
THE VOICE OF ROSA MYSTICA

MOTHER OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

FONTANELLE DI MONTICHIARI - (Brescia)

JULY-AUGUST 2018 - YEAR 28 - N. 4

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



A MARIAN FEAST FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH!

“With a decree Pope Francis announced on Saturday, March 3, 2018, that he desired to establish in a solemn and obligatory way the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, for the entire Church, inserting it into the Roman liturgical calendar for the Monday following Pentecost. Thus, a long journey that started 54 years ago with Paul VI, takes place precisely in the year in which he will be declared saint! It was in fact the Pope from Brescia, who, in 1964, on the occasion of the speech promulgated by *Lumen Gentium*, had wished to proclaim Mary as Mother of the Church in front of more than two thousand bishops gathered in St. Peter’s; several times, in the years 1959 and 1960, John XXIII had defined the Virgin in this way, and several times Paul VI himself, during conciliar work, had expressed the hope that this proclamation could be reached.”

Pope Francis, with this historic decision, as stated in the decree, wishes to promote this devotion in order to “encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the Church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety (...). This celebration will help us to remember that growth in the Christian life must be anchored to the Mystery of the

Cross, to the oblation of Christ in the Eucharistic Banquet and to the Mother of the Redeemer and Mother of the Redeemed, the Virgin who makes her offering to God”..

The Pope helps us to better understand the deep and remote motivations of this choice: “The joyous veneration given to the Mother of God by the contemporary Church (...) cannot ignore the figure of a wom-

an (cf. Gal 4:4), the Virgin Mary, who is both the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church.

In some ways this was already present in the mind of the Church from the premonitory words of **Saint Augustine** and **Saint Leo the Great**. In fact the former says that Mary is the mother of the members of Christ, because with chari-

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A marian feast for the entire Church!

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Sunday, June 3, Fr. Mathew, the new priest, was with us. He came to thank Rosa Mystica that he was able to accomplish his object and to confide his priestly mission to the Blessed Virgin.

ty she cooperated in the rebirth of the faithful into the Church, while the latter says that the birth of the Head is also the birth of the body, thus indicating that Mary is at once Mother of Christ, the Son of God, and mother of the members of his Mystical Body, which is the Church.

These considerations derive from the divine motherhood of Mary and from her intimate union in the work of the Redeemer, which culminated at the hour of the cross (cf. Jn 19:25). Indeed, the Mother standing beneath the cross accepted her Son's testament of love and welcomed all people in the person of the beloved disciple as sons and daughters to be reborn unto life eternal. She thus became the tender Mother of the Church which Christ begot on the cross handing on the Spirit. Christ, in turn, in the beloved disciple, chose all disciples as ministers of his love towards his Mother, entrusting her to them so that they might welcome her with filial affection. As a caring guide to the emerging Church Mary had already begun her mission in the Upper Room, praying with the Apostles while awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit (cf. Acts 1:14).

Last Monday, May 21st, at Fontanelle, for the first time, we celebrated this new Marian feast and on the next 8th and 13th July we will

celebrate the usual annual Rosa Mystica Feast, honoring her in particular with the title of Mother of the Church. These are very significant events for the Marian cult at Fontanelle, which today we will grasp in all their prophetic and providential value.

For over fifty years, Mary has been honored in these places, precisely with the desire, sustained by the incessant prayer of intercession by hundreds of thousands of pilgrims, to nourish and regenerate

the life and mission of the Church: Mary had begun this maternal task at the foot of the cross, she accompanies the ecclesiastical path in history as an Advocate of Grace, especially in the hardest moments, and implies for all believers the fruits of the Spirit, in a perpetual Pentecost.

Countless pilgrims are grateful to Rosa Mystica because, thanks to her motherhood, they were able to immerse themselves in this experience of rebirth, rediscovering the power of the divine life received in Baptism and their belonging to the ecclesiastical life, and often they did this by embracing their own cross, that is, welcoming the path of sacrifice, just like the Virgin at the feet of the crucified Son.

We welcome this gift with our heart, full of gratitude that this year is extended in a solemn way to the entire Church, thus confirming the spirit of authentic devotion that has characterized the Marian cult at Fontanelle, since the origins of its historical journey. We entrust ourselves with renewed conviction also to the intercession of Pope Paul VI, who on October 14th will be proclaimed saint and who dearly loved his mother Church, especially in the most difficult moments.

**Mons. Marco Alba
Episcopal Delegate**

We recall that on **July 13** will be held the Rosa Mystica Feast that for convenience will also be anticipated on **Sunday 8**, the second Sunday in July.

With this Marian intuition, Pierina Gilli expressed herself in her diaries, after an intense and personal mystical experience:

Excerpt from Pierina's diary: I wish the 13th of each month to be a Marian day to which special prayers of preparation that have to be preceded 12 days before.

This day must be a reparation for the offenses committed against our Lord by the consecrated souls who, with their faults, penetrate three sharp swords in my Heart and in the Heart of my DIVINE Son. On that day, I will bestow abundant graces and the sanctity of vocations on the institutes and the religious congregations which will have honored me; this day is to be sanctified by special prayers such as the Holy Mass, the Holy Communion, the Rosary, the hour of worship. I wish **every July 13 of each year** to be celebrated by every religious institute or congregation.



THOSE STRANGE NUMBERS

This time we will deal with a somewhat strange subject, namely the fact that Mary seems to have a curious preference: the one for the 13th day to which many events are linked, placing the Mother of God at the center of attention. Here are some, certainly among the most important: first of all Fatima and the apparitions concerning what was then a small and unknown Portuguese village: Mary introduced herself to the three little shepherds – Lucia, Jacinta and Francis – on May 13, 1917, then she gave them an appointment for the following months always on the same day. This actually happened in June and July while in August, having been prevented by children from reaching the Cova da Iria, the apparition took place on the 19th. In September, however, Mary appeared again on the 13th to conclude the cycle, always the same day In October.

But that is not all, because connected to Fatima the number 13 would come back again; indeed, it was on May 13, 1981 (therefore the anniversary of the first apparition) that John Paul II was wounded in a very serious way in St. Peter's Square. He himself attributed the fact of having miraculously escaped death to the intervention of the Virgin of Fatima: the bullet devastated the intestine but only touched lightly the abdominal aorta, which, if hit, would have caused a lethal hemorrhage in a few moments. And finally, always one day 13, this time in February 2005, the third and only survivor of the visionaries went into heaven, that is Sister Lucia.

But also Montichiari and Fontanelle are closely linked to the number 13. We know that here the alleged apparitions of Rosa Mystica are still under study, but, while waiting for the investigations from the experts to conclude, we can also proceed to examine some really relevant aspects. In a series of mariophanies (apparitions) in which the Mother of God and of the Church explicitly and repeatedly mentioned Fatima, (showing among other things, her Immaculate Heart and recommending the consecration of it) Mary from the beginning said that the 13th day of every month has to

be dedicated to the new devotion that she proposed (namely to Rosa Mystica). In the course of time, she focused her attention in particular on the 13th day of two months: that of July, which is chosen as an anniversary, the "official" day, as we use to call it in Fontanelle and that of October dedicated to the Communion of Reparation. Two particular days that the devotees of Maria Rosa Mystica well know, also because over the years the tradition has become more and more consolidated. This is why it is good to try to understand if it makes sense. The famous biblicist Gianfranco Ravasi wrote: "Even those who are not accustomed to the sacred texts, know that they are sprinkled with numbers, which often do not need to be calculated quantitatively, but qualitatively evaluated, that is to say as symbols. And this gives very significant examples in this regard. Of these, some are of interest to us. Starting with the number 1: "This is the number of divinity par excellence: God is unique. "Listen, Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is one" (Dt 6,4)". But also the number 3, which indicates "The totality and the symbol of the Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). Even the 3 temptations that Jesus underwent and which indicate the main risks of man: power, wealth, fame".

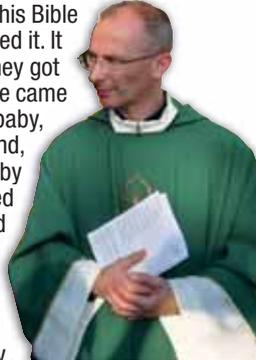
Thus, already from what we have seen so far, the number 13, which arises from the combination of 1 and 3, appears to have great religious value because it seems to express the entirety and richness of the Christian God in His triune dimension. Therefore, Mary could favor it, precisely to highlight how her action of intervention for the humanity, characterized by apparitions, is placed and realized completely within that divine will that she has always embraced with fullness. A further reflection leads us to discover also other rich meanings connected to the number 13. They arise instead of the 13 considered, this time as a number that follows 12, that is 12 plus 1. The 12 is in fact a number that occurs many times in the Scripture. Once more it is Ravasi telling us that it is the number that indicates "election". We only need to think of the twelve tribes of Israel, or of the twelve apostles who make up 13 if we consider them in unity with Jesus. A unity that is repeated when Jesus called them, entrusting them with the mission to drive away the unclean spirits and to heal all sorts of diseases and infirmities (Mt 10, 1-26). Then, at the moment of the last meal, when all were together in the upper room, He instituted the Eucharist. Lastly, when He rose and ascended to heaven, the apostles gathered in the Cenacle to receive the Holy Spirit. This time, the 13th was no longer Jesus, but Mary. This was the moment that the Church officially started its path, consisting of the Eucharistic Jesus, whose mission is entrusted to the successors of the apostles and whose protection is entrusted to the Mother of Jesus, who is now also the Mother of the Mystical Body i.e. precisely that of the Church. It is for this reason that Mary seems to favor the number 13, which is so important in symbols since it represents at the same time the fullness of the divinity as well as the action in the intermediate time of the Church in which we are living and which prepares us till the end? Let us all reflect about it.

Rosanna Brichetti Messori

We have received

Providential signs - Saturday, June 9, 2018, memory of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I found myself celebrating Mass at 5.00 pm at Fontanelle. At the end of the celebration I asked to pray for me and for my companions of the Mass, i.e. the priests ordained together with me, because on that day, 22 years ago, we celebrated the first Holy Mass. I, being original of Montichiari, had celebrated it not far from there, in the cathedral. After the celebration, a married couple, Anna and Francesco, approached me. Out of his Bible Francesco took a small picture and showed it to me, asking if I recognized it. It was a small image of my first Mass. I asked who they were and how they got it. "We are a couple of Milan. Twenty-two years ago, on June 9, 1996, we came here at Rosa Mystica of Fontanelle to ask for the grace of getting a baby, because we could not have one. It was the Sunday of Corpus Domini, and, since there was no celebration here, we attended the first Holy Mass by a young priest in the cathedral in Montichiari, who at the end distributed this image. The following year, June 9, 1997, Anna became pregnant and on March 5, 1998 our son was born. Since then every year on June 9 we come to thank Our Lady. This year we have the pleasant surprise of meeting that young priest of the first Holy Mass 22 years ago". In the eyes of the world this meeting may seem a strange coincidence, but in the eyes of faith, it is a sign that Our Lady wanted to grant us on the day of her Immaculate Heart, to show us how, in a mysterious way, that the Lord is always and everywhere present, operating in the dense pattern of our history to invite us to glorify God who performs miracles.

Don Angelo Pizzetti



■ *from South-Africa* - With great joy we share this testimony that comes from a distant country that was among the very few with whom we had no contact.

June 19, 2018 Praise to Jesus and honor to Maria Rosa Mystica! I started a prayer group of parishioners and consecrated persons, priests and nuns of different orders in honor of the devotion and desires of Our Lady Maria Rosa Mystica. The devotion started last year in June 2017 and has gained a great impulse. From the 1st of the month we make the request prayer until 12 noon and we celebrate an hour of grace on the 13th from 12 noon to 1 pm. We plan to celebrate October 13th and beg you to send us a prayer program for this day. We also have a pilgrim statue of Maria Rosa Mystica who visits convents and families. Many have been touched by the presence and blessings of our Maria Rosa Mystica (employment opportunities, healing, comfort, repentance).

Warm regards, (M)

SCHEDULE FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2018

Every day:

16.00: Confessions; 17.00 H. Rosary

Every Friday:

16.00: Confessions;
16.30: H. Rosary; 17.00: H. Mass.

Saturday:

16.00: Confessions; 16.30: H. Rosary
17.00: H. Mass, Prefestive

Sunday and feast days:

16.00-18.00: Confessions; 16.00: Adoration
16.30: H. Rosary; 17.00 High Mass

Sunday, July 8:

Feast of Maria Rosa Mystica, Mother of the Church

10-12: Confessions; 10.00: Eucharistic Adoration
10.30: H. Rosary; 11.00: High Mass
16-18: Confessions; 16.00: Eucharistic Adoration
16.30 H. Rosary; 17.00: High Mass

Friday, July 13 - Prayer day in honor of Maria Rosa Mystica, Mother of the Church

16.00: Confessions - Eucharistic Adoration
16.30: H. Rosary; 17.00 High Mass

Monday, July 16 - Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Thursday, July 26 - Memory of Sts. Joachim and Anna, parents of the Virgin Mary

16.00 Confessions; 16.30 H. Rosary
17.00 H. Mass

Monday, August 13 - Prayer day in honor of Maria Rosa Mystica, Mother of the Church

16.00: Confessions - Eucharistic Adoration
16.30: H. Rosary; 17.00: High Mass

Wednesday, August 15

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

16-18: Confessions; 16.00: Eucharistic Adoration
16.30: H. Rosary; 17.00: High Mass

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The postage costs for the delivery of the bulletin "The Voice of Rosa Mystica" are increasing; we beg the help of the kind readers to preserve the relationship with the faithful. Those who can receive it by e-mail please send us your e-mail. Those who want to continue to receive the paper newsletter by post, please contribute with a minimum offer to the costs. The Foundation will continue to send it to those who wish to receive it, but have no means to contribute.

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

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