
THE VOICE OF ROSA MYSTICA

MOTHER OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

FONTANELLE DI MONTICHIARI - (Brescia)

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of the **Foundation Rosa Mystica - Fontanelle**
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Paul VI
and Mgr. Francesco Rossi
Parish of Montichiari
from 1949 to 1970

Sunday, October 19, will be a very important day for our Church in Brescia and for the whole Church in the world as well: in Rome pope Paul VI will be beatified. Therefore, in the previous bulletins of the Voice of Rosa Mistica, we have and will continue to shed light on the writings and the Marian teachings of this great pope. Our hope is that this will provide to all of our readers an occasion of growth and true conversion to Christ, through the powerful intercession of Maria, Mother of the Church.

Msgr. Marco Alba
Episcopal Delegate

MARY IN THE LIGHT OF THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST

Paul VI Apost. Exhort.: «*Marialis cultus*», Introduction

«**F**rom the moment when we were called to the See of Peter, we have constantly striven to enhance devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary... The development, desired by us, of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary is an indication of the Church's genuine piety.

This devotion fits - as we have indicated above - into the only worship that is rightly called "Christian," because it takes its origin and effectiveness from Christ, finds its complete expression in Christ, and leads through Christ in the Spirit to the Father. In the sphere of worship this devotion necessarily reflects God's redemptive plan, in which a special form of veneration is appropriate to the singular place which Mary occupies in that plan.⁽⁴⁾ Indeed every authentic develop-

ment of Christian worship is necessarily followed by a fitting increase of veneration for the Mother of the Lord.The same is happening in our own time. The Church's reflection today on the mystery of Christ and on her own nature has led her to find at the root of the former and is a culmination of the latter the same figure of a woman: the Virgin Mary, the Mother of Christ and the Mother of the Church.

And the increased knowledge of Mary's mission has become joyful veneration of her and adoring respect for the wise plan of God, who has placed within His family (the Church), as in every home, the figure of a Woman, who in a hidden manner and in a spirit of service watches over that family "and carefully looks after it until the glorious day of the Lord"».

THE MOTHER OF JESUS IS ALSO OUR MOTHER

We have just read a passage from the introduction of the document that Paul VI has devoted to the Marian cult. And of course we would like to understand well what he wants to tell us. First, we will look at an important, even fundamental thing, regarding Mary and our relationship with her. What makes her very important, even precious, to us is a fact – one only fact – from which all other things derive. The fact, that she is the Mother of Jesus, i.e. of the Word that became flesh and through which she thus became the Mother of God. For this reason, we revere her and at the same time, we ask for her help and intercession. We therefore know very well, that if a Christian thinks that Mary is a kind of goddess having some proper powers, the person is completely mistaken, because this is absolutely not the case. All the power Mary has, she receives from her Son and only from Him. For this reason, Paul VI states that the veneration for Mary must be set in the cult towards God and to Her Son, Jesus. That is why the feasts in honor of Mary are not feasts in itself, but are part of the liturgical year. In the sense that they accompany the cycle, which begins with



the Advent and continues up to the Pentecost and the Ascension of the Lord, commemorating and rendering alive for us today the human event of the Savior. This is a fact, which today seems to us as taken for granted; this is somehow not the case. It is clear that throughout the centuries there have never been important and dangerous deviations in the Marian devotion. Somehow, it is necessary to recognize that with strength and authority the Vatican Council II has once again placed Mary very well in

the history of the salvation. This is the motive for which still the same Council has not established a distinctive document devoted to Mary, but has preferred to put the reflection on her inside the *Lumen Gentium*, i.e. the document devoted to the Church.

At that time, someone was a bit resentful about it, because it seemed to him that this reduced the figure of Mary. On the contrary, it is by placing her clearly in the history of the salvation that Mary receives – in an abundant way – the integral light of which she is worthy. Through her "yes", she became the Mother of Jesus and afterwards the best disciple of her Son, receiving at the same time the grace to become also the Mother of the whole Church and of every single believer.

We can state that one of the Marian merits of Paul VI is that with this document he has resumed the teaching of the Council and has consecrated it a new impetus for a better assimilation and integration of it by the clergy and the people of God. In the next reflection we will see further on how Mary accompanies Jesus in the history of salvation.

Rosanna Brichetti Messori



GREAT PARTY OF THE FAITHFUL OF SRI-LANKA



tica. Every day of the year, these faithful come to Fontanelle, alone or in groups. These family pilgrims use to bring floral homage, from a single rose, a pot of season flowers, up to the most beautiful floral compositions, to show their tender devotion to our dear Virgin and to thank her for a birth of a child, a pleasant event, or for the graces they received. Not only the floral homage, but also the whole visit to Fontanelle is performed with great devotion: the Way of the Cross, the homage to the Chapel, the kiss on the Crucifix,

with the great help of our seminarist Sashica, initiated the feast in the vigil with an afternoon procession and the Rosary. Around the altar erected on the square, a great crowd of faithful stood with flowers, flags, banners in white and Marian blue, impeccable altar boys in red and white robes, musicians and little girl dancers in honor of the Virgin and many priests. Mgr. Neville Joe Perera, delegate of the Sinhalese bishops for the faithful in Italy, celebrated the Mass. Also Mgr. Marco Alba was present, carrying around the precious Relic of the Holy Cross and giving the blessing with it at the Altar at the feet of the big Crucifix. After the Mass, the feast continued on the grass fields around Fontanelle and the spectacle of joyous people was not less uplifting than the sacred worship. The adoration was held an hour earlier in the afternoon. As said before, a natural passage of witness of faith took place between the two communities. Garlands of red, white and yellow roses covered the statue of Rosa Mystica during the procession, like a seal of friendship among different races of people; a seal of friendship that with the simplicity of a white rosebud was beginning to blossom under the rays of the sun, at the feet of our beloved Mother Rosa Mystica.

Don Giancarlo

Also this year, in mid-September, Fontanelle has had the joy to host the Sinhalese faithful for their annual gathering at the feet of the Virgin Rosa Mystica. Carefully prepared to the last details, the annual Marian meeting has been a great homage to the Virgin with the three roses on the chest. We all have learned to know and to appreciate the incessant pilgrimage of these brothers and sisters in the faith. They have left their beautiful island to settle down in Italy for work; in the meantime they have found the house of the Virgin Rosa Mys-

the Fount, the staircase climbed on the knees, everything is done with an uplifting devotion. Every year this daily incessant pilgrimage is becoming the testimony of faith of all these people. So much is true that this feast, started by the Sinhalese in the early morning, also

attracts Italian pilgrims and devotees, who continue the same feast in the afternoon, concluding it with another solemn Mass and Marian procession. This year the happy coincidence of the annual feast with that of the Saint Cross has made it even more beautiful. Fr. Jude and his assistants,



**Every fourth Sunday
Fr. Jude celebrates
a Mass at 11:30 hrs.
for the community of Sri-Lanka**



The value of a smile

A beautiful picture of the German pilgrim group accompanied by dear **GERTRAUDE** and Fr. Very faithful on the first Friday and Saturday of the month.

The association of Opus

Rosa Mystica dispatches many statues of Rosa Mystica to many places in the world.

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TO BE REMEMBERED

From October 1 to 13, every day confessions

15:00-16:00 Confessions
15:30 Rosary
17:00 Holy Mass

I 13 October or second month of October is a day of prayer in reparation of the offences and sacrileges against the Most Holy Eucharist: it is the «**Worldwide Union of the Communion of Reparation**». At the end of the celebrations, small blessed breads will be distributed.

09:00-12:00 Confessions
10:00 Benediction of the bread
10:30 Procession
11:00 Holy Mass
15:00 Eucharistic Adoration
15:30 Rosary and Confessions
16:00 Solemn Mass

At the end: procession and distribution of the blessed bread.

SCHEDULE OF PRAYERS FOR OCTOBER

Remember that from **October 1** the time of celebrations will be anticipated by one hour. **Rosary** will then take place at **16:00**. **16:00 Solemn Mass** preceded by the **Rosary** at **15:30**. Also this year we would like to experience the month of October with faith and devotion; it is the Marian and Missionary month, a month that begins with the liturgical memory of the small, big St. Therese of the Infant Jesus, Patroness of Missions.

Every 4th Sunday of the month

11:30 Fr. Jude offers the Mass for the Community of Sri-Lanka.

Important announcement: We kindly ask the priests, the religious and the escorts of the groups to announce their arrival on time to the secretary and the responsible director of the Cult in order to enable us to organize in the best possible way your reception and visit in Fontanelle. In this way we can prepare and provide you a pilgrimage in an orderly, devoted and fruitful way. We cordially invite you to visit the directory in the official website (www.rosamisticafontanelle.it) regarding the Marian worship in Fontanelle, the schedules and the new brochure «**History and places of worship**». In organizing your pilgrimages kindly act according to the rules of the Directory and the above quoted brochure. Thank you for your kind cooperation!

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Pilgrimage from Pordenone and outskirts to the Sanctuary of Rosa Mystica at Fontanelle on September 7, 2014

For each of us it has been a very beautiful day, for which I thank our celestial Mother.

*United in prayer
all your priests bless you!*

Foundation Rosa Mystica-Fontanelle

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