicholas: 14 Dec 1812
Pacchera, Fr. Louis: 28 Dec 1836
Pacetti, Canon Louis: 14 Sep 1799
Palamidese, Fr. Peter: 4 Apr 1824
Pampuri, Riccardo: 1 Nov 1989
Paoli, Paolo Rossi de': 1 Jul 1953
Parocchi, Card. Lucido Maria: Jan 1888
Pasqueira, Viscounts of S. João de: 28 Apr 1898
Patrizi, Cardinal: 28 May 1840
Paul VI, Pope: 14 Feb 1915
Pecchia, Fr.: 18 Sep 1865
Perenzoni, Clara: 5 May 1877
Perrone, Fr. John: 10 Aug 1854
Phalana, Bishop Victor: Oct 2016
Piacentini, Marcello: 25 May 1929
Pius IX, Pope: 12 Jul 1847
Pius VII, Pope: 14 Mar 1800

HISTORICAL NOTES

Pius VIII, Pope: 16 Jan 1830
Pius X, Pope: 21 Jun 1905
Pius XI, Pope: 22 Jul 1923
Pius XII, Pope: 14 Dec 1962
Pizzioli, Maria: 2 Jul 1847
Pizzorno, Bishop Bernardo: 22 Jul 1923
Podestà, Ferrari: 7 Sep 1855
Polidoro, Msgr.: 18 Aug 1845
Pompeius, Fr. P.: 29 Sep 1784
Pompili, Cardinal Basil: Dec 1913
Pozzi, Charles: 30 Apr 1828
Provolo, Serv. of God Anthony: 20 Jul 1813
Quaglia, Cardinal: 16 Jan 1872
Radetzky, Mashall: 13 Jun 1848
Raghi, Fr. James: 9 Mar 1813
Raimondi, Angelina: 16 Jan 1814
Raimondi, Charles: 16 Sep 1804
Ramazzotti, Patriarch Angelo: 18 Oct 1859
Randelli, Anna: 12 Jan 1813
Ravelli, Brunora, mother of Gaspar Bertoni.

See 7 Oct 1746, 30 May 1776, 9 Oct 1777, 6 Feb 1810.

Ravelli, Dr.: 13 Jan 1813
Ravelli, Fr. Francis: 27 Apr 1844
Ravelli, Rosa: 24 Sep 1800
Ravignani: 7 Mar 1883
Reigler, Fr. Peter: 29 Feb 1832
Renier, Bishop John: 25 Aug 1860
Respighi, Cardinal Peter: 7 Jan 1906
Riboldi, Bishop Augustine: 4 Nov 1885
Ridolfi, Msgr.: 22 Jan 1805
Righi: 28 Apr 1873
Riolfati, Fr. Joseph: 6 Jan 1865
Roothan, Fr.: 3 Jan 1848
Rosmini, Fr. Anthony: 26 Feb 1826
Rossi, Archbishop Anthony: 15 Feb 1925
Rossi, Cardinal Raphael: 12 Jan 1936
Rozaven, Fr.: 6 Sep 1828

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Ruffo, Vincent: 18 Nov 1844
Ruffoni, Bartholomew: 28 Feb 1813
Ruffoni, John Baptist: 12 Feb 1806
Ruzzenenti, Msgr. Vincent: 15 Jul 1811
Saccomani: 1947
Sandrinelli, Fr.: 14 Jan 1858
Sanpaolo, Pietro: 4 Mar 1979
Santi, Fr.: 7 May 1835
Sarto, Cardinal Joseph: 1895
Sartori, Bishop Agostino: 29 Mar 1981
Sartori, Fr. Lawrence: 4 Mar 1860
Sartori: 2 Jun 1835
Savoy, Empress Marianna Carolina Pia of: 5 Jul 1835
Scalabrini, Bishop John Baptist: 1 Jan 1903
Scalfo, Christine: 8 Mar 1813
Scudellini, Joseph: 24 Sep 1800
Scupoli, Dominic: 17 Dec 1808
Seane, Bishop Valentine: 11 Oct 2009
Selvaggiani, Msgr. Francesco Marchetti: 22 Dec 1924
Settala, Isabella: 3 Aug 1829
Silva, Archbishop Duarte Leopoldo e: 22 Dec 1923
Silva, Archbishop José Gaspar de Afonseca e: 15 Jan 1940
Simonetti, Mrs. Giacomina Guicciardi: 13 Jun 1899
Sin, Cardinal Jaime: 3 Apr 1984
Slattery, Archbishop William: Oct 2016
Slavier, Catherine: 14 Apr 1814
Slenzi, Fr. Peter: 21 Nov 1858
Smit, Bishop: 22 Nov 1953
Soares, Hulda Maria: 21 Jun 1950
Solmi, Bishop Enrico: 9 Oct 2011.
Someda, Carlo: 1923
Sonas, Count Albert Gerbais de: 30 Jan 1899
Sophie Marie, Sr.: 14 Dec 1812
Sorego, Msgr.: 13 Sep 1875
Spazzi, Grazioso: 13 Jun 1853
Spegiorin, Fr.: 22 Jan 1864
Sperti, Fr. Anthony: 8 Feb 1860

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Spina, Ursula: 27 Jul 1816
Steccanella, Micaela: 11 Jan 1946
Steeb, Blessed Carlo: 23 Jan 1823
Strabui, Fr. Anthony: 8 Jan 1813
T'sae, Fr.: 10 June 1932
Toblioni, Fr. Nicola: 6 Jul 1856
Toffaloni, Louis: 3 Dec 1845
Torregiani, Fr. Dino: 26 Aug 1937
Toscano: 1987
Traversi, Msgr. Anton Mary: 21 Jun 1840
Trecca, Giuseppe: 1923
Trevisanato, Patriarch Joseph Louis: 19 Aug 1862
Trevisani, Fr. Louis: 1 Sep 1816
Tripepi, Cardinal: 26 Feb 1906
Turco, Giacomo: 11 Jan 1946
Turco, Guglielmo: 11 Jan 1946
Turri, Msgr.: 24 Jan 1862
Urbani, Bishop Giovanni: 31 May 1958
Valbusa, Fr.: 30 Sep 1855
Valle, Bishop Giuseppe del Carmen (Gollardo): 20 Mar 1980
Vanni, Dr.: 13 Oct 1830
Vanzetti, Agent: 10 Sep 1867
Vasani, Doctor: 28 Jan 1835
Vener, Count: 27 Dec 1829
Venti, Fr. Joseph: 26 Feb 1864
Venturi, Bishop Giuseppe: Jul 1934
Venturi, Fr. Joseph: 10 Sep 1833
Venturini, Andrew: 25 Jul 1803
Viale-Prelà, Msgr. Michael: 2 Feb 1854
Vignola, Msgr. Paul: 24 Sep 1886
Vilchi, Gertrude: 12 Jan 1813
Villa, Bishop Dominic: 19 May 1875
Vincita, Flavio: 1947
Viscardini, Fr.: 10 Jul 1866
Vischering, Maria Droste zu: 1 Nov 1975
Wellesley, Gen. Arthur: 18 Jun 1815
Zamburlini, Bishop Pietro: Nov 1898

Zanelli, Bishop: 20 Apr 1864
 Zanfretta, Family: 1987
 Zanfretta, Susi: 1987
 Zannoni, Joseph: 17 Sep 1894
 Zanolì, Felice: 5 Jul 1793
 Zenari, Fr. Paul: 24 Sep 1886
 Zocchi, Fr.: 3 Apr 1892
 Zonghi, Msgr. Giovanni: Nov 1902
 Zoppi, Alexander: 15 Mar 1864

APPENDIX 1 – FIRST CONFRERES

Priests and Brothers in the “Stigmatine” communities (Stimmate and Derelitti) between 4th November 1816 and 12th June 1853⁶⁶⁹

	ENTRANCE (28)	DEATH (7)	LEAVING (10)	+/-	Tot
1816				4	4
04-Nov	Fr. Gaspar. Bertoni				
04-Nov	Fr. Giovanni Maria Marani				
04-Nov	Bro. Paolo Zanolì				
04-Dec	Fr. Michele Gramengo				
1817				2	6
01-Jan	Fr. Matteo Farinati				
11-Oct	Fr. Gaetano Brugnoli				

⁶⁶⁹ List compiled by Fr. Luigi Mantovani CSS, while working on his book “*Albero rigoglioso...*”. Cf, p. 61, footnote.

HISTORICAL NOTES

1818				1	7
15-Sep	Fr. Luigi Bragato				
1819				-1	6
			Fr. Luigi Bragato (14 Jun 1819) [<i>he will come back</i>]		
1820				-1	5
		Fr. Matteo Farinati (17 Sep 1820)			
1822				1	6
14-May	Fr. Francesco Cartolari				
1824				2	8
05-May	Bro. Luigi Dal Forno				
29-Jun	Bro. Giov. Batt. Bongiovanni		Bro. Giov. Batt. Bongiovanni (29 Sep 1824)		
25-Jul	Fr. Modesto Cainer				
1826				1	9
24-Oct	Carlo Fedelini				
1828				2	11
04-Oct	cler. Luigi Biadego				
30-Oct	Fr. Luigi Bragato [<i>returned</i>]				
1829				1	12
			Bro. Luigi Dal Forno (8 May 1829)		

HISTORICAL NOTES

09-Jun	Bro. Francesco Solari				
11-Nov	Fr. Francesco Benciolini				
1830				1	13
12-Sep	Fr. Innocente Venturini				
1831				2	15
17-Mar	Fr. Vincenzo Raimondi				
02-Jun	Bro. Luigi Zocca				
1832				1	16
11-Nov	Bro. Angelo Casella				
1834				2	19
22-Apr	st. Giov. Batt. Lenotti				
			Bro. Luigi Zocca (06 Jul 1834)		
29-Jul	st. Luigi Ferrari				
08-Nov	Bro. Paolo Gaetano Solari				
1835				-2	17
28-Jan	Angelo Papa		Angelo Papa (27 Apr 1835)		
		Bro. Angelo Casella (3 Apr 1835)			
1839				2	19
27-Aug	Bro. Luigi Ferrari				
27-Aug	Bro. Francesco Stevanoni				

HISTORICAL NOTES

1842				-2	17
		Fr. Luigi Biadego (17 Feb 1842)			
		st. Luigi Ferrari (6 Mar 1842)			
1843				-3	14
			Bro. Francesco Solari (4 Apr 1843)		
			Bro. Paolo Gaetano Solari (1843)		
			Fr. Vincenzo Raimondi (8 Jun 1843)		
1844				-1	13
		Fr. Modesto Cainer (12 gen 1844)			
1846				0	13
18-Mar	Bro. Giovanbattista Bandoria				
30-Apr	Bro. Francesco Gregorio Clementi		Bro. Francesco Gregorio Clementi (1 Sep 1846)		
		Fr. Francesco Cartolari (3 Jul 1846)			
1847				-1	12
29-May	Bro. Giovanni Campedelli		Bro. Giovanni Campedelli (25 Aug 1847)		

HISTORICAL NOTES

			Carlo Fedelini [he will come back] (25 Aug 1847)		
1853				-1	11
		S. Gaspar Bertoni (12 Jun 1853)			

APPENDIX 2 - CANONIZATION

CANONIZATION PROCEEDINGS ⁶⁷⁰

Fr. Gaspar's reputation for holiness was the common opinion to his confreres and to close people, and also to strangers.

The first one to give witness to his holiness was his parish priest, Don Gaetano Giacobbe, in the biography titled "Life of the Servant of God DON GASPARE BERTONI, Veronese priest, founder of the Congregation erected at the Stimante of the Revv. Frs. Apostolic Missionaries, written by the V. R. Parish Priest of the M.H. Trinity, Don Gaetano Giacobbe - Verona, typography Frizierio MDCCCLVIII".

His children, the confreres, taken as they were by the apostolic ministry and perhaps moved by the spirit of humility of their Founder (remember his quest for hiding, like that of the cricket in his den - hence the motto "buseta e taneta" - small hole, small den), allowed a lot of time to pass before starting his canonization process.

It took the strong appeal of Fr. Tabarelli in the XII Chapter of the Congregation (the most hard-fought in the history of the Institute for the discussion on the purpose and name of the Institute, 24 September 1890): "that there should be no longer delay in starting the Cause of Beatification of the Founder".

⁶⁷⁰ This is a translation of: "*Albero rigoglioso...*", p. 55-58.

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Its beginning took place on 23 March 1895, as recorded in the Chronicles [*Cronache della Casa Stimate*]: "The Most Reverend Superior finally took up the much desired business of introducing the Cause of the Servant of God, our Founder, Don Gaspar Bertoni".

Various sessions followed: the first meeting of the Ecclesiastical Tribunal for the preliminaries of the Ordinary or Diocesan Process took place on 30 December 1897; in the second session (3 May 1898) Bertoni's Articles or Positions and the list of witnesses were presented; in the third and fourth (23 May) the Card. Luigi di Canossa made his deposition. The most important deposition took place in the fifth session: on 2 June (1898) the main witness was heard, the ninety years old Don Gaetano Giacobbe, parish priest of the SS. Trinity for 56 years and Bertoni's first biographer. Luckily, because on 31 December of the same year he would die.

On 26 January 1899 the last Session took place and, subsequently (13 March - 15 May), the first examination of the Founder's body: on 18 May, placed in a new box, it was located in the chapel of Holy Face, on the wall in cornu Epistolae.

On 21 August 1899 the Founder's Process was closed and taken to Rome to the Congregation of Rites. As Postulator was appointed Fr. Tabarelli, who, overwhelmed by commitments, would pass the mandate to Fr. Luigi Morando on 27 January 1903.

The Chronicle Tomasi notes on 21 February 1906: "We read on the *Avvenire* that the introduction of the cause of our Founder was registered yesterday: from this moment on, rightfully, he can be called Venerable". Actually, the ratification of Pius X and the relative publication of the decree, which would take place on 2 March, were to be awaited. The postulator assignment of the case, first entrusted to Fr. Morando was taken over by Fr. Gaetano Pizzighella, who prepared everything for the apostolic process 'ne pereant probationes' [*so that the testimonies should not be lost*], which was to take place in Verona by pontifical authority⁶⁷¹. Much of this preparation was entrusted to Fr. Giovanni Lona, formidable researcher of documents and testimonies.

⁶⁷¹ This first phase was closed in 1912. Cfr. '*Brief Chronicles*', p. 203.

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Later others would be involved in the Founder's cause: of utmost importance was the work of Fr. Giuseppe Stofella for the Positio and, after the beatification (1975), that of Fr. Nello Dalle Vedove for the miracle required for canonization (1990). Goal achieved: on 1 November 1975 Pope Paul VI beatified Ven. Gaspar Bertoni in St. Peter's Square, with many Stigmatines present.

The canonization, however, would take place on 1 November 1989, also in Piazza S. Pietro in Rome (together with the canonization of Riccardo Pampuri of the Fatebenefratelli), with many confreres present, pupils with their parents, and teachers from our schools.

The church of the Stimate became a destination of uninterrupted pilgrimages, as well as the room of the new saint, now chapel of memories.

The solemn inauguration of the bas-relief of the Saint in the school's atrium took place on 4 November, with the Bishop, the Mayor and the 'Provveditore' (Provincial Education Head Director) present.

Last works in the church: on 20 December the central marble altar was redone, with an antependium taken from the altar of the Crucifix and an ambo made from a marble slab from the former tomb of the Founder.

On 6 May of the following year, 1990, a solemn concelebration took place in the cathedral of Verona presided over by Bishop Giuseppe Amari, with many Stigmatines and many Little Daughters of St. Joseph present, because the thanksgiving also involved their founder, Blessed Giuseppe Baldo, beatified on the eve of the canonization of St. Gaspar.

For the occasion, the respective relics were transferred to the Cathedral.

The civic celebration of the Saint and the Blessed took place on 19 May 1990 at the Philharmonic Theatre in Verona.

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APPENDIX 4 - RELEVANT DATES OF THE CONGREGATION

4 November	1816	Foundation of the institute (at the Stimmate)
16 April	1855	Decree of Praise (by Pope Pius IX)
30 September	1855	Canonical Erection in Verona (in the presence of the Bishop De Riccabona)
15 September	1890	Pontifical Approval
7 October	1905	Foundation in USA
10 November	1910	Foundation in Brazil
	1917	Establishment of the North American 'Visitatory'
	1923	Establishment of the Brazilian 'Visitatory'
23 June	1925	Approval of the Constitutions
30 July	1925	Opening of Missions in China
7 January	1927	Establishment of the General Curia in Rome (St. Agatha)
26 September	1936	Foundation in Canada
7 April	1942	Erection of the Sc. Heart Province (Italy)
23 January	1944	Erection of the Holy Spouses Province (USA)
23 January	1944	Erection of the Holy Cross Province (Brazil)
13 June	1948	Foundation at Guam (Pacific)
28 July	1952	Foundation in Thailand
19 October	1959	Establishment of the ' <i>Visitadoria</i> ' of St. Joseph (Brazil)
9 November	1960	Foundation in South Africa
8 May	1967	Foundation in Côte d'Ivoire
18 September	1970	Erection of the St. Joseph Vice Province (Brazil)
14 January	1977	Erection of the St. Mary of Hope Vice Province (Italy)
12 October	1979	Foundation in England
21 November	1979	Foundation in Chile
27 November	1979	Erection of the St. Joseph Province (Brazil)
11 March	1980	Erection of the Mary the Morning Star Vice Province (Thailand)
11 August	1980	Erection of the St. Mary of Hope Province (Italy)
14 August	1984	Foundation in Philippines
16 January	1989	Foundation in Tanzania
11 August	1992	Establishment of the Delegation of <i>Santo Niño</i> , Philippines
25 January	1993	Foundation in Botswana
10 September	1994	Foundation in Georgia

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16 November	1994	Establishment of the Delegation of the Holy Family (<i>Saint Famille</i>) in Ivory Coast.
1 March	1995	Foundation in Paraguay
20 June	1995	Erection of the Most Holy Redeemer Vice Province (Eastern Africa)
20 September	1996	Erection of the Mary the Morning Star Province (Thailand)
23 June	1997	Establishment of the Delegation of Christ of Forgiveness (<i>Cristo del Perdón</i>) in Chile
17 October	2003	Foundation in India
29 June	2015	Erection of the Most Holy Redeemer Province (Eastern Africa)
11 April	2016	Foundation in Indonesia
10 December	2017	Foundation in Malawi
6 January	2019	Foundation in Lesotho

APPENDIX 3 – SUPERIORS GENERAL

Dates of election of all the Superiors General.

1.	Fr. MARANI Giovanni Maria	Italy	23 September 1855
2.	Fr. LENOTTI Giovanni Battista	Italy	6 October 1871
3.	Fr. VIGNOLA Pietro	Italy	28 October 1875
4.	Fr. GURISATTI Pio	Italy	27 September 1891
	(re-elected)		23-25 September 1901
5.	Fr. TOMASI Giovanni Battista	Italy	22 September 1911
6.	Fr. ZAUPA Giovanni Battista	Italy	10 August 1922
	(re-elected)		11 August 1928
7.	Fr. CHIESA Bruno	Italy	9 May 1934
	Fr. ZAUPA Giovanni Battista	Italy	10 May 1940
8.	Fr. MARTINIS Dionigi	Italy	28 May 1946
	(re-elected)		17 May 1952
9.	Fr. FINI Gilbert	United States	8 May 1958
	(re-elected)		4-22 May 1964

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10. Fr. CAPPELLINA Giuseppe	Italy	9 March 1970
11. Fr. DUSI Luigi	Italy	22 March 1976
12. Fr. MOURA José Alberto	Brazil	4 February 1982
13. Fr. NEMES José Luiz	Brazil	1 February 1988
(re-elected)		27 April 1994
14. Fr. MESCHI Andrea	Italy	11 February 2000
(re-elected)		<i>12-27 April 2006</i>
15. Fr. BALDESSARI Maurizio	Italy	13 February 2012
16. Fr. RUBENS Sodr� Miranda	Brazil	15 February 2018

APPENDIX 5 – STIGMATINE BISHOPS

BISHOPS COMING FROM THE CONGREGATION OF THE SACRED STIGMATA, AT THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH.

Archbishop Luigi Morando.

Born 21 June 1846;

Entered 1859; Ordination 1869;

Election Dec 1905; Consecration 07 January 1906;

Death 20 August 1909.

Archbishop of Brindisi (1906-1909)

Bishop Carlo De Ferrari.

Born 2 October 1885;

I Prof. 1903; Ordination 1909

Election 16 December 1935; Consecration 12 January 1936;

Death 14 December 1962.

Bishop of Carpi (1936-1941);

Archbishop of Trent (1941-1962).

Bishop Hélio Paschoal, Holy Cross

Born 26 April 1927;

I Prof. 1948; Ordination 1951;

Elected 23 March 1967; Consecration 1967;

Death 22 November 2005.

Bishop of Livramento (1967-2005)

Bishop Antônio De Souza, Holy Cross

Born 21 October 1929 Bom Jesus dos Perdões SP (Brasile);

I Prof. 16 February 1951; Ordination 1 July 1956;

Election 13 February 1974; Consecration 16 April 1974

Bishop of Assis, São Paulo.

Bishop Antônio Alberto Guimarães Rezende, Holy Cross

Born 3 May 1926;

I Prof. 1949; Ordination 1953;

Consecration 01 June 1982;

Death 13 April 2015.

Bishop of Caetité.

Bishop José Geraldo Oliveira Do Valle, Holy Cross

Born 3 December 1929 Leme SP (Brasile);

I Prof. 9 December 1946; Ordination 10 January 1954;

Election 19 May 1982; Consecration 23 July 1982

Bishop of Almenara, MG.

Archb. Moacyr José Vitti, Holy Cross

Born 9 December 1940;

I Prof. 1963; Ordination 1967;

Consecration 13 January 1988;

Death 26 June 2014.

Bishop of Curitiba, PR.

Bishop José Alberto Moura, St. Joseph

Born 23 October 1943 Ituiutaba MG (Brasile);

I Prof. 9 December 1964; Ordination 9 January 1971;

Election 18 April 1990; Consecration 14 July 1990

Coadjutor Bishop of Uberlândia (1990-1992);

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Bishop of Uberlândia (1992-2007);
Archbishop Montes Claro, MG (2007).

Archbishop Giancarlo Bregantini, Holy Mary of Hope

Born 28 September 1948 Denno TN (Italia);
I Prof. 25 September 1966; Ordination 1 July 1978;
Election 12 February 1994; Consecration 7 April 1994
Bishop of Locri-Gerace (1994-2007);
Archbishop of Campobasso-Boiano (2007).

Archbishop Mauro Montagnoli, Holy Cross

Born 4 July 1945 Ouro Fino MG (Brasile);
I Prof. 9 December 1964; Ordination 24 January 1971;
Election 20 December 1995; Consecration 24 February 1996
Bishop of Ilhéus, BA. (1996)

Bishop Giuseppe Pasotto, Sc. Heart

Born 6 July 1954 Bovolone VR (Italia);
I Prof. 23 September 1973; Ordination 12 May 1979;
Election Apostolic Administrator 29 November 1996;
Election Bishop 9 November 1999; Consecration 6 January 2000.
Apostolic Administrator of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan (1996-2000).
Apostolic Administrator of Georgia and Armenia (2000).
Titular Bishop of Musti (2000).

Bishop Antônio Fernando Brochini, St. Joseph

Born 10 November 1946 Rio Claro SP (Brasile);
I Prof. 9 December 1965; Ordination 8 December 1973;
Election 12 December 2001; Consecration 3 March 2002
Coadjutor Bishop of Joticabal, SP (2002-2003).
Bishop of Joticabal (2003-2014).
Bishop of Itumbiara, GO (2015).

Bishop João Carlos Seneme, Holy Cross

Born 11 December 1958 Santa Gertrudes SP (Brasile);
I Prof. 23 January 1982; Ordination 15 December 1985;
Election 17 October 2007; Consecration 16 December 2007
Auxiliary Bishop of Curitiba, PR (2007-2013).
Bishop of Toledo, PR (2013).

APPENDIX 6 - POPES

Popes (from 1775)

Pius VI	Giovanni Angelo Braschi	22/02/1775 – 29/08/1799
Pius VII	Barnaba Niccolò Maria Luigi Chiaramonti, O.S.B.	14/03/1800 – 20/08/1823
Leo XII	Annibale Francesco Clemente Melchiorre Girolamo Nicola Sermattei della Genga	28/09/1823 – 10/02/1829
Pius VIII	Francesco Saverio Castiglioni	31/03/1829 – 30/11/1830
Gregory XVI	Bartolomeo Alberto Cappellari, O.S.B. Cam.	02/02/1831 – 01/06/1846
Pius IX	Giovanni Maria Mastai-Ferretti	16/06/1846 – 07/02/1878
Leo XIII	Gioacchino Vincenzo Raffaele Luigi Pecci	20/02/1878 – 20/07/1903
Pius X	Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto	04/08/1903 – 20/08/1914
Benedict XV	Giacomo Paolo Giovanni Battista Della Chiesa	03/09/1914 – 22/01/1922
Pius XI	Achille Ambrogio Damiano Ratti	06/02/1922 – 10/02/1939
Pius XII	Eugenio Maria Giuseppe Giovanni Pacelli	02/03/1939 – 09/10/1958
John XXIII	Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli	28/10/1958 – 03/06/1963
Paul VI	Giovanni Battista Enrico Antonio Maria Montini	21/06/1963 – 06/08/1978
John Paul I	Albino Luciani	26/08/1978 – 28/09/1978
John Paul II	Karol Józef Wojtyła	16/10/1978 – 02/04/2005

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Benedict XVI	Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger	19/04/2005 – 28/02/2013
Francis	Jorge Mario Bergoglio, S.J.	13/03/2013 –

APPENDIX 7 – BISHOPS OF VERONA

List of Bishops of Verona (from 1758)

Nicolò Antonio Giustiniani, *Benedectine*, 1758 – 1772; coming from Torcello, then to Padova.

Giovanni Morosini, *Benedectine*, 1772 – 1789, coming from Chioggia.

Giovanni Andrea Avogadro, 1790 – 1805.

Innocenzo Liruti, *Benedectine*, 1807 – 1827.

Giuseppe Grasser, 1829 – 1839, coming from Treviso.

Pietro Aurelio Mutti, *Benedectine*, 1841 – 1851, then transferred to Venice Patriarcate.

Giuseppe Trevisanato in 1852, foreseen for Verona, then moved to Udine.

Luigi Guglielmi, died without incardination, 1853, coming from Scutari.

Benedetto da De Riccabona, 1853 - 1861, then moved to Trent.

Cardinal Luigi di Canossa, *Veronese*, 1861 - 1900

Cardinal Bartolomeo Bacilieri, *Veronese*, 1900 – 1922; Cardinal in 1901.

Girolamo Cardinale, *from Genoa*, 1923 – 1954

Giovanni Urbani, Archbishop, 1955 – 1958

Giuseppe Carraro, 1958 – 1978

Giuseppe Amari, 1978 – 1992

Attilio Nicora, 1992 – 1997

Flavio Roberto Carraro, 1998 – 2007

Giuseppe Zenti, *Veronese*, 2007 –

APPENDIX 8 – SAINTS AND BLESSED IN VERONA

“HOLINESS” IN VERONA, ABOUT THE TIME OF ST. GASPAR BERTONI

SAINTS

Saint Gaspar Bertoni (+1853), priest, founder of the Congregation delle Sacred Stigmata di O.L.J.C. Apostolic Missionary, friend and counsellor of other Founders. Beatif. 1 November 1975; Canon. 1 November 1989.

Saint John Calabria (+1954), priest, founder of the Poor Servants of the Divine Providence. Beatif. 17 April 1988 Canon. 18 April 1999.

Saint Magdalene di Canossa (+1835), religious, foundress of the Little Daughter of Charity, the Canossians. Beatif. 7 December 1941; Canon. 2 October 1988.

Saint Daniel Comboni (+1881), bishop, founder of Combonian Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and of the Combonian Missionary Sisters. Beatif. 17 March 1996; Canon. 5 October 2003.

BLESSED

Blessed Zefirino Agostini (+1896), priest, founder of the Orsuline Sisters of Mary Immaculate. Beatif. 25 October 1998.

Blessed Giuseppe Baldo (+1915), priest, founder of the Little Daughters of St. Joseph. Beatif. 30 October 1989.

Blessed Giuseppe Nascimbeni (+1922), priest, founder of the Little Sisters of the Holy Family. Beatif. 17 April 1988.

Blessed Leopoldina Naudet (+1834), religious, of the Holy Family. Beatif. 29 aprile 2017.

Blessed Luigia Poloni (+1855), religious, co-foundress (with Carlo Steeb) of the Sisters Mercy. Beatif. 21 settembre 2008.

Blessed Carlo Steeb (+1855), religious, founder of the Sister of Mercy. Beatif. 6 July 1975.

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VENERABLES

Nicola Mazza (+1865), priest, founder of the Pious Society Don Nicola Mazza. Venerable from 3 giugno 2013.

SERVANTS OF GOD

Teodora Campostrini (+1860), religious, foundress of the Little Sisters of Charity of the Sorrowful Mary.

Pietro Leonardi (+1844), priest, founder of the Daughters of Jesus.

Antonio Provolo (+1842), priest, founder of the Company of Mary, for the education of deaf and dumb.

