

THE VOICE OF ROSA MYSTICA

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

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Monthly bulletin
of the **Associazione Rosa Mystica - Fontanelle**
Postbox 134
25018 MONTICHIARI (Brescia) - ITALY

For communications please contact:
Loc. Fontanelle - Via Madonnina
Phone: 030 9641 1 1
Casa di Pierina - Via S. Martino della Battaglia, 155

E-mail: mariarosmi@katamail.com
info@rosamisticafontanelle.it
Please view web page: www.rosamisticafontanelle.it

Bank account details:
IBAN: IT 24 R 08676 54780 000000007722
BIC: **ICRAITRRISO** (the last character is a zero)

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Lent: back to the origins

Fr. Augusto Drago

A brief reflection:

As well-known the cycle «C» of the Sunday readings refer to the theme of the Alliance. It is as if in this lent which the Lord asks us to initiate, we are all called to come back to our origins «**there where we were born**» (cf. Psalm 87:4); the holy baptism, the day on which we have received the Spirit, who with His unction has wrapped us in an alliance of love with the Lord. On that holy day we all were born by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit (cf. *Titus* 3:5).

It is about the Lent as a time of conversion by listening to the Word and through the force of fasting and repentance. This all



is true, although to me it seems not enough to complete the mystery evoked by the time of lent liturgy. First of all it is a time of recollection about our origins.

It is a *recollection of what we have virtually become by grace*: we are born from God. This is due to the New and eternal Alliance signed by the Blood of Christ.

A liturgical memorial should render active and operative what we have become: grafted in Christ by the Spirit, we have entered in the Trinitarian mystery. Only then the task of this sacred period reminds us to go back to our origins, to dive again in the mystery of Christ and to become with Him participants in the life of God which is love.

Sustained by the Word which discloses for us the profundity of God, we are called to redis-

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Lent: back to the origins

SEGUE DA PAGINA 1

cover the mystery of God: the contemplated Love in the Eucharist and on the Crucifix, privileged places from which flows the adoration and where the flame burns in the Trinitarian Heart.

Listen to the words of St. Augustine: «You will see the Trinity if you see love, you will see love if you look at the Cross on which the Father offers His Son for us, while the Holy Spirit – represented in the Gospel in the form of a dove – stands between Them». In this way we give a meaning and value to our conversion: we convert ourselves to the Love because from the Love we are born and the Love dwells in us. To remember Love means to rediscover beloved

persons, searched, desired and called by God to be His! Amazing is the reflection which we find in the second letter of Peter: «[in the baptism] *God has given us most great and precious promises: that by these you may be made partakers of the **divine nature**, flying the corruption of that concupiscence*

which is in the world. (2 Pt 1,4). Dear brother, dear sister, I wish you with all my heart that during this lent you will be able to make the journey across the memory of your heart to reach the source of the living water which has made you a Christian. I leave you with this old prayer:

Come my Jesus, I have dirty feet.

I beg you to be my servant. Pour water in a basin, come and wash my feet.

I know that what I am asking You is daring, but I think of those words: «If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me».

So please wash me and I will be part of You.

But what am I saying: wash my feet?

This could have been uttered by Peter, because only his feet needed to be washed, they were in fact, very pure.

I instead, after my feet have been washed, I still need that Baptism of which You said:

*“As to me, I have to be baptized with another baptism”
(Origen, fifth Sermon on Isaiah, 2).*

Help me to experience the Friendship which you have given me, my Lord and my God! Amen!

HAVE A GOOD LENT!



“

Enter into My Heart with the greatest confidence, put in it your miseries as a donation that you would give to Me and acting like this you will find in Me the Fount of Mercy. Your trust in Me is a safe way to love Jesus

”

Mother of the Church

“I am the Immaculate Conception... Mother of the Lord Jesus... Mother of Grace... Mother of the Mystical Body, the Church...”

We know that in Fontanelle of Montichiari Mary is honored with two titles: Rosa Mystica – Mother of the Church. In the previous bulletin we already have pointed out the great symbolic value of it. The appellation «Rosa Mystica» contains completely in itself – exactly as in a rose, in which the numerous petals embrace and shield a heart – all the beauty and goodness which characterizes the life of Mary. And that is, first of all, her voluntary participation, from the beginning throughout the project of God’s redemption by means of the incarnation of the Word in Jesus. The summit of this redemption took place on the Calvary at the foot of the Cross where Mary received from her dying Son the task – of great significance until the very end – to become also the Mother of all peoples. She therefore is also the Mother of the Church that gathers them as the mystical body of Christ and which at that moment was coming alive to launch its way all through the centuries.

All this Mary has perfectly explained in Fontanelle of Montichiari by telling that She was not proposing a new devotion: «It is connected and begins with the moment when my divine Son Jesus became a human being... the Fiat of redemption and the Fiat of my cooperation is symbolized in the most beautiful flower: «Rosa Mystica». I am the Immaculate Conception... the Mother of our Lord Jesus... the Mother of Grace... the Mother of the mystical body, the Church... Therefore my divine Son Jesus Christ already sent me in 1947 to Montichiari where I touched with my feet the floor in the middle of the church amidst of so many of my children... That was to reveal that I am Mary, Mother of the Mystical Body, the Church!

As believers we are maybe already a bit accustomed to these words; on the other hand how well would it be to reconsider them with the initial great awe! Because what Mary brings to our attention and meditation is absolutely extraordinary, especially when one

knows about the history of the appellation of Mary: Mother of the Church, mentioned in the closing speech of Vatican Council II by Paul VI.

Let us look at the developments in this regard. The moment Mary stood at the feet of her dying Son and the words He spoke to her, «Woman, behold your son» as well as to the disciple, «Behold your Mother», have of course been the theme of meditations from the early beginning of the Church. Thus, gradually not only the suffering of this woman seeing the fruit of her womb being crucified – from which derives the growing cult of the Mother of Sorrows – is reflected, but also the value of these words in itself. Hence, on one hand the aspects, so to speak, personally related to Mary are deepened, her suffering as a Mother, as the first disciple of Jesus, and the strong trial with which her faith was confronted. At the same time, however, a very significant fact emerged more clearly at the foot of that cross. In fact, exactly at the moment in which the human process of the physical maternity of Mary ended, another one was being added, also of immense importance and which in reality was the accomplishment of the first one. To her who became the Mother of the Redeemer, the task was henceforth entrusted to watch over the generations not anymore as a physical but as a spiritual Mother of those for whom Jesus was dying. For all generations, i.e. for each member

of that Mystical Body – the Church – which at that moment started its course in the history.

This reflection continued during centuries, increasingly deepening all the implications, as well as the theological ones deriving from it. So the Vatican Council II was facing the need, by that time mature in the whole Church, to emphasize more the role of Mary in the entire action of the redemption, clarifying at the same time that the role of Mary, how important it be, somehow remains subordinate to the role of Jesus Christ, the only Mediator between God and mankind. And that, obviously also regarding the place of Mary in the Church, which was called to maintain alive and operative the redeeming presence of Jesus in the history.

Therefore, in reality, although having appraised the role of Mary to the utmost, the Council refrained from proclaiming officially Mary as Mother of the Church. On the other hand Paul VI stepped forward on a more suitable day i.e. on which he proclaimed the dogmatic constitution on the Church Lumen Gentium.

But for us the most interesting fact is that in Fontanelle of Montichiari, Mary already acted since a long time in this precise direction. If the above-mentioned words of Rosa Mystica are from 1973, in reality they reveal to us how since 1947 Mary, sent by the Son, already acted to help God’s people and also the entire Church, to understand well her role as Mother of the Church, which integrated itself as a natural consequence in her history since the Immaculate Conception. She did so in a more comprehensible way, that is to say, through that simple but very efficacious symbol: by placing her feet exactly in the middle of the cathedral of Montichiari.

Rosanna Bricchetti Messori

Please remember that the anniversary of the blessing of the Spring of Grace, the manifestation of the Divine Mercy, will take place on the first Sunday after Easter, April 7, 2013. The prayers will start at 09:00 with the praises, followed by the rosary

10:20 procession;

11:00 Holy Mass

15:00 and 16:00 Rosary followed by the vespers

17:00 Holy Mass.



WE HAVE RECEIVED



Rosa Mystica surrounded by the seminarians in Salvador.

■ **FROM INDONESIA** - Indonesia has been bit by major floods. Jakarta, the capital has been devastated by a deluge, causing many victims. We are spiritually united with our brothers and sisters through our devotion to Rosa Mystica and rely on your prayers for them.

■ **FROM PARAGUAY** - We have been invited to pray for the historical moment that the radio transmission «Your meeting with Mary Rosa Mystica» will be aired on Radio 88.1 FM on Sundays from 09:00-10:00; from Monday to Friday from 13:00-13:30 with the rosary and praises in honor of Rosa Mystica. Feeling united with them we pray together as one great family reaching out to hospitals, orphanages and private homes devoted to Mary Rosa Mystica. The Fiat of Mary, her great belief radiates confidence in the love of God. An embrace in Jesus and Mary Rosa Mystica.

Victor G.

■ **FROM MEXICO** - Mexican brother/sister, you who brings Rosa Mystica in pilgrimage in many houses of our republican state, or who guides a prayer group, we invite you to come on April 3 and 4 to our national meeting of coordinators which will take place in Villahermosa. We continue our mission which has been entrusted to us by the Most Holy Virgin to spread this devotion in prayers and strengthened by the Holy Spirit. Please contact us:

G.Z.

Rosa Mistica Messico
gabriel_zechinelli@hotmail.com; rosi-lezama@hotmail.com
roycas56@otmail.com

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 honor 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

* **N.B.: April 1, time change**

SCHEDULE OF PRAYERS

SCHEDULE DURING SUMMER FROM APRIL 1 UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30

Sunday and holidays:

Vespers 16:00; H. Mass 17:00

Every Day:

H. Rosary: 10:00 - 15:30 - 16:30

Vespers and catechesis 17:00

Saturday and Sunday:

confessor present from 16:00

The 13th of every month MARIAN DAY

– uninterrupted recitation of the Rosary from 15:30

The Sunday after the 13th:

Procession at 16.30 honor of Rosa Mystica;

on return H. Mass at 17:00

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**

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