

THE VOICE OF ROSA MYSTICA

MOTHER OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH
FONTANELLE DI MONTICHIARI - (Brescia)

January - February 2013 - Anno 23 - N. 1

Monthly bulletin
of the **Associazione Rosa Mystica - Fontanelle**
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IBAN: IT 24 R 08676 54780 000000007722

c/o post. **0 07601 11200 000029691276**
Non profit tariff of the Associazione:
Poste Italiane S.p.A. - Sped. in abb. Post. - D.L. 353/2003
conv. L. 27/02/2004 n. 46) art. 1, comma 2 / DCB Brescia

Expedition en abonnement postal
Taxe perçue - Tassa riscossa - Filiale di Brescia



The Year of Faith

Points to ponder: the «Catechism of Benedict XVI»
during the General Audience on January 16, 2013.

The desire to know the face of God «is innate in each person»

The desire to know God truly, that is, to see the face of God, is in every man, even atheists. And we perhaps unwittingly have this desire to see simply who He is, what He is, who He is for us. But this desire is realized by following Christ. The important thing is that we follow Christ not only when we are in need and when we find space for it in our daily affairs, but with our lives as such.

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Rosa Mystica, Mother of the Church, help us to realize the aspirations of the Holy Father and to meet Jesus more and more profoundly.

Rosa Mystica: a name, a richness of great significance

“The petals of her corolla are those Virtues that are not the fruit of gratuitous privileges, but of her personal sanctity that She achieved day by day until the end, meditating in her heart, in the profoundness of her being, the divine mysteries and drawing the conclusions from it.”

Let us return once again to her names with which we honor and invoke her help in Fontanelle. As we already know they are: Rosa Mystica – Mother of the Church. Let us now concentrate on the first one, «Rosa Mystica». Even if next time, in the continuation of this reflection, we will see that in reality the two appellations are closely related to each other, namely that the first title, «Rosa Mystica», is such a powerful symbol that next to all the other names to indicate Mary, it is able to contain by itself the second one as well, i.e. the role of Mary as «Mother of the Church».

I know that in the past we already have spoken about the name «Rosa Mystica». But the fact is that the more we meditate on this name, the more we understand its density and significance. If it is a fact that this name already is present in the Laurentian Litany – thus in the Tradition of the Church – it is also a fact that the events in Fontanelle have undoubtedly contributed to reinvigorate it. Not only here in Italy, but in the entire world, where today in an extraordinary and amazing way, multiple groups of prayer, religious orders, and sanctuaries dedicated to Mary are created, venerating her as «Rosa Mystica».

Let us start by highlighting the fact that not only in Fontanelle but in all kinds of situations, Mary



has shown that She loves the association between herself as Mary, as well as the queen of the flowers, that is to say, the Rose. There are two examples among the numerous ones. First of all in Guadeloupe, Mexico, where She has chosen roses, moreover suddenly blossoming even out of season, as a 'sign' to be presented to the bishop to guarantee the truth about the apparitions. Juan Diego filled his mantle with these roses and displayed them before the priest, revealing how in reality these roses accompany an even bigger miracle, i.e. the image of Our Lady of Guadeloupe, impressed in his mantle in a mysterious way, in exactly the same aspects with which She appeared to the seer; an enigma, which scientists have tried to explain in

many ways, without any result. Also in Lourdes Mary appeared accompanied by roses. The seer Bernadette Soubirous gave the following description, «She wore a white dress, a white veil, a blue ribbon and a yellow rose on each of her feet...»

In Fontanelle there was a further passage because Mary was not only accompanied by roses, but even attributes to that flower the task to be Her symbol, to represent Her. It therefore is clear that it is our duty to study well this flower, beginning with its outer aspect which nature has given it, in order to grasp better its symbolic significance. It is not difficult, because everybody knows it. The rose: first it is a bud, enclosed in itself, a compact bud also to our touch, revealing a substance inside, a richness about to flower. Then, little by little it opens up, disclosing its secret: a corolla of petals placed around a center formed by a kind of heart. The whole is supported by a strong, almost woody stem, which first serves as transmitter of sap, which at the moment the flower withers and falls off, will remain in life as a stock of seeds out of which other roses can grow in a process of life-death-life that continuously revives itself.

In this way also Mary was like a closed bud at the moment of the Annunciation, compact, that is to say, a very young girl of Israel, brought up by pious parents within the Alliance of God, as the essence of the population. A bud waiting to open itself to life, engaged to Joseph, close to becoming his wife, a flower waiting to bloom, certainly not ignorant of the Messianic expectation that every generation of Hebrew wom-

en experienced. A bud that however could have withered even before blooming, as sometimes happens in nature. Instead, it was listening to the divine invitation to become even the Mother of the Redeemer. It was able to take place because the stem, through which the spiritual nutrition was reaching her and made her grow until then, was well built and alimented; it was Immaculate. From that instant, the bud could begin to open itself to expand from within its womb the Word which was becoming flesh, well protected between its petals, until its birth and even beyond, until the death on the Cross, until the Resurrection and until the Ascension in heaven.

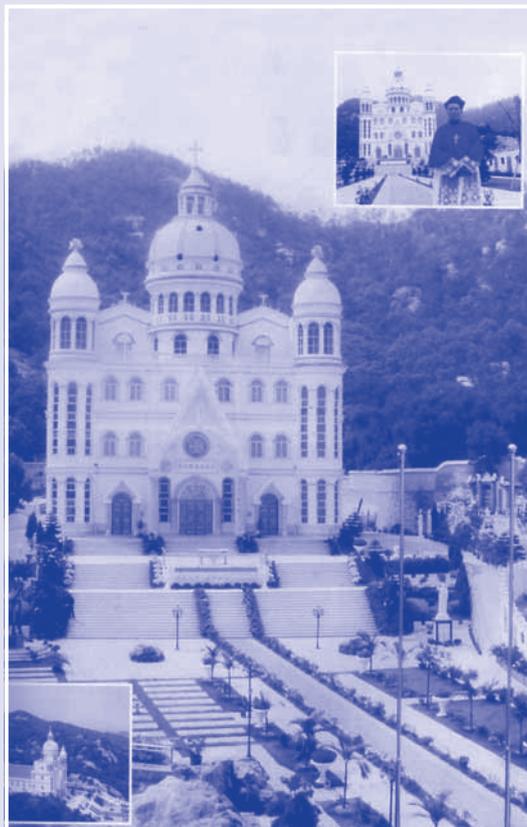
That is why the rose is a perfect symbol of Mary, because it refers by analogy to her virginal but at the same time fruitful womb that has contributed to generate the Son of God, God Himself. It had alimented, protected and, in the end, donated Him to the world. The petals of her corolla are the virtues which have been granted to her, those great proclamations in the Marian dogmas: Immaculate from her conception, Mother of God, ever Virgin, and in the end, gloriously Assumed into heaven. Also all the other virtues adorn her; virtues that are not the fruit of gratuitous privileges, but of her personal sanctity that She achieved day by day until the end, «meditating in her heart», in the profoundness of her being, the divine mysteries and drawing the conclusions from it. The virtue to receive and to offer, which the Evangelists show us briefly and which transformed her into the first and the most faithful disciple of her Son. Precisely kneeling at the foot of the Cross would make her also «Mother of the Church». This theme will be the subject of the following bulletin.

Rosanna Brichetti Messori

WE HAVE RECEIVED

■ **FROM CHINA** - An invitation was sent to us to remember in our prayers the bishops, priests and faithful of this country, who still are living in a situation of great distress and where some of them are banished to determined places and are deprived of liberty. Since our visit in 2001 to several catholic communities in China, admiring the magnificent sanctuary built by the catholic Bishop H.E. Mgr. Joseph Zheng Changcheng (deceased on December 18, 2004 at the age of 94) to honor Rosa Mystica, we feel very close to these suffering people. In this sanctuary literally everything speaks about Rosa Mystica: from the entrance bearing the title – of course in Chinese – **ROSA**

MYSTICA, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH, to the majestic statue at the façade, to another statue on the major altar, all adorned with flowers, to the altar cover embroidered with roses with the three colors, and to the heart with three spades and the three roses painted on the ceiling exactly above the major altar. We invite you to accompany these brothers and sisters in need with our prayers.



A group of Belgian miners
Every year a group of pilgrims comes full of gratitude at the feet of Rosa Mystica.

WE HAVE RECEIVED

■ **FROM SCOTLAND - INDIA** - Although currently living in Aberdeen, Scotland, I am a native from Vasai. The people in Vasai have a great devotion for Mary Rosa Mystica and I hope this will continue with God's favor resting upon us. We are sinners and are not worthy to be near to our God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Mary, our most holy mother, is however the way through which we can reach the heart of Jesus. May God protect us, guide us and keep us from all evil. May the Marian blessings continue in our life. I urge you to keep Vasai in your prayers, in order that Mary reaches this place, showering her most abundant blessings upon us. We love her and we need her to make our lives and our souls worthy of Christ our Savior. Please pray for me and my family. I thank you for your support. Bruno

■ **FROM VENEZUELA** - Community of «Hijos de Maria Rosa Mistica» - May the Peace of our Lord Jesus and the mantle of our most holy Mother Rosa Mystica cover all those who work in the wonderful sanctuary of Fontanelle in Montichiari, Italy. May God reward them with a long life and a good health, enabling them to continue their magnificent work. We hope and pray with joy and full of trust that our Bishops may keep their hearts open for the cause of Rosa Mystica. It is very important for us to venerate Mary under the title of Rosa Mystica! We pray with love and faith to our Holy Virgin Rosa Mystica. An infinite greeting from these lands so far away.

■ **FROM ARGENTINA** - My name is A.V. and I am the person in charge of a prayer group, called **COMUNITA ORANTE DE MARIA ROSA MISTICA**, in the south of our country. All began in 2008. Since then our faith and devotion for Rosa Mystica are maturing and increasing. At present diocese priests have come to bless the grotto which contains a small image of Mary Rosa Mystica. They have also confessed and we are praying the Lord that soon we will be able to celebrate the H. Mass. The number of the faithful frequenting every recurring event ranges from 1000 to 2000, coming from the province and even from outside. It would be wonderful if we could have an image of Mary Rosa Mystica of large format.

■ **FROM PERU** - Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I would like to tell about what happened to me. I am a Peruvian woman. The physician detected that I had cancer. A year and three months ago I have been operated... and with the permission of my doctor I could visit Fontanelle. Due to the blessings of the Lord and Our Mother, I did not need any chemotherapy nor radiographic treatment, not even medicines to control the cancer... I only need to control

my nourishment. My husband offered me the journey to Fontanelle where I went on pilgrimage with fr. Victor Baldeón and fr. Luciano. Since many years, in our Ministry of Economy and Finance there is an image of Mary Rosa Mystica. Only three years ago we began to inquire about it and found out that She is the advocate of priests and religious institutes. Here She reveals herself with miracles. In my case the surgeons took away the head of the pancreas, the entire duodenum, the bladder, the bile duct and reconstructed the digestive system to enable me to eat. At present every 4 months I have to undergo a control. In my heart something tells me that I am healed... I still feel this certainty like on that day when for the first time I walked in Fontanelle... I felt great joy in my heart... the encounter with Our Mother was full of emotions and I could only cry and cry when walking to the place where She appeared. From that moment on I felt that I became another person. I ask for God's Mercy to heal me from this terrible illness.

SCHEDULE OF PRAYERS

WINTER SCHEDULE FROM OCTOBER 1 UNTIL MARCH 31

Sunday and holidays:

Vespers 15:00; H. Mass 16:00

Every Day:

H. Rosary: 10:00 - 14:30 - 15:30

Vespers and catechesis 16:00

Saturday and Sunday:

confessor present from 15:00

The 13th of every month MARIAN DAY

- uninterrupted recitation of the Rosary from 14:30

The Sunday after the 13th:

Procession at 15.30 in honour of Rosa Mystica;
on return H. Mass at 16:00

Every afternoon at 16:00 there will be a priest for confession or talks. The groups in arrival are requested to inform here at Fontanelle phone +39 030 964111

The peace, grace, mercy, love and joy of the Lord be with us all, in our families, in the Church and in the whole world.

**The editorial staff and the Associazione
Rosa Mystica-Fontanelle**

Responsible director: Angelo Mor
Tribunal authorization of Brescia nr. 61/90 of Nov. 11, 1990
Translations: Sylvia Hetarihon
Typography: Tipopennati srl - Montichiari (Bs)