

IN GOD'S LIGHT

OBITUARY OF ROGATIONISTS

(Updated November 20, 2025)

Rogationists of the Heart of Jesus
Commission on Translations
Rome

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Translation: Religious Students of Fr. Di Francia Center of Studies,
Novices of St. Matthew Province, Fr. Cesare Bettoni RCJ, Fr. Jose Maria
Ezpeleta RCJ.

ST. HANNIBAL'S THOUGHTS ON DEATH

“I read with great emotion the news of the quiet and serene death of our dearest Brother. I can't deny that I was grieved by such a quick, unexpected death, but I was also consoled by how enviable it was. Truly one dies as he lives! The details of his death are very edifying, exemplary for all. We cannot let them vanish so as to manifest that very edifying death. We should not call it death! It was the beginning of eternal life. We are sure that the adorable Heart of Jesus picked him up and crowned him in heaven out of a peculiar love.

“We did not lose him. Now he is ours more than when he lived in our humble Congregation of the Heart of Jesus. Having entered the eternal glory, he will be a perpetual intercessor in front of the highest God. He will be forever a glorified Rogationist.

“When I came to know of our dearest Confrere's death, I applied the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for him and invited others to offer prayers for him. Let us continue doing so; if he does not need them for being in Purgatory, they may be useful for his additional joy in Paradise. Let us love Jesus our Goodness and his holy Mother. Let us belong to God, who created and redeemed us, and use all our strength and our life for his glory and for the good of souls. Let us always be longing for our celestial homeland where we all hope to be happily united in God's bosom.”

(St. Hannibal M. Di Francia Letters, January 28, 1913)

Foreword

(1st Edition, 1991)

To "make memory" of our confreres who died expresses not only our appreciation and thankfulness to God for the gift life, vocation, sanctity, ministry, and achievements granted to each individual confrere, but also our acknowledgment of the personal contribution he gave to the interpretation, and re-living and implementation of the charism of our Congregation. Remembering the departed confreres becomes therefore a way to get in touch with the life, blood, flesh, and lived tradition of our Congregation. This helps us go back to her deepest roots: the Father Founder and his charism. The confreres, who are already ahead of us in experiencing God's mercy and glory forever, are in the homeland where the good Rogationist "evangelical laborers" are gathered around Blessed Hannibal. They are waiting for us to accomplish our tasks in the Lord's harvest so that we may join them when our earthly pilgrimage also come to its end. There was an improvised translation of the Necrology, but it was not so respectful of the original text and often not reliable at all. For this reason, it was necessary to review it, but practically a new one had to be done, and with these criteria:

- *as much as possible the exact burial place of the confreres is indicated, though missing or incomplete in the original Italian text.*
- *Being meaningless outside Italy, the mention of some details about locations (the distinction between civil and ecclesiastical district) was simplified.*
- *Some minor historical imprecisions were rectified.*
- *As much as possible the same phraseology was used for all the confreres, removing redundant peculiarities used only for some of them.*
- *The necrology of the Father Founder was removed because we have already so many biographies about him and an approved liturgical celebration on June 1.*
- *Many of the Brothers, especially at the time of the Founder were assigned to the so-called "Obolo" (=donation) or "Sala Obolo" which is a room adjacent to the Shrine of St. Anthony in Messina where the Brothers used to receive donations for the "Bread of St. Anthony" from people asking for prayers from the orphans or for Masses. Many of the Brothers assigned to the "Obolo" were able to transform this apparently simple activity into a wide-ranging apostolate not only as a support for the orphans but as spiritual assistance to the many devotees of St. Anthony, guiding them to a deeper spiritual life. In order not*

to lose all these meanings connected with the word "Obolo" we preferred to keep the Italian word.

A special thanks is to be given to the Rogationist Religious Students and Fathers of the "Fr. Di Francia Center of Studies" who collaborated in this effort.

Fr. Gaspare Gallitto,
Major Superior

Manila. April 21, 1991

XXVIII World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Foreword

(2nd Edition, 2006)

The Moment of Ecstasy

“This life is a period of training, a time of preparation, during which we learn the art of loving God and our neighbor, the heart of the Gospel message, sometimes succeeding, sometimes failing.

“Death is the way which leads us to the vision of God, the moment when we shall see Him as He really is and find our total fulfillment in love's final choice.

“The ultimate union with that which is most lovable union with God, is the moment of ecstasy, the unending "now" of complete happiness. That vision will draw from us the response of surprise, wonder, and joy which will be forever our prayer of praise. We are made for that.” (Basil Cardinal Hume, O.S.B., *To be a Pilgrim*, 1984, p. 230).

“We never lose those whom we love, because we can love them in the One whom we cannot lose.” (*St. Augustine*)

“I am saddened by the departure of our beloved confrere. Nevertheless, I adore God's inscrutable ways, with the certainty that if He has taken him to Himself, he wanted to crown him in heaven. Then, we should not say that we lost him, because, in the everlasting glory, he will be forever with us.” (*St. Hannibal*)

I am forwarding the updated necrology of our Congregation: Let us pray for our departed confreres and imitate them in their strong love for God, the Church, and the Congregation.

Manila. March 19, 2006, Solemnity of St. Joseph,

Fr. Bruno Rampazzo, RCJ

Major Superior

January 1

Death Anniversary of BRO. OMOBONO PIETRO BIANCA

Bro. Omobono Bianca was born on January 20, 1907, in Curinga (Catanzaro, Italy). On March 27, 1924, at the age of 16, he was accepted among the orphans of the Avignone Houses. It had already been for some years that he had a great desire to give himself to the Lord in the religious life.

The following year, on May 3, the Father Founder, upon checking his good attitudes, admitted him to the postulancy among the seminarians. On December 8, 1925, he entered the novitiate and in receiving the religious habit from the Fonder, he was named "Omobono di Maria Immacolata". He was placed under the protection of the patron saint of tailors - Omobono - because this was the job he had learned before entering the Congregation. He made his first profession on April 29, 1928, and this perpetual profession on April 29, 1931.

In the following years, he worked with the "artigianelli" (=little artisans) in the dressmaker's workshop and was in charge of the wardrobe and of the guests. From 1931 to 1948, he was assigned to assist and form the little orphans, first in the new institute of "Cristo Re" and then in the Mother House where the new institute was inaugurated six years later. In this period, he served also for two short terms in the House of Orià. From 1948 onward, the Mother House in Messina became his base. He was assigned to several activities according to the different needs of the house and showed cherishing care for the little orphans and for the worship in the "Santuario" where he played the grand organ till the last years of his life.

Since the times of the Father Founder, the whole city of Messina loved the small Anthonian orphans as its own children. Brother Omobono, always wearing the cassock and holding his hat, was punctually seen together with them, and guiding them in their charming navy uniform. He was always affable, joyful, available, and Messina loved him in the same way as it loved the orphans. Thus, he became a reference for so many people: those in need approached him for help or for advice; those well-off availed of him to do charitable works and to be edified by his integrity, piety, simplicity and

goodness. "Now that I am old, I am trying to be useful by doing several tasks," he wrote in 1985.

He went back to the Lord on January 1, 1992, worn out by the infirmities of his old age, but still intent on continuing his industriousness. In 1988, to his great surprise, he was awarded by the Head of the Nation with the high decoration of "Knight of the Republic". Brother Omobono was proud of having been given the religious habit by the Father Founder and of having been healed through his intercession from a serious illness which brought him almost to death in 1934. He was one of the very few witnesses who could give testimony in both the processes for the canonization of the Fr. Hannibal.

We can truly say that he also drew from the Father Founder so many virtues, particularly his love and fidelity to religious life, his love for the little ones and the poor, his simplicity, humility, industriousness, availability to all so as to become a shining sign of love to God and to neighbor.

And of FR. VINCENT CHINWEM ANUFORO

Fr. Vincent Anuforo was born in Umueme Uzoagba, (Ikeduru, Imo State, Nigeria), on July 18, 1960. As a young man, he entered the diocesan seminary, but when he had just started his theological studies, he felt the Lord's call to the religious life. He met our Congregation and, while he was waiting to enter it, he began a school for poor children in Lagos, which he entrusted to his brother once he was allowed to leave for Italy. He entered the Congregation in Grottaferrata (Rome) in 1992. In 1994, he was admitted to the novitiate in Messina and concluded it with the first profession on September 8, 1995. He made his perpetual profession in Naples on March 19, 1999 and was ordained priest in Frascati (Rome) on June 24, 2000.

The initial years of his ministry were spent in the House of Bari, where he was assigned to the educational field with the boys of the Oratory. At the end of 2003, he was assigned to the House of Matera, as Prefect of the Socio-Educative Institute. Two years later, he transferred to Bordonaro (Messina) as a parochial vicar. He held this position until the summer of 2011, when he was transferred to the House of Religious Students of Theology in Rome.

In the several locations where he worked, he expressed his priestly and missionary zeal also in the spiritual guidance of a lay association of solidarity which he inspired and called *Mission of solidarity and fraternity - Friends of the Holy Angels*, committed to the support of the socio-educative work he founded in Nigeria, and where he hoped that one day the Rogationists would start their presence.

On November 30, 2012, he was admitted to the hospital for lung illness which in a short time proved fatal to him. He was lovingly attended by his confreres, by some members of his family and of his Association, until his passing to eternal life, which occurred on January 1, 2013, on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

We remember Fr. Vincent for his human and religious virtues, his pastoral zeal, and his love for the Lord and for the others.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

January 2

Death Anniversary of FR. SALVATORE SOTTILE

Fr. Salvatore Sottile was born in Barcellona (Messina, Italy), on August 24, 1929. He entered the Congregation in Messina on December 19, 1942. He was admitted to the novitiate in Trani on September 29, 1947, where the year after he made his first profession. He attended his theological studies in Assisi, where he had the perpetual profession on September 29, 1955. He was ordained priest in Trani on July 13, 1958.

He spent the first five years of his apostolate committed in the education of the boys in Messina (Christ the King). In 1963, he was assigned to the House of Matera, with the same task. After few years, he was entrusted with the office of the assistant Parish Priest, and then, Parish Priest until 1975. Then, he was transferred in the House of Tarragona (Spain), and after that, to Brazil, where he worked in the Parish apostolate until 1989. After a short stay in Sao Paolo, Seat of the Province, he went to Chile in view of a new opening which was not actualized. In 1994, he was assigned in a new House of Tucuman (Argentina), committed in the formation of the boys, in the Hogar San Agustin.

Simple and industrious Religious and bound by the commitments of the consecration and of priesthood, always available to accept the offices given by obedience, he has clearly given witness to the virtues proper to Religious life and has always manifested an attachment to the Founder and the Congregation. He accepted with patience his deteriorating health condition. Surrounded by the affection of the confreres, of the boys and of the medical personnel, he died peacefully in the Lord on January 2, 2006.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

January 3

Death Anniversary of BRO. SALVATORE LABARBUTA

Bro. Salvatore Labarbuta was born in Minervino Murge (Bari, Italy), on October 11, 1906, and was baptized two days after, at the Immaculate Conception Parish. After elementary school, he attended the "Royal Two-Year Vocational Agricultural Course" in Minervino.

On June 16, 1935, the assistant Parish Priest attested that the young Salvatore Labarbuta "during the long period that he lived in my Parish showed exemplar behavior. Among the Catholic youth, he gave the example of zeal for the glory of God and for the salvation of souls." Supported by this certification, on September 29, 1935, he was accepted in the seminary of Trani as aspirant for Brotherhood.

On March 25, 1936, he was admitted to the postulancy and, in the same year, on September 29, he took the Rogationist habit. Two years later, on September 29, he consecrated himself to the Lord with his first religious profession. He perpetually professed on September 26, 1944.

After the first religious profession he remained in the House in Trani. In 1941 he was transferred to Messina; in 1943 he was in Santa Lucia del Mela, where the community of the House of Christ the King of Messina was sheltered because of the World War II. Later, he was in the Houses of Trani, Naples, Bari, Matera and finally of Messina in the Institute for the deaf and mute, where he remained until the last day of his life. He carried out with devotion the assignments of assistant of orphans and seminarians, sacristan, and as the one in charge of the general maintenance.

With the worsening of his condition, because of his high blood pressure and arteriosclerosis, he had to be hospitalized in the "Cappellani" Clinic where he died on January 2, 1974. He was buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina

Let us remember him in our prayers.

January 8

Death Anniversary of FR. PASQUALE DONVITO

Fr. Pasquale Donvito was born in Gioia del Colle (Bari, Italy), on July 27, 1934. He entered the Congregation in Trani in 1947. In that House, in 1950, he was admitted to the novitiate and on the following year made his first profession. He made his perpetual profession in Assisi on September 29, 1956, and was ordained priest in Oria on July 28, 1963.

He spent the early years of his ministry in the Houses of Padua, Desenzano and Naples, in the work of formation and teaching. Then, from 1972 to 1978, he was the Superior and Parish Priest in the House of San Demetrio. In the following years until 2010, he alternatively worked in the Houses of Naples, Bari and Trani, holding various offices in different fields, at times even simultaneously, such as superior, principal, professor, treasurer, secretary of the benefactors' office or prefect of the students. He was able to put at the service of the evangelization of the new means of communication by creating a network of thousands of members whom he animated as long as his energies allowed him. In 2011, he was assigned to the House of Trani as a collaborator in the apostolate of the parish and the Shrine.

In recent years, he suffered a serious illness, which he faced with strength and serenity. He was able to react to the disease until the middle of December 2012, when he was confined to bed, assisted with all the care by the confreres, by his family, by the medical staff and friends. He fell asleep in the Lord on January 8, 2013.

Fr. Pasquale loved the Lord and was faithful to his priestly and Rogationist vocation. He served his confreres in a simple, humble and joyful way, availing of the many gifts received.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

January 11

Death Anniversary of FR. ANTONIO RICCIARDI

Fr. Antonio Ricciardi was born in Chiaromonte (Potenza, Italy) on September 1, 1938. Prepared and guided by Bro. Severino Ferreri, he entered the Congregation in Oria on September 15, 1950. His entrance to the novitiate was on September 29, 1955, in Trani where he made also his first profession on September 30, 1956. His philosophical studies were in Messina, the practical training in Desenzano, and his theological studies in Rome. On September 29, 1961, he made his perpetual profession in Florence and on July 4, 1965, he was consecrated as a priest in the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Trani.

In his first seven years of the priestly apostolate, he was in the Houses of Bari, Trani, and Oria, taking care of the orphans or of the seminarians. In 1972, he was transferred to Matera as vice Superior and vocation promoter; in the following six years, he was the Superior of the House. Later, he was assigned to Trani and then to the Anthonian Propaganda Office in Morlupo. From 1988 to 1994, he was again Superior of the House of Matera. From 1993 to 1996 he also had the task as treasurer of the Southern Italian Province. From 1994 onward, he collaborated with the youth vocation community and with the apostolate of the Shrine of Our Lady of La Grotta in Modugno (Bari).

By character, he was somehow shy and reserved, but at the same time, he was very affable and joyful. He was wise, prudent, and industrious. He went back to the House of the Father on January 11, 1997, while he was preparing to celebrate the Mass, stricken by heart attack. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Trani.

Besides his human virtues, we treasure the memory of his testimony of consequentiality to his priestly, religious, and Rogationist vocation, and for his attachment to the Congregation.

And of **FR. PIETRO CHILLEMI**

He was born in Ali Superiore (Messina, Italy) on January 29, 1939. He entered the Congregation in Messina on September 28, 1952. He was admitted to the novitiate in San Demetrio on November 17, 1957, made his first profession in Florence on September 30, 1958. He made his perpetual profession in Trani on September 27, 1964 and was ordained priest in Messina on August 8, 1969.

He spent the first ten years of his apostolate in Palermo, first as a formator of aspirants and then as superior of the house. After a short stay in Francofonte, he was assigned in 1980 as superior of the Institute for deaf and mute in Messina. From 1986 to 1993, he was again in Palermo, engaged in the Anthonian Secretariat and in the parish ministry. Then he was transferred to Naples, as superior of the house, until 1999. In the years that followed, he passed in successive periods between the houses of Palermo and Messina Institute for deaf and mute. In 2016, he was assigned to the Mother House of Messina, as a collaborator in the sanctuary.

Fr. Peter faithfully kept his priesthood, religious consecration, love for Father Hannibal, and a sense of belonging to the Congregation.

He was a humble religious, open to listening and to dialogue, wise and prudent, always available when he was assigned to new positions, always welcoming and jovial with the confreres.

In the last period of his life, the Lord wanted to try him with the disease, which he endured with great patience and serenity.

He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on January 11, 2019.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

January 15

Death Anniversary of FR. GIUSEPPE LEO

Fr. Giuseppe Leo was born in Sant'Agata (Foggia, Italy) on December 21, 1920. He was accepted in the House of Trani as aspirant on July 9, 1933. There he attended his first formation with the Gymnasium Course; the year of the novitiate culminating with the religious profession on March 30, 1938; and the Lyceum Course. He made his perpetual profession in Oria on September 5, 1942, at the end of his year of practical training. Then, he transferred to Messina for his theological studies. There he was ordained a priest on August 15, 1946, in the Shrine of St. Anthony and Temple of the Evangelical Rogation. His first years of ministry were spent in the Mother House in Messina, then he was assigned to the House of Desenzano where he was the Superior from 1954 to 1959. In the three years that followed, he was in the Mother House in Messina again as Superior. Then, from 1962 to 1968, he became General Councilor and General Secretary. After some years, in the House of Oria, he went to Brazil as a missionary in Bauru, where for some years he was also Superior. From 1974 to 1980, he was back in Rome with the role of General Councilor and Secretary. In the succeeding six years, he continued to be the General Secretary and for a while, he was also the Postulator General.

At the end of 1986, he returned to Brazil where, apart from other assignments, for some years he was also Secretary of the Province, in charge of parochial activities first in São Paulo and then in Brasilia. In the spring of 1992, shortly after transferring to Passos to promote the Founder's Veneration in the Shrine dedicated to him, he was struck by cerebral ictus which completely paralyzed him. He serenely bore the cross of this heavy sickness up to January 15, 1996, when the Lord called him to heaven to reward his faithful service.

We remember his virtues: piety and hard work, strength and kindness, humility, charity and availability, great love for the Father Founder and for the Congregation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

January 18

Death Anniversary of NOV. DIDIO SERVIDIO

Novice Didio Servidio was born in Toritto, (Bari, Italy) on July 27, 1895, he belonged to the group of students at the suppressed Institute of the "Small Brothers of the Most Blessed Sacrament" of Fr. Eustachio Montemurro, who were welcomed by the Father Founder in Oria in 1911 in order to allow them to continue their studies for religious life and priesthood. He received the sacred habit from the Father Founder on November 1, 1912, changing his name Francesco to the religious name "Didio" (= Belonging to God).

After few months, on January 18, 1913, because of typhoid fever, he passed away with a peaceful and sweet death: he was only 17 years old and one of the best hopes for the Congregation. The Father Founder wrote to the religious of the House of Oria about him on February 18, 1913, "Truly one dies the way he lives. We all remember how humble, silent, obedient and meditative that dear son was and with how much fervor he received the Most Holy Sacrament. Having been assigned as assistant of his companions, he was never proud but always obedient and respectful with Superiors."

Let us remember him in our prayers.

January 19

Death Anniversary of FR. VINCENZO SANTARELLA

Fr. Vincenzo Santarella was born in Corato (Bari, Italy), on the November 15, 1920. He entered the Congregation in Trani (Bari) on the October 16, 1932. After finishing his secondary education, he entered the novitiate on March 29, 1936. On the September 29 of the following year, he made his first religious profession. He completed his studies in Trani and in Oria, where he also remained for two years of practical training. Then, he stayed in the Mother House in Messina where he finished his philosophical and theological studies. In Messina, he made his perpetual profession on the September 29, 1943, and was ordained priest on July 15, 1945. In that same year, he did his specialization in Philosophy in Rome and obtained the degree in 1951. In the years that followed, continuing his previous task in Assisi, Fr. Santarella received teaching loads in the fields of Philosophy, Pedagogy, and even of Natural Sciences, at our Philosophical Center of Studies. He was given the same task in his subsequent places of apostolate, namely, in Naples, Messina, Grottaferrata and Morlupo, until 1983. With great availability, he integrated and balanced his teaching commitments with the performance of his sacerdotal ministry, particularly the administration of the Sacrament of Penance and spiritual direction. From 1983 to 1987, he dedicated himself to this ministry, teaching, and preaching, while collaborating in the activities of the Shrine of St. Anthony in Messina. After some time, he returned to Rome. At first, he was assigned at the Curia to take care of the historical research on the Congregation. Afterward, he was assigned to the St. Anthony Parish at Circonvallazione Appia, as a collaborator. There, he enriched his pastoral ministry with research works, tracing a significant number of biographical and historical profiles of departed confreres.

In 1998, he received medical treatment to recover his generally good healthy condition due to a problematic blood flow in his brain. On the evening of January 19, 1999, while he was in the Curia for a period of recovery after a recent stay in the hospital, he suddenly suffered an attack that caused him his death.

Those who met him will remember Fr. Santarella for his human qualities, his moral uprightness, his being jolly, meek, and available, and his being a good example of religious virtues and of great love for the Congregation.

And of FR. FRANCESCO CIFARELLI

Fr. Francesco Cifarelli was born in Santeramo in Colle (Bari, Italy) on March 18, 1922. He entered the Congregation in Oria on October 28, 1939. After two years, he was admitted to the novitiate. He made his first profession in Trani on March 29, 1943, and his perpetual profession in Assisi in 1949. Then, he was assigned in the house of Bari where he remained for seven years working for the education of the students.

In 1957, he went to Brazil as a missionary. He was assigned in the House of Passos where he continued to work with the students, while at the same time completing his theological studies. He was ordained priest in Guaxupe on December 13, 1959.

The first seven years of his apostolate were spent in Criciúma, then, for some years he worked in Passos, and again, in Criciúma for eleven more years, where he was engaged in parish work and in the education of the students, in the ministry of Confession, and in spiritual direction.

In 1979, he returned to Italy and was assigned to the House of Trani where he remained for the rest of his life, performing the task of spiritual father while collaborating in the service of the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, making himself available for the Sacrament of Penance which he administered to many priests of the Diocese. Towards the end of 2002, his health condition worsened until it was deemed necessary for him to stay, with adequate medical assistance, in the Oasis of Nazareth in Corato, where he was frequently visited by the confreres. On the evening of January 18, 2003, because of his worsening condition, he received the anointing of the sick. The following morning, in the presence of Bro. Michele Lacetera, suffered a sudden cardio circulatory arrest.

Fr. Francesco, sustained by a particular devotion to Our Lady, served the Lord in the Congregation with generosity, meekness, humility and simplicity, availability, and priestly zeal.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

January 24

Death Anniversary of FR. MARIO GALLUCCI

Fr. Mario Gallucci was born in Casalnuovo Monterotaro (Foggia, Italy) on October 15, 1937. He entered the Congregation in Oria on September 20, 1951. He was admitted to the Novitiate on September 29, 1956, in Trani, where on September 30, 1957 he made his first profession. He studied philosophy in Messina and theology in Padua, where he made his perpetual profession on September 27, 1964. He was ordained a priest in Trani on July 31, 1966.

In the first sixteen years of his apostolate, he was mainly engaged in formation and teaching, initially in the house of Subiaco; from 1967 in Desenzano; and from 1982, in Naples. From 1984 to 1987 he was assigned to Francofonte, as ABO Secretary and then to Naples, as Superior, until 1996. Immediately afterwards, he was assigned as Parish priest in Palermo, until 2005, and then in Trani, until 2008. In the following years, he worked in the pastoral care of the Sanctuaries, initially in Oria, then in Modugno, then in Messina and then again in Oria. In 2019, he was transferred to Bari to collaborate in the parish.

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In December 2019, due to physical ailment and walking difficulties, he underwent a heart surgery. After an initial improvement, complications occurred and, late in the evening of January 24, 2020, a cardiac arrest ended his earthly life.

Fr. Mario testified to his fidelity to the priesthood and the consecrated life with constant commitment and availability, endowed with a joviality that always accompanied him and attracted the esteem and sympathy of all.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

January 25

Death anniversary of: FR. GIACOMO ALBERTO ROSSINI

He was born in Cizzago (Brescia) on January 24, 1940. He entered the Congregation in Desenzano (BS) on August 4, 1957. He entered the novitiate in Florence on September 29, 1958, and made his first profession on September 30, 1960. He made perpetual profession in Messina on September 26, 1965, and then, after years of apostolic work in the community as a religious brother and after attending academic courses in theology, he was ordained a priest in Desenzano del Garda on June 23, 1979.

Available to the voice of obedience, he worked in the houses of Messina, Palermo, Rome, Oria, San Demetrio, San Cesareo, Florence, Padua, Desenzano, Trezzano sul Naviglio and, for some years beyond the borders of Italy, in the Philippines, in Tarragona (Spain) and in Kabul, faithful to the religious life and to the priestly ministry.

Sensitive and gifted in the education of minors and in the service of the poor, he dedicated himself totally to works of charity, with particular attention to the fulfilment of his various duties, always ready and available, even in his last years, which were marked by illness.

In November 2023 he was assigned to the Motherhouse of Messina, where he maintained his serenity as his illness progressed, offering his services in the Sanctuary Basilica of St. Anthony in the ministry of confession.

He died on January 25, 2025. As stated in the funeral homily, "the Lord gave him the grace to die here, next to St. Hannibal, true father of orphans and the poor."

Let us remember him in our prayers.

January 27

Death Anniversary of FR. UMBERTO MARIO BELLINI

Fr. Umberto Mario Bellini was born in Minervino Murge (Bari), on May 7, 1914. He took the religious habit in Oria on October 17, 1929, taking the religious name of Ignatius. On April 19, 1931, he made his first religious profession in Oria, and on September 29, 1937, he made his perpetual profession in Messina where he was ordained priest on July 30, 1939.

Endowed with bright talent and inclination to the humanities, writings and to foreign languages, which he spoke fluently, he used these talents for the service of God and for the good of his neighbors, especially those who are more in need, like the blind and deaf. He became the Rector of the Orphanage Christ the King in Messina, then of the "Istituto Serafico" in Assisi, for the blind, the deaf and mute, after having attained a specialization in the education of people with disability.

From 1947 to 1956, he was also Councilor and Secretary of the General Council of the Congregation. He was the Rector of the "Istituto Annibale Di Francia" for the deaf and mute in Messina, when a tragic car accident on January 27, 1962, snatched him from the love of his confreres. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

January 28

Death Anniversary of DCN. VITO COSIMO DONVITO

Deacon Vito Cosimo Donvito was born in Barletta (Bari, Italy) on March 12, 1921. He entered the Congregation in Trani (Bari) on June 21, 1937, where he was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1938. He made his first profession on March 31, 1940. He made his perpetual profession in Oria (Brindisi) on March 28, 1945.

While he was completing his basic formation, he was assigned in formation of the students in the Houses of Messina, Oria, Naples, and Rome, for about sixteen years. He worked as well in various offices in the Houses of Desenzano and Rome.

On 1958, he went to Brazil as a missionary and was assigned in the House of Bauru. There, he was also assigned to the students in the educational institute. After his missionary experience there, he returned to Italy. From 1962 to 1967, he was assigned in the House of Urbania. In 1968, he returned to Brazil. He started to work among the students in the House of Criciúma, and then, in the vocation promotion in the same House, and subsequently in the Houses of Passos, Gravatai and Brasilia, until 1992. He received the Order of Permanent Deacon in Passos on April 30, 1988. In 1993, he returned to Italy and was assigned at the House of Francofonte. In the last months of 1998, he was afflicted with an illness that consumed him within a short time, which he endured with serenity. Comforted by the Holy Sacraments, he fell asleep in the Lord on January 28, 1999. We remember his industry, his abundant zeal for many years in the promotion of vocations, and his works in Brazil.

And of FR. ERNESTO BUTANO

Born in San Teodoro (Messina, Italy) on November 7, 1932, Ernesto entered the Congregation in Naples on November 7, 1946. On September 29, 1950, he was admitted to the novitiate in Trani, where the following year he made his first profession. He professed the perpetual vows in Padua on September 27, 1956. He was ordained a priest in Messina on August 9, 1959.

After the first ten years of apostolate among the young pupils in Bari, Messina, and Florence, he expressed much of his ministry in the Spanish-speaking missions of the Congregation.

In 1970, he began the presence of the Congregation at the Shrine of Our Lady of Loreto in Tarragona (Spain). Eight years later, in November 1978, he moved to Campana (Argentina), where in the following year the Congregation was entrusted with a parish.

From 1985 to 2011 he was successively in Argentina and Italy, with short stays also in Chile, Brazil, and Mexico. He was involved in the various fields of the life of the Congregation, in the management of Houses and Works, in the economy as well as in the parish work and vocation animation.

In Fr. Ernesto, we find attachment to the Congregation and to the Founder with sense of initiative and missionary spirit, with willingness and ability to adapt, with righteousness in his religious consecration and priestly ministry.

From 2012, he resided at the Mother House in Messina, where he worked in the apostolate of the Shrine.

By the end of 2016, his precarious health conditions worsened. He fell asleep serenely in the Lord on the evening of January 28, 2017.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

Death Anniversary of FR. MARIO GERMINARIO

He was born in Santeramo in Colle (Bari, Italy) on January 31, 1935. He entered the Congregation in Oria on November 13, 1949. He was admitted to the Novitiate on September 29, 1952, in Trani, where on September 30, 1953 he made his first profession. He studied philosophy in Naples and theology in Rome. He made his perpetual profession in Oria on September 26, 1958. He was ordained a priest in Rome on July 9, 1961.

In the first years of apostolate, he worked in the Anthonian Secretariat, first in Naples and then in Messina - Christ the King. From 1972 to 1981, he was a formator and teacher of religious students, first in the Mother House of Messina and then in Grottaferrata. In 1981, he was transferred to the Rogate Center in Rome. In 1984, he became the parish priest of the parish of Rome - Piazza Asti. In the General Chapter of 1986, he was elected General Councilor for vocation promotion, formation, and studies. From 1992 to 1999, he worked in the Rogate Center, in the parish of Rome - Piazza Asti, and then in the house of Padua. From 1999 to 2004, he was assigned to the sanctuary of the Madonna della Grotta di Modugno (Bari), then to the Boys Village of Bari. He spent one year in Florence and three years in Matera. In 2011, he was transferred to the Mother House of Messina, as collaborator in the basilica-shrine, where, after a long and painful illness, his earthly life ended on January 29, 2020.

Fr. Mario, endowed with a lively intelligence, interested in different cultural fields, was in particular a constant researcher in the field of philosophy and theology with numerous publications. His experience in the General Council and, above all, his commitment to formation for many years, kept alive in him the sense of belonging to the Congregation, associated with the critical study of our charism.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

January 31

**Death Anniversary of NOV. MARCELO FRANCISCO ALVES
DA COSTA**

Novice Marcelo Da Costa was born in Santos (São Paulo, Brazil) on April 23, 1972, and baptized on August 13 of the same year.

He was 15 when he felt the vocation to the Rogationist religious life. On February 10, 1987, he was accepted in our John XXIII Seminary of Bauru where he received the sacrament of Confirmation on November 21 of the same year. After three years the Superiors admitted him to the novitiate in Bauru on January 25, 1990, under the guidance of Fr. Jose Jonas Da Silva, the Novice Master.

Marcelo Francisco had been attracted by the charism of the Rogate and by the life of the Blessed Founder, and with his calm temperament he showed a constant availability especially in collaborating with the activities of Our Lady of Graces Parish in Bauru. He also had a particular sensitivity to the poor. After the rite of admission to the novitiate, he manifested to the Provincial Superior his strong determination to be totally committed in that year of formation. He was a good hope for the Congregation, especially for our works in Brazil. But the Lord's plans were different. On January 31, 1990, on our Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, after the solemn Mass, the "great Supplica" and the festive lunch, the novices went to the river at the nearby town of Avai, as they had already done several times in the past for some recreation.

Late in the afternoon, some asked permission to go swimming in the river which they were very familiar with, so as to find refreshment from that summer heat. At a certain point, while swimming, Francesco Marcelo fainted and was pulled by the current. The others, though agonizing in their heart, could not do anything to avoid the tragedy. He was swept away by the waters under the eyes of his terrified companions. His body was found two days later.

Though he was a Novice only for few days, Francisco Marcelo is considered a confrere of ours. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Bauru.

And of FR. REGINALDO VERISSIMO FERREIRA

Born in Frutal (MG, Brazil) on January 19, 1979, Fr. Reginaldo entered the Congregation in Brasilia on August 1, 2007. He was admitted to the novitiate on February 6, 2009, in Curitiba, where he made his first profession in the following year. He made his perpetual profession on January 18, 2014, in São Paulo, and he was ordained priest in Frutal on February 7, 2015.

In the first two years of priestly ministry, he worked in the House of Bauru, as a formator of the Propedeutic stage. After the death in a car accident of Fr. Roy Thomas Moothedath, a Rogationist missionary in Angola, Fr. Reginaldo expressed his willingness to go to mission in Africa. After a short preparation, in the month of April 2017 he transferred Cuango, Lunda Nord, Angola.

At the end of January 2018, while he was in his family in Frutal for a short period of rest, he was attacked by a malarial fever, whose virus had contracted in Africa. He was admitted to the hospital in Uberaba (MG), but his weakened body could not stand the treatment he was administered with. He fell asleep in the Lord on our Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, on January 31, 2018.

In Fr. Reginaldo, we admired his simplicity and joviality, his missionary availability and, above all, his priestly and Rogationist witnessing.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

February 4

Death Anniversary of FR. CIRO QUARANTA

He was born in Grottaglie (Taranto, Italy) on July 26, 1932. He entered the Congregation in Messina on November 11, 1943. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1948, in Trani, where he made his first profession the following year. He made his perpetual profession on September 29, 1954, in Assisi and was ordained a priest on July 6, 1957, in Oria.

During the first years of apostolate, he was assigned to the formation of young religious, initially in Rome and then in Messina, Padua, and Grottaferrata. In the following period, he carried out the office of Superior in Desenzano and later as Treasurer, in Messina, and in Grottaferrata. From 1975 to 1983 he was the Superior of the Rogate Vocational Center of Rome. In 1981 the Congregation for Catholic Education entrusted him with the position of Secretary of the II International Congress of Vocations, a role in which he demonstrated his doctrinal preparation and organizational skills. After that experience, in 1983, he was called to work in that said Congregation of the Holy See.

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From 1983 to 1999, as Postulator General of the Congregation, he promoted the cause of canonization of Father Founder, who was beatified on October 7, 1990.

In the 1986 General Chapter, he was elected Councilor and Vicar General of the Congregation.

In the last period of his life, while residing in San Cesareo, he was tried by illness, which he endured with serenity, continuing to keep busy in research on the Holy Founder and in the study of the spirituality of the Congregation.

He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on February 4, 2019.

Let's remember him in our prayers.

February 5

Death Anniversary of FR. ANTONIO AUGUSTO COLUCCIA

Fr. Antonio Augusto Coluccia was born in Gallipoli (Lecce, Italy), on April 7, 1917. When he was eleven, he entered our Seminary in Oria. He entered the novitiate in Trani on October 6, 1932. He made his first religious profession on April 18, 1934, and the perpetual profession on October 8, 1939. He was ordained priest at our Shrine of St. Anthony in Oria on August 2, 1942.

His apostolic commitment was carried out in the Houses of Santa Lucia del Mela, Oria, Padua, Napoli, Messina, Palermo, Subiaco, Trani, and Taranto, mainly with management roles in different assignments such as, assistant and formator of orphans, the deaf and mute, and seminarians. He was also given parish assignments.

From 1982 onward, having been assigned at the Shrine of St. Anthony in Messina, he devoted himself to the ministry of confessions, spiritual direction, and to a zealous preaching which met the affection, esteem, and admiration of the faithful coming to him.

He was meek, hospitable, and sensitive, rich in priestly and religious virtues, and especially of the spirituality of our Congregation which he greatly loved. His health, already precarious in the last years, worsened starting from the summer of 1988. In October, he was hospitalized for kidney problems. In his last months, he bore the long suffering with strength and serenity. Assisted by affectionate confreres and relatives, and comforted with the Holy Sacraments, he rested in the Lord on February 6, 1989. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

February 8

Death Anniversary of FR. CARMELO IPPOLITO

Fr. Carmelo was born in Furnari (Messina, Italy) on December 12, 1917. He entered the Congregation in Oria on December 13, 1928. He was admitted to the novitiate on April 18, 1934, in Trani, where he made his first profession on October 19, 1935. He made his perpetual profession in Messina on September 10, 1941, and was ordained priest in Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto (Messina) on May 9, 1943.

After the first years of apostolate with the orphans and seminarians, in teaching and formation, he was elected General Councilor during the first General Chapter of the Congregation in 1945. He held this position until 1956.

In subsequent periods, Fr. Carmelo was assigned to the Houses of Naples, San Demetrio, Taranto, Desenzano, Oria, Padua and Palermo, either as Superior or from time to time, engaged in the parish ministry, formation, spiritual direction, or teaching. Then, from 1978 onwards, he constantly remained in Palermo, mainly in charge of the Anthonian Secretariat (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), but always available to collaborate in other areas of the apostolate of the House, such as the parish ministry, the formation of seminarians, and of the deaf and mute.

Fr. Carmelo, who as a child had known the Father Founder, witnessed to the sense of belonging to the Congregation, placing at the service of the Lord the gifts of lively intelligence, in faithfulness to priestly ministry and the consecrated life.

On May 9, 2013, Fr. Carmelo celebrated the 70th anniversary of his priestly ordination. He reached the age of 97 in good health until he fell asleep in the Lord on February 8, 2015, due to cerebral ischemia. His body is buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

February 9

Death Anniversary of FR. FRANCESCO TARANTINI

Fr. Francesco Tarantini was born in Corato (Bari, Italy) on December 20, 1919, he entered the Congregation in Trani on February 12, 1934, and made his first religious profession on September 29, 1937, in the hands of Fr. Vitale. He professed perpetually on September 10, 1941, in Messina. At the end of his theological studies, he was ordained to the priesthood by Msgr. Angelo Paino on July 15, 1945, in Santa Lucia del Mela (Messina).

He was Vice-Rector in Oria, when, on November 20, 1945, just after a few months in the priesthood, he experienced coughing blood. To recover, he had to stay for two years in the hospital in Lecce and one in the Sanatorium in Arco (Trento).

When his recovery had already become stable, after two more years with no assignment in Oria, he was sent to Naples on July 24, 1950, to be the Prefect of the students in Philosophy. From 1954 to 1956, he was also Rector, then spiritual director for one year in Oria and another year in Florence.

In October 1961, he opened a House in Taranto where he was both Superior and Parish Priest for one year.

From 1962 until 1979, he was always in Florence as a spiritual director and at the same time secretary of the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), personally caring for the correspondence with the benefactors with a lively apostolic sense. In this span of time, he was also engaged for three years in apostolic activities in the Shrine of Our Lady at Sasso, from 1975 to 1978. He was transferred to Zagarolo in 1979 as a spiritual father; there he carried on this duty until death which was brought about by a serious type of hepatitis and ascites. He died on February 9, 1983, at the "Regina Apostolorum" Hospital in Albano. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

As he strongly reached out to Christ who called him to his "sequela" as a Rogationist, Fr. Tarantini left us a most lively example of consistent fidelity to the tasks entrusted to him, profound love for the Founder, unconditional attachment to the Congregation, most tender affection for Mary the Mother of God and our Mother, and perfect conformity to the Divine will during his suffering.

And of FR. ANTONIO ARMONE

Fr. Antonio Armone was born in Benghazi, Libya on October 28, 1933. He entered the Congregation in Trani in 1947. He was admitted to the novitiate in that House in 1950 and made his first profession the following year. He made his perpetual profession in Assisi on September 29, 1956 and was ordained priest in Messina on August 9, 1959.

His early years of ministry were spent in the Houses of Padua and Assisi in the works of formation. Next, he worked in the Anthonian Secretariats (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), first in Florence and then in Trani. In the following years, from 1965 to 1986, he was assigned to the Institute of Christ the King in Messina as in-charge of the printing press, and then at the Mother House as Superior. In the 1986 General Chapter, he was elected General Treasurer. At the end of the six-year term, he became the Provincial Treasurer and Superior of the Rogate Spirituality Center in Morlupo. From 1998 to 2007, he continued to work in the Anthonian Secretariat, first in the Houses of Florence and Padua, and then in Messina - Christ the King. While his health was progressively deteriorating, he spent his last years first in Padua and then in San Cesareo, bearing the illness with his usual serenity, conforming himself to the will of the Lord, who summoned him on February 9, 2013.

We remember his fidelity to religious life and his attachment to the Congregation, his diligent hard-working attitude, his availability, and care, especially toward the confreres, his affability, and good humor.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

February 11

Death Anniversary of FR. SABINO M. CAFAGNA

Fr. Sabino was born on March 30, 1921, in Barletta (Bari, Italy). He entered the House of Trani on September 10, 1932, having been introduced to our Congregation by Rev. Fr. Angelo Raffaele Dimiccoli, a holy priest of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri, who also provided him with Christian formation since childhood and cultivated the seed of religious and priestly vocation in him. After his high school and Gymnasium, he entered the novitiate on September 29, 1937, and made his first profession on March 30, 1939. His consecration to the Lord with the perpetual profession was on September 26, 1944, in Messina. He was ordained a priest in Rome on July 19, 1947.

Until 1952 his apostolic activity was expressed in his work of formation of seminarians and of orphans in Messina - Cristo Re, Napoli a,nd Oria. For some years, he was also in Florence, as a teacher while also working in the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office). Later, he was back to the work of formation in Desenzano and Trani, and then as spiritual director the Messina - Cristo Re and Florence. From 1974 on, he was assigned mainly to the pastoral and spiritual assistance in the Shrine of the Mother House in Messina and in the parishes of San Demetrio and Naples. At the beginning of February, due to poor health conditions, he went to Grottaferrata for a medical checkup in the nearby Regina Apostolorum Hospital in Albano where he had been hospitalized other times.

On February 11, 1992, because of his worsening situation, he was rushed to the hospital where he died due to heart failure shortly after arriving. It was the memorial day of the Blessed Virgin of Lourdes, so dear to him.

The funeral service was held in Rome at our St. Anthony Parish. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

We remember and admire Fr. Cafagna for his religious availability. Until the end of his life, he was always ready to change house and assignments. The following characterized his life: simplicity and piety, the devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, priestly zeal, and the filial attachment to the Congregation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

February 13

Death Anniversary of BRO. LUIGI EGIDIO LA FAUCI

Bro. Luigi Egidio was born in Venezia, Italy on February 27, 1910, and became an orphan at the age of 8. He was then accepted in our Orphanage in Oria as one of those innocent children whom the Father Founder used to call, during the pressing moments of need, to pray raising their arms to the Divine Providence, which never delayed in granting their prayers.

He personally liked also to remember that, once, during wintertime, when Oria was covered with snow, he was requested by the Father Founder to scatter crumbs of bread for the sparrows.

He was only 16 years old when he expressed the desire to become an aspirant because of the Rogationist vocation he felt. After the Superiors considered his request as sincere and true, he was accepted. Two years later, in 1926, he was admitted to the postulancy. In 1928, he became a Novice, and in 1930 he made his first religious profession.

During the first years of his religious life, he was in the House of Oria, as an assistant to the orphans. Then, in the houses of Trani, Padua, Messina, Mother House, and in Rome, he carried out various works and assignments, mainly dealing with the economy. In this field, he was exact and careful in truly attentive to making savings, without being stingy; and in living his poverty which was always accompanied by charity.

He was faithful to the commitments of his consecration, assiduous in prayer, punctual in the observance of the rules, respectful and joyful with the confreres, affectionate and kind with the little orphans and the poor.

For many years, he suffered from varicose veins causing him chronic sores. Yet, he bore everything with so great a patience, so much so that others could not notice it. He was 76 years old and was carrying out his daily tasks with the usual punctuality, when, because of the consequences of a fracture of his femur, he became gravely sick and in a short time, comforted by the Sacraments, he died peacefully on February 13, 1986. His remains await the resurrection in our chapel in the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

And of BRO. GIUSEPPE BALICE

He was born in Minervino Murge (Bari, Italy) on September 6, 1932. He entered the Congregation on December 1, 1951, in Trani. He entered the Novitiate on September 29, 1952, in Trani, where on March 19, 1954, he made his first profession. He made his perpetual profession in Rome on March 19, 1957.

In the following years, he was assigned to the education of pupils, in succeeding periods in Naples, Trani, Rome, and Matera. From 1970 to 1972, he held various offices in Florence. Soon after, he was transferred to Messina, at the Mother House, for a year as an educator of the pupils and then, from 1973 to 1992, at the service of the Sanctuary of Saint Anthony.

In 1992, he was transferred to the General Curia, engaged in various offices, until his unexpected return to the Father's House, which occurred due to cardiac arrest on February 13, 2020.

Bro. Giuseppe, gentle and jovial, always hard-working in the precious various services in the Curia, and in particular, in welcoming guests, left us a great void and an example of availability, attachment to the Congregation, and fidelity to religious life, especially to the spirit of poverty.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

February 14

Death Anniversary of FR. FERNANDO MENEGOLLI

Fr. Fernando was born in Vobarno (Brescia, Italy) on February 1, 1942. He entered the Congregation at Desenzano on August 1, 1953. On September 29, 1958, he entered the novitiate in Florence where on September 30, 1960, he made his first profession as a Brother.

Then, he was assigned to the Mother House in Messina as assistant to the orphans, and the following year he was destined to the House of Criciúma as assistant to the seminarians. In 1964, he transferred to the House of Bauru, still as assistant to the orphans. The following year, he returned to Italy and was assigned first as formator of the seminarians in the Houses of Naples and Florence, and then of the orphans, once again in the Mother House and in Desenzano.

He made his perpetual profession in Florence in 1968. At the beginning of the '70s, impelled by a desire he was cultivating for years, he obtained permission to study for the priesthood and completed his theology course from 1974 to 1978 in the Seminary of Brescia. He was ordained priest in 1978 in the cathedral of the same city. Then, he went back to Brazil assigned to the House of Criciúma, and the following year to Passos as formator of the seminarians. In 1985, he transferred to Bauru first with the same assignment, and then as Superior. In 1993, was sent as Superior to Gravataí which he accomplished for a year, and in the following year, he went back to Passos as in charge of the Shrine of the Father Founder.

At the end of January 1997, Fr. Fernando had to be hospitalized in Bauru due to the resurgence of diabetes and leukemia, which he had been suffering for a time.

Notwithstanding all the treatments he received, the malady worsened. With the comfort of the Holy Sacraments and the affection and care of the confreres, he returned to the Lord on February 14, 1997. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Bauru.

We treasure the memory of his meekness and kindness, of his concern for the little ones and for the aged, for his industriousness and profound bond with Brazil, his attachment to the Father Founder and to the Congregation, and his fidelity to the choices of religious life.

And of BRO. AJIN GEORGE MOOLAKUNNEL

He was born in Asankavala (Kannur, Kerala, India) on March 27, 1996. He entered the Seminary in Aimury on June 10, 2012, and the Novitiate on May 17, 2016, in Meenangady. He made his first profession in Aluva on May 16, 2017.

The Lord called him unexpectedly when he was still attending the second year of Philosophy, at the Pontifical Institute of Aluva.

Bro. Ajin was a sociable, intelligent, and wise young man. He was enthusiastic and committed, mild and kind, for whom he made himself well-liked and esteemed and appreciated, both in the community and in the Philosophical Institute.

He was faithful to the choices of the consecrated life and took care of his spiritual life.

During the second year of Philosophy, he was assigned to devote some time to the farm and carried out this duty with care.

He showed that he was in good health and did sports without any particular problems. However, on the morning of February 14, 2019, immediately after breakfast he had a sudden heart attack. He was urgently taken to the hospital, where a team of experienced doctors did everything to save him but was unable to do so.

Bro. Ajin has left a great void in the Center of Studies, in the Circumscription, and among his family members. He will continue to be close to us from Heaven.

Let's remember him in our prayers.

February 16

Death Anniversary of FR. FRANCESCO BONARRIGO

Fr. Bonarrigo was born in Gualtieri Sicamino' (Messina, Italy), on July 16, 1850. He was an elementary teacher in his town until the age of 43, transforming his teaching activity into a mission.

As soon as he came to know the Congregation, then still in its beginnings, having overcome many difficulties and oppositions, he asked the Father Founder to be accepted in the Avignone Houses in Messina, where the work of the Founder was starting.

Out of obedience and because of his deep humility, he was raised to the Sacred Order of Presbyterate. Side by side with the Founder, he availed of his educational experience in caring for the orphans. He offered very eminent examples of humility, dedication until self-sacrifice, collaboration, and attachment to the Works of the Congregation.

Probably because of the many hardships, heavy sacrifices, and his untiring work in those early times of the Congregation, he got sick with hemoptysis.

He is very devoted to our Founder, and as the first and most faithful companion, he shared in his pains and joys, perplexities and hopes, tribulations, and success. He preserved with filial diligence and exactness all the memories he could of the Father Founder.

He died in Messina on February 16, 1910, because of a sudden attack of hemoptysis.

The best praise of Fr. Bonarrigo was written by our Founder himself: "He was intimately immersed in the spirit, finalities, events, stages and aspirations and works of our institutions. His very life was only to follow, at any moment, at any activity and event, in order to cooperate with his prayer, action, sacrifice even up to the donation of his life".

And of FR. CIRO GENTILE

Fr. Gentile was born in Atripalda (Avellino, Italy) on February 25, 1913. His Parish Priest, Fr. Lega from Naples, seeing his remarkable prayer-life, entrusted him to our Father Founder. After trying to have him admitted in Oria, he brought him to Messina on May 31, 1925. There he completed elementary school (he was only in grade two) and was successful in high school.

Because of signs of true piety and vocation, he was admitted to the novitiate on December 8, 1931, in Oria, under the guidance of Fr. Santoro, taking the religious name of Bro. Xavier of Mary Immaculate.

Together with others, he followed Fr. Santoro in the foundation of the House in Trani where he made his first religious profession on February 27, 1933.

He finished college, Philosophy and Theology in Messina where he was ordained a priest on July 14, 1940.

He had a Ph.D. in languages and modern literature and the official qualification in teaching. He was a professor in several of our Houses.

He was zealous in his priestly ministry which he exercised as confessor and collaborator in so many places, as parish priest of San Demetrio nei Vestini (L'Aquila) and also as collaborator in our Shrine in Messina until his death.

For years, he suffered from a very rare sickness of the leg called "Kaposi disease", a kind of cancer of the skin which became thick and hard like leather. In spite of the treatments of specialists to whom he submitted with admirable precision, the disease little by little destroyed all his red blood corpuscles and brought him to the end. Confreres and doctors attested that they never heard a word of lament from his mouth, or any complaint or hint of his feeling sick.

The Lord called him to eternity on the morning of February 16, 1982. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

And of FR. ROCCO MUSARRA

Fr. Musarra was born in San Marco d'Alunzio (Messina, Italy), on December 24, 1923. When he was 26, on May 18, 1950, he entered the House of Rome as an aspirant to brotherhood. The following year, he entered the novitiate in Trani. In 1954, left for Brazil, assigned to the House of Bauru where he remained until 1960, being assigned to various activities. On September 29, 1959, he made his perpetual profession in the House of São Paulo.

In 1960 he transferred to Passos where he stayed until 1966, assigned to the education of the orphans. Until 1974, he was in Criciúma, as Assitant Treasurer and in charge of the farm, except for a one-year break in 1969-70, in Bauru as assistant of the Novice Master.

Resuming his initial aspiration since his novitiate, in 1974, he obtained permission to study for the priesthood. He took his theology in São Paulo and was consecrated as a priest on November 5, 1977, in Bauru.

In the following years, he was in San Paolo, Curitiba, Bauru, and Brasilia, entrusted with parish pastoral activities, administrative or management tasks in the Houses, but never relinquishing, when possible, the care of the farm.

In 1996, he was back to Italy, assigned to the House of Palermo. Health problems started manifesting the last period of his stay in Brazil, which turned out to be a form of leukemia. Having gone to Rome, at the beginning of 1998 for a medical checkup, on the morning of February 15, he was rushed to St. John Hospital for a sudden illness, which was diagnosed as diabetic coma. On the following day, comforted by the Sacraments, he died because of massive heart failure.

Fr. Rocco leaves to us an example of untiring work, piety, simplicity, spirit of sacrifice, and attachment to the Congregation.

And of FR. ARTURO MELE

Fr. Arturo was born in Lecce, Italy on October 7, 1931. He entered the Congregation in Oria on September 10, 1946. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1948, in Trani, where he made his first profession on September 30 of the following year. He made his perpetual profession in Oria on September 29, 1955 and was ordained a priest in Trani on July 13, 1958.

In later periods, he worked in the Houses of Oria, Taranto, San Demetrio, Assisi, and Rome, engaged at times in the education of the students, at other times in the parish ministry. In 1978, he pioneered the presence of the Congregation in Africa (Rwanda), immersing himself with zeal in the local culture. He returned to Italy in 1991 and subsequently worked in the Houses of Naples, San Demetrio, Francofonte, Matera, and Oria, maintaining the affective and effective nearness to the Rwanda mission and collecting rich and varied documentation of the presence of the Congregation in that country.

In the last period of his life, Fr. Arturo was tried by the illness, which he endured with fortitude and serenity, although continuing to dedicate himself to the apostolate, at the service of the Lord and of the Congregation.

He peacefully fell asleep in the Lord on February 16, 2015, in the hospital in Altamura (BA). His body is buried in the chapel of the Congregation in the cemetery of Oria.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

February 21

Death Anniversary of BRO. CONCETTO DRAGO

Bro. Concetto was born in Galati Mamertino (Messina, Italy), on March 5, 1886. He spent his childhood and part of his adolescence in the simplicity of country life.

In 1908, when he was 22, he entered the Avignone Houses in Messina in order to become religious, following the example of his cousin Bro. Francesco Maria Drago who, in their town, had been his best companion, sharing in his prayer life and religious aspirations, and from whom, later on, we were able to get several news about the angelic life of Bro. Concetto. In receiving the religious habit, his baptismal name Salvatore had been changed into Concetto, in honor of the Immaculate Conception.

The Superiors, well aware of his virtues, entrusted him with delicate tasks, like being the assistant of the seminarians. Soon afterward, he got sick with tuberculosis leading him to death on February 21, 1914, in the House of Oria, where he had been transferred after the earthquake in 1908.

Especially in the days of his sickness, Bro. Concetto becomes an exemplar of prayer life, regular observance, patience, and conformity to the Will of God.

And of FATHER ALBERTO OSELIN

He was born in San Martino di Venezze (Rovigo, Italy) on May 27, 1935. He entered the Congregation in Padua on November 27, 1952. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1955, in Trani, where he made his first profession the following year. He made his perpetual profession on September 29, 1961, in Bauru. On July 6, 1963, he was ordained a priest in Padua. In December 1958 he moved to Brazil, where he completed his philosophy and theology studies.

During the first ten years of the apostolate, he was assigned to Criciúma, first in the formation of seminarians, and then in the education of the pupils of Bairro da Juventude. From 1974, he was a parish priest in Brasilia; in 1977, he was transferred to San Paolo, as a formator of religious students. Two years later, he was assigned as parish priest, first in Porto Alegre and then in Gravatai.

From 1991 to 1997, he returned to Italy, still engaged in parish ministry, first in Trezzano (Milan) and then in Rome. Returning to Brazil, he served as parish priest for ten years in Bauru and for seven years in Gravatai.

In 2016, he was transferred again to Bauru, where he was Spiritual Director of the Missionaries of the Rogate, the Spiritual Father of the Seminarians, and collaborator in the parish.

In 2017, he was diagnosed with lymphoma, which soon proved to be incurable. Fr. Alberto endured the illness with great serenity, surrounded by the affection and concern of his confreres, friends, and faithful.

He left us an example of fidelity to consecrated life and love of the Congregation, of enthusiasm and pastoral zeal.

He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on February 21, 2019.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

February 22

Death Anniversary of BRO. COSIMO FRANCESCO CAMARCA

Bro. Cosimo was born on July 24, 1910, in Lacedonia, Avellino, Italy. When he was 13 years old, he entered the Apostolic School (minor seminary) of Messina on December 5, 1923. He received the religious habit in Oria in the chapel of the Institute from the hands of Fr. Pantaleone Palma, Superior of the House, on June 1, 1929, when he was 19. In that occasion, he changed his baptismal name Francis into the religious name of Bro. Cosimo of St. Joseph.

He made his novitiate under the guidance of Fr. Serafino Santoro and professed his first religious vows on December 8, 1930. Six years later, on December 8, 1936, he made his perpetual profession.

He learned the printing job from his youth, and he did it with commitment in the same way as he did with all the other assignments and offices entrusted to him.

At the end of the 1940s he became mentally ill that he had to be hospitalized, at first in a Clinic in Lecce and then in the Mandalari Psychiatric Hospital in Messina. He was often visited by the confreres of the Mother House to which he belonged. They found him always in a good mood. Sometimes in solemn feasts, he was also welcomed for lunch in the community.

His life was so marked by suffering, a gift that went hand in hand with his consecration, which became a spiritual enrichment for him and for the Congregation.

He fell asleep in the Lord on February 22, 1995, at the age of 85 in Mandalari. After the funeral, his remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

February 26

Death Anniversary of BRO. PLACIDO ROMEO

Bro. Placido was born in Messina, Italy on March 5, 1877. He became an orphan at a very young age, and, through the benevolent support of a kind person, he was accepted in the Cappellini Orphanage.

After some years, the Father Founder took him to the Avignone Houses, when the Congregation was at its very beginning. He was one of the religious to whom the Father Founder gave the Rogationist religious habit on May 16, 1897.

He was a humble, simple, unsophisticated, and charitable religious. He was renowned for a special devotion to Patriarch St. Joseph whose glory and greatness he used to exalt. He had memorized various thoughts of Popes, and Saints especially about the Foster Father of Jesus.

He was most faithful to the Congregation in fulfilling various offices. Having experienced a mental breakdown which degenerated much his memory, he was transferred from Messina to Oria by the Superiors hoping that the change of environment could be beneficial to him.

After two years, however, he passed away to eternity on February 26, 1940.

And of FR. NICOLA LIARDI

Fr. Liardi was born in Naples, Italy on July 21, 1945. He entered the Congregation in Naples on September 22, 1957. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 28, 1962, in Florence, where he made his first profession in the following year. He made his perpetual profession on September 28, 1969, in Grottaferrata (Rome). On September 16, 1973, he was ordained a priest in Afragola (Naples).

He spent the first ten years of his apostolate in Florence, mainly in charge of the Anthonian Secretariat (= Anthonian Benefactors Office). In the following years, he carried out the same office, sometimes also together with that of Treasurer, in Naples for a long time, and in some brief interludes in Matera, Trani and Morlupo.

Fr. Nicola had manifested some health problems since he was young, but in the last fifteen years of his life, he had to deal with various illnesses. He did so with his usual serenity and fortitude, remaining committed to work and faithful, as far as he could, to the fulfillment of religious life and the demands of the priestly ministry, even in the last four years when the situation became complicated.

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In this his ordeal, he was sustained by the attentive attention of the confreres and the closeness of the family and left us all with a testimony of love for the Congregation, of union with the Lord's will, of profound peace that was born of faith, and blossomed in suffering. He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on February 26, 2018.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

And of FR. JACINTO PIZZETTI

He was born in Criciúma (SC) on November 26, 1949. He entered the Congregation in Criciúma (SC) on February 21, 1963. He entered the novitiate in Zagarolo (RM) on September 29, 1965, and made his first profession the following year. He completed his philosophical studies in Grottaferrata and, upon his return to Brazil, resumed and completed his studies in Bauru (SP) and then in São Paulo (SP). He made his perpetual vows in São Paulo (SP) on November 20, 1973, and was ordained priest in Criciúma (SC) on January 18, 1975, together with Fr. Mario Pasini, becoming the first two Brazilian Rogationist priests.

In 1975 he began his apostolate in Bauru (SP), where he successively held the positions of Vocations Director, Vice-Rector, Seminary Prefect, Parochial Vicar, Parish Priest and Community Superior. In addition to these offices, he was Provincial Vicar and responsible for the formation of the Rogationist Quasi-Province of Brazil (1981-1987). In January 1987, he was elected the first Provincial Superior of the Latin American Province, based in São Paulo (1987-1990). After three years as Superior of the House of Criciúma, he was elected Provincial Superior (São Paulo-SP) for two consecutive terms, from 1992 to 1998. He was then elected Provincial Treasurer, from 1998 to 2006, and from 2003 he also held the office of Provincial Vicar. From 2002 to 2007 he was Vice-Rector and Treasurer of the National Rogate Center.

From 2007 to 2023 he was assigned to Gravataí-RS, where he held various positions over the years: Superior, Treasurer, Pastor, Ecclesiastical Assistant to the Rogationist Families and Missionaries, Director of Social-Educational Work. In December 2023 he was transferred to Criciúma. After a period of hospitalization at the São José Hospital, he died of heart failure on February 26, 2024, due to clinical complications of diabetes.

Fr. Jacinto led and animated the Latin American Rogationist Circumscription from the beginning of decentralization, and then he dedicated himself to multiple commitments and roles of responsibility, with wisdom and prudence, with justice, zeal and a spirit of sacrifice. We welcome his clear testimony as a serene, sociable, patient person, kind to all, especially to children and the poor. We are grateful to the

Lord for giving him to us and to him for all that he was and did for the good of our Congregation in the Province, in the following of Christ of the Rogate, in the footsteps of St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia.

Let us keep him in our prayers.

February 28

Death Anniversary of FR. CORRADO GUCCIONE

Fr. Guccione was born in Rosolini, Siracusa, Italy on August 21, 1910. He was 18 when he entered the Apostolic School (minor seminary) of Christ the King in Messina. He received the religious habit in Trani on September 29, 1935, from the hands of Fr. Vitale at the beginning of his novitiate which ended on March 30, 1937 with his first religious profession. He professed his perpetual vows in Oria on September 5, 1942, and was ordained a priest in Assisi on August 22, 1948.

For what concerns his activities, except for short periods of work in the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), or as Prefect, or in the pastoral ministry, he was called by the obedience to teach in the Houses of Oria, Trani, and Messina - Christ the King. He had indeed some literary skills which he manifested also by publishing some books.

In the different Houses where he was assigned, he had always some difficulties in inserting himself because of his poor physical health and because of a state of general psychical depression which often isolated him from the community. This became more evident from 1966 onwards, when he was assigned to the community of Christ the King in Messina, where he remained up to the end of his earthly life. All these problems were dealt with by him and by the community with understanding and charity.

The suffering, which accompanied him for so many years, were a help for his spiritual life and for the enrichment of the Congregation.

He passed away on February 28, 1995. After the funeral in the Shrine of St. Anthony, his remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery in Messina.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 1

Death Anniversary of BRO. ARCANGELO CASAMASSIMA

He was born in Toritto (Bari, Italy) on February 24, 1923. He entered the Congregation in Oria on October 28, 1935. He entered the Novitiate on March 30, 1939, in Trani, where on September 29, 1940, he made his first profession. He made his perpetual profession in Trani on September 29, 1944.

In the succeeding years, he was engaged in various offices in Trani until 1948; from 1949 to 1950 in Naples; from 1951 to 1958 in Padua, where he was also a collaborator of the Treasurer. Afterward, he was assigned for a year in Rome, and from 1959 to 1964 in Florence. In 1964, with the same offices, he was transferred first to Naples, until 1991, and then to Messina Villa S. Maria, where he remained until the end of his earthly life. After a short painful illness, at the age of 97, on March 1, 2020, he fell asleep peacefully in the Lord.

Brother Arcangelo was always serene and jovial, reserved, and helpful, tireless at work and happy in the choice of consecrated life.

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For the goodness of his heart, for his silent humility, for his attachment to the Congregation and to his Confreres, for his love of prayer and work, virtues manifested until the last days of his life and left a shining example to all of us, and in particular to the young people who in Villa S. Maria, during their year of novitiate, looked to the choice of consecrated life and found in him a living witness.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 6

Death anniversary of FATHER GIOVANNI CECCA

He was born in Santeramo (Bari, Italy) on November 18, 1937. He entered the Congregation, in Oria, on September 21, 1950. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1955, in Trani. He made his perpetual profession in Florence on September 29, 1961. He was ordained a priest in Trani on July 4, 1965.

He spent the first years of his apostolate, in the formation of seminarians, in the houses of Florence and Trani, also serving as Superior, until 1975, when he was assigned to the house of Naples, as treasurer and in charge of the Anthonian Secretariat. In 1978 he was transferred to Desenzano as Superior and, after six years, to Morlupo. Here, for another six years, he dedicated himself to the Center of Spirituality and then to the Printing House.

At the General Chapter of 1992, he was elected General Treasurer. At the end of his term of office, he returned again as Superior and Treasurer to Desenzano. At the end of his term of office, in 2005, he obtained from the Superiors the possibility of an experience of Cenacle of Prayer in a small hermitage in S. Maria della Speranza ai Tre Fossi (Assisi). In 2011, he was assigned to the house in Padua, as Treasurer and in charge of the Anthonian Secretariat and, from 2013 to 2017, he was also Provincial Treasurer.

In the last two years, he was afflicted by illness, which he endured with strength, lucidity, and serenity, even in the most painful moments, devoting himself equally to carrying out his duties, with his remaining strength, until consumed by the disease, he fell asleep in the Lord on March 6, 2021, in Bitonto (Bari), where he was undergoing treatment. P. Giovanni was a wise, committed, and hardworking person, rich in gifts of mind and heart, also revealed in the roles of responsibility he held from a young age. At the same time, he faithfully cultivated his love for the Lord and Our Lady in his priestly ministry and religious consecration, manifesting a special bond to the Father Founder and the Congregation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 10

Death Anniversary of FR. DIEGO BUSCIO

Fr. Diego Buscio was born in Pezzaze (Brescia, Italy) on July 9, 1949. He entered the minor seminary in Desenzano del Garda on September 27, 1959. He was given the religious habit on September 26, 1965 and made his first religious profession in Zagarolo on September 29, 1966.

He took his college and Philosophy at the Mother House in Messina. Later, while residing in the community of Grottaferrata, he attended the theological studies at the Lateran Pontifical University in Rome. He was ordained priest on June 29, 1975, the Holy Year, by Pope Paul VI. Fulfilling his missionary desire, the Superiors assigned him to the first Rogationist mission in the Philippines. He left together with Fr. Vito Di Marzio on December 21, 1976, to join Fr. Antonio Barbangelo who had gone to the Philippines shortly ahead of them.

In the mission in Parang, which was later officially entrusted to him and to Fr. Di Marzio, he celebrated his first Mass in English on January 1, 1977. With great spirit of adaptation, he immediately started studying the native language, the "Tagalog". By profoundly caring for those simple and good people who were in need of everything, he was able to conquer their hearts. On April 26, 1977, he wrote to Father General, " It seems to me that during our last conversation on the phone doubts were expressed about the mission of Parang. I have waited for an entire life to have the possibility to come to the mission, and I would never exchange this place to any other part in the world because of these people whom I love and consider as the main purpose of my life."

The most urgent problem in Parang was water. He decided to provide the needed funds and on March 10, 1978, he wrote for this to his mother and to the parish priest of Pezzaze. Those were his last letters. On that very day he died.

On the evening of that day, because of great zeal, he accepted the request to hear confessions and to celebrate the Holy Mass in a nearby village. On his way with others in a car which fetched them, there was a fatal collision with a truck at the crossroad. It was the end. Two actions, one of human promotion and the other of evangelization, sealed that day the missionary dream of Fr. Diego. His remains now rest in the Cemetery of Pezzaze.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 11

Death Anniversary of FR. VENUSTE SIBOMANA

He was born in Shyanda (Butare, Rwanda) on March 4, 1962. He entered the Congregation in Mugombwa on January 1, 1985. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 13, 1987, in Mugombwa, where he made his first profession the following year. He completed his theological studies in Grottaferrata (Italy), where he made his perpetual profession on September 7, 1995. In the following year, he returned to Africa and on November 23, 1997, in Gakoma (Rwanda), he was ordained a priest, the first Rogationist presbyter of Africa.

After the first years of apostolate, as an educator in Nyanza, in 2000 he was transferred to Cameroun, and assigned as a formator, first to Edea and then, from 2005, to Ngoya, where he was also Superior of the Community until 2008. Then he returned to Rwanda, in Nyanza, with the role of spiritual father and from 2010 to 2013, in Cyangugu, with the office of project manager of Garuka, in favor of street children.

In 2013, he was transferred to Italy for a sabbatical year and to cure some health problems. In 2014, an attempt was made to insert him into the new mission of the Cuango (Angola), but his participation was not possible.

In 2016 Fr. Venuste asked for a time of exclauration and returned to Rwanda whereby the Bishop of Butare assigned him as a collaborator in the parish of Magi, the first Church in Africa dedicated to Saint Hannibal. He has inserted himself well into the apostolate, also maintaining a constant link with the confreres of the Circumscription.

Unexpectedly, due to heart attack, he passed on to eternal life on March 11, 2019.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 22

Death Anniversary of FR. GIOACCHINO CIPOLLINA

He was born in Canicattì (Agrigento, Italy) on January 16, 1960. He entered the Congregation in Messina Cristo Re on September 8, 1974. He was admitted to the Novitiate on September 29, 1976, in Florence and made his first profession in Messina on September 29, 1977. He studied philosophy in Morlupo and theology in Grottaferrata, where he made his perpetual profession on September 8, 1984. He was ordained a priest in Palermo on October 14, 1989.

In the early years of his apostolate, he worked in formation in Palermo, and then in vocation promotion in Francofonte (Syracuse). In 1993, he was transferred to Messina Villa S. Maria, where initially he was still engaged in vocational promotion and later as Vice Novice Master.

In 2005 he was transferred to the Mother House of Messina, assigned to the Anthonian Benefactors Office, at the same time, also offering his collaboration in the sanctuary of Saint Anthony, especially in the ministry of confessions.

Fr. Gioacchino was a good, meek, cultured, and reserved man, who was welcomed and appreciated by his confreres and by the faithful of the sanctuary. He had some health problems, which however did not prevent him from faithfully fulfilling the commitments of religious life and priestly ministry.

Due to an unexpected and sudden illness, he fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on March 22, 2020.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 24

Death Anniversary of BRO. MANSUETO DRAGO

Bro. Mansueto was born in Galati Mamertino (Messina. Italy), on February 4, 1895. In 1907 at the age of 12, the Father Founder accepted him in the Avignone Houses where his cousin Francesco Maria Drago had been residing for some years already.

Few years later, he took the religious habit, changing his baptismal name Joseph to the religious name of Mansueto of St. Joseph. He was truly meek by nature and by virtue.

Because of his exemplary behavior, he was successfully entrusted the formation of the postulants. Because of his brilliant intelligence, he was requested to study in view of the priesthood.

After the earthquake in Messina in 1908, he was sent to Oria where he continued his college in the diocesan seminary. While he was about to start his Philosophy, he was summoned to the military service during the First World War

Being assigned to the battle front in the fighting zone, he was mortally hit in his head by a bullet on the hills of Gorizia, on March 24, 1917.

And of **BRO. GRÉGOIRE HYACINTHE ETEME TSALA**

He was born in Yegue-Assi (Cameroon), on January 18, 1988. He entered the Congregation in Edea on October 1, 2012; he entered the Novitiate on September 8, 2016, in Kigali, where he made his first profession the following year.

From October 2017 to July 2018, he completed his practical training in the Community of Ebedda (Cameroon), and in October of the same year, he began his theological studies in Ngoya. On September 8, 2020, he received the ministry of the Lectorate, and on March 19, 2021, the ministry of the Acolyte, having already been greatly tested by illness. For two years, in fact, he had been suffering from high blood pressure, with complications in his kidneys, heart, and other vital organs.

These sufferings did not prevent him from engaging in theological studies and finishing the first semester, in February 2021, with excellent grades.

Brother Hyacinthe Gregoire was an affable, calm, reserved religious with a deep interior life, well-integrated, and well-liked in the community. He had a simple faith, a firm hope, and an active charity. He loved the Father and Founder and our religious family very much and prepared himself with joy for the mission in our Institute.

After receiving the ministry of Acolyte, he had a general decline in health, which could not be stopped, despite the care of doctors. He endured this painful trial with fortitude and serenity, going forth to meet the Lord, who called him to Himself on March 24, 2021.

Brother Hyacinthe has left a great void in the Student Residence, in the Circumscription, and in his family. He will not fail to continue to be close to us from Heaven.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

March 26

Death Anniversary of BRO. VINCENZO* ESPOSITO

(*Baptismal name: Cosimo Damiano)

Bro. Vincenzo Esposito was born in Gallipoli (Lecce, Italy) on September 26, 1911, and on January 20, 1929 he entered the Congregation in the House of Oria. There he was admitted to the novitiate, as a Brother, on December 8, 1930, and made his first profession a year later, and the perpetual on December 8, 1935.

Until 1950, he worked in the House of Oria, and, in the following years, in Padua, Trani, Naples, Florence, Messina - Mother House, and again in Trani. In each House, he carried out several tasks and roles as educator, treasurer, or collaborator in the economy, as organist or nurse or in the printing press. Serenely and with spirit of sacrifice, he was available for all the various assignments entrusted to him, thus testifying to his attachment to the Congregation and his fidelity to religious consecration.

Bro. Vincenzo was deeply devout. He was demanding with regard to poverty and more about the observance of the rule, but also good-humored and caring with the confreres.

On April 1, 2006, he was transferred to the House of San Cesareo, in the House for the elderly confreres, where he celebrated his 95th birthday. He was serene until the last days. On the evening of March 26, 2008, he passed away in the Lord.

He was buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Trani.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 27

Death Anniversary of FR. ROSARIO ANTONIO BIZZARRO

Fr. Bizzarro was born in Naples, Italy on March 6, 1906, and baptized on March 12, 1906. He received the Confirmation on July 13, 1919. He took the religious habit on October 19, 1924, changing his name Antonio into that of Rosario. He professed his vows for the first time on December 8, 1925, and he perpetually consecrated himself to the Lord on April 21, 1929. He was ordained a priest on November 22, 1931, at the beginning of his fourth year in Theology.

After many years as guide and formator of our students, orphans, and seminarians, as Superior, prefect and rector in several Houses, or teacher of various subjects, particularly of music. With an exquisitely delicate and musically minded talent, he left us so many compositions: Holy Masses, hymns and sacred songs which make us feel the sensibility of his soul and his fervent and sincere love for our Lord and for the Blessed Mother.

He spent the last years of his life in the House of Naples, where he had been assigned by the Superiors with the hope that his frail health would benefit from the wholesomeness of the native air. Here, instead, after a laborious and pious life, distinguished by charity and joviality, and in the last period, also by suffering, he fell asleep in the Lord on the morning of Holy Thursday, on March 27, 1975.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 29

Death Anniversary of FR. GAETANO CURELLA

Fr. Gaetano Curella was born in Licata (Agrigento, Italy) on March 21, 1935. On October 22, 1947, he entered the Congregation in the Mother House in Messina. On September 30, 1952, he made his first Profession in Trani and on September 26, 1958, the perpetual profession in Oria. On July 17, 1960, he received the order of the Presbyterate in the Basilica of the Holy Apostles in Rome.

During his life, he carried out several assignments in the Houses of the Congregation in Italy. Initially, he worked in the field of formation, in the Houses of Padua, Bari and Messina - Christ the King. Later on, the Superiors assigned him to teach in the seminaries of San Cesareo, Morlupo and Naples. In his last period, from 1996 onwards, he worked in the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) in the Houses of Francofonte and of the institute for the deaf and mute in Messina. He was always available to carry out the priestly ministry. He served the Lord with docility in the Congregation and nourished affection and attention towards the confreres with whom he lived in the various communities.

In November 2007, he experienced some heart problems and underwent a surgical operation. In the succeeding months, complications arose, because of his already weakened health.

Though much distressed, on March 28 he appeared serene and trusting when the Father General and the confreres visited him in the hospital, but in the next morning, on March 29, 2008, his conditions unexpectedly worsened and brought him to death.

Fr. Gaetano was good, mild, humble, a peacemaker. He was simple and faithful to his vocation as Rogationist religious and priest.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 30

Death Anniversary of FR. LUIGI ALESSANDRÁ

Fr. Alessandr  was born in Niscemi (Caltanissetta, Italy) on August 27, 1917. He entered the Congregation in Messina on October 13, 1930; the novitiate in the House of Trani on September 29, 1934; and made his first profession on March 29, 1936. He made his perpetual profession in Messina on September 10, 1941, and was ordained priest in Barcellona (Messina) on May 9, 1943.

During the early years of his apostolate, he worked in Messina in the field of formation. In the following years, from 1948 to 1962, he was assigned to various communities (Assisi, Rome, Desenzano, Padua, Florence, Trani, and Oria), often in the field of the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), with the office of vice Superior and at times even of Treasurer. From 1962 to 1970, he was assigned as the editor in chief of the magazine *Rogate Ergo* and to promote the Union of Prayer for Vocations and the Rogationist Priestly Alliance. He performed these tasks with great dedication and with relevant results. In the following years, until 1984, he was assigned to the House of Trani, still in the field of Anthonian Propaganda and of spiritual direction. From 1984 to 2005, he became the assistant Parish Priest in Bari; then he was assigned to the Mother House of Messina as collaborator in the Shrine in the administration of the Sacrament of Penance.

In the different places and variety of tasks, Fr. Luigi had always left the mark of his Rogationist zeal and passion, of his pastoral and apostolic commitment, and of his simplicity and joviality. He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on the afternoon of March 30, 2011. His funeral was celebrated on April 1. His body was buried in the family tomb in the Cemetery of Niscemi.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

March 31

Death Anniversary of FR. PAOLO PETRUZZELLIS

Fr. Petruzzellis was born in Cassano Murge (Bari, Italy) on January 5, 1920, and entered in our Institute in Oria on August 11, 1933. There he attended up to the 4th year of High School. For the fifth year, he was transferred to Trani, where on March 30, 1938, he entered the novitiate and on September 29, 1939 made his first religious profession.

He attended 3 years of Theology in Messina, and the fourth year in Rome, where he was ordained on July 19, 1947, in the Basilica of the Holy Apostles.

After spending the first years of his priesthood as vice Rector in Oria and in Messina - Cristo Re, he accepted with enthusiasm assignment to go to Brazil as a missionary joining the second group that left on August 1, 1951. In Bauru (São Paulo), he was vice Rector of Fr. Antonio Indelicato, in the "Casa de Garoto", pouring out together with him his youthful energy.

On May 24, 1954, he went to Criciúma (Santa Catarina) where he accepted on behalf of the Congregation, the Institute Bairro da Juventude, which he directed for ten years. Near the Institute, he built a Parish and the Pius XII Rogationist Seminary.

In 1964, he returned as Rector to the Casa do Garoto in Bauru, where he remained until December 26, 1966, though already member of the Rogationist Consulta of Brazil for one year. Then, he was sent to the United States of America to strengthen the dwindling flame of our presence in that land.

During the General Chapter of 1968, which he attended as a Delegate, he was elected General Councilor and Vicar General. In this position, he governed the Congregation from 1971 until the General Chapter of 1974.

Back to Brazil on September 14, 1974, he became Superior and Parish Priest in Criciúma, in Porto Alegre (Rio Grande del Sur) and in Passos (Minas Gerais). After a break in Italy, from January to June

26, 1981, he was sent again to the United States. There he became the Superior of the House and also Delegate of the Superior General.

He recovered from a first heart attack, being thankful to the Lord who gave him the time to prepare better for the eternal rest with Him and the heavenly Rogationists. Another more serious attack closed his earthly life and opened to him the door of Paradise, on the morning of March 31, 1985, Palm Sunday. His remains were transferred to Italy and buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Trani.

For his generous and open heart, Fr. Paolo Petruzzellis is to be remembered as a pioneer of the Rogationist Missions. He loved the Congregation very much and cared for its material and spiritual interests by realizing new institutions and works, anticipating and determining its future developments both in Brazil and in the USA.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

April 4

Death Anniversary of FR. ANTONIO MAGAZZÙ

He was born in Saponara Villafranca (Messina, Italy) on January 2, 1921. He entered the Congregation, in Messina-Cristo Re, on September 29, 1935. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1940, in Trani, where on March 29, 1942, he made his first profession. He studied philosophy in Messina and theology in Assisi. He made his perpetual profession at Trani on September 30, 1947. He was ordained a priest in Assisi on July 8, 1951.

He carried out his apostolate mainly in the field of formation, with seminarians, pupils, and the deaf-mute, but sometimes he also held the office of superior, bursar, ABO secretary, parish animator, vocational promoter, and collaborator in the parish apostolate.

He was assigned in the same Houses but at different times, sometimes for several years. We recall the houses in which he worked: Padua, Trani, Florence, Naples, Desenzano, Assisi, Oria, Francofonte (Syracuse), Messina - Cristo Re Institute and the Institute of Deaf-mute, Rome and, finally, Palermo, where he remained from 1993 to 2017. From there, he was transferred to the Mother House, where he fell asleep in the Lord on April 4, 2020.

An affable and jovial person, he spread serenity, enthusiasm, and joy around him. He was zealous in the exercise of his ministry and faithful in the witness to religious life. He manifested great attachment to the Church and followed with passion the conciliar renewal, especially for the rediscovery of the role of the laity. He loved the Congregation, always taking an interest in its life and mission in the world.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

April 5

Death Anniversary of BRO. FRANCESCO CHIRICO

Bro. Chirico was born in Rome, Italy in June 1931. He entered the Congregation in Oria on July 22, 1943. He entered the novitiate in Trani on September 29, 1948, where he made his first profession on September 30, 1949. He made his perpetual profession in Oria on September 29, 1955.

From 1952 to 1961, he worked in the assistance and education of orphans, in successive periods in the Houses of Naples, Oria and Bari. He then accepted the proposal of the Superiors and went to mission to Brazil. He continued to work with the students in Criciurna, until 1969. Subsequently, in the same House, he held the office of Treasurer, until 1976. In the following years, with the same position, he worked in the Houses of Bauru and Passos. From 1984, for three years, he was assigned to the House of Curitiba, in the apostolate of the parish and of the Rogate. Later, he worked tirelessly for twenty-eight years in the Rogate Center of São Paulo.

From a young age, he had shown particular talent in painting. Over the years, he perfected these skills and created many works of art, which he exhibited on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his religious profession in 1999.

For those who knew him, his religious virtues were a clear testimony, more outstanding than his artistic skills. He left us, in particular, the example of coherence in the consecrated life, availability, moderation, humility, and simplicity.

He had health problems in the last period of his life, but he endured the hardships while remaining committed and jovial.

He left this life peacefully, on April 5, 2015, in São Paulo, while the day of the Passover of the Lord's Resurrection was drawing to its end.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

April 7

Death Anniversary of BRO. RAFFAELE QUINTO

After spending his entire life for our Temple (of the Evangelical Rogation) in Messina, Bro. Raffaele departed from it and reached the heavenly one.

He was born on October 7, 1905, in Pisticci (Matera, Italy). He spent the years of his adolescence and early youth in industriousness and prayer, and this led him also to take care of the sacred decorum of the places of worship. He entered the Congregation at 18 years of age, in the Mother House of Messina. He was encouraged by the Father Founder to overcome the first moment of discouragement that caught him at the impact of the poverty of the Avignone Houses. Then, he started his journey of religious life with enthusiasm and commitment by entering the novitiate on October 23, 1926, professing the vows for the first time on April 29, 1928, and perpetually on April 18, 1934. Except for two short periods, one from 1933 to 1936 in Trani as assistant of the orphans, and another from 1937 to 1939 in Oria with different tasks and Church custodian, Bro. Raffaele worked for his entire life with peculiar zeal as caretaker of the Temple of the Evangelical Rogation, which is at the same time also Shrine of St. Anthony, in Messina. His care was for the cleanliness of the place that he did personally and with great sacrifice up to the last period of his life; for the preparation of flowers; for the keeping of the liturgical vestments and sacred paraphernalia, which he wanted to be rich and precious so as to decorate the Temple. He cared for the preparation for the liturgical celebrations, in particular of the novena and feast of St. Anthony. For this occasion, he managed to have one or more Bishops every year as preachers. Love for the sacred places and in a special way for the Shrines, accompanied him from his youth throughout his entire life, and was fully expressed towards our Temple in Messina as the center of his attention, affection, and sacrifices.

Since obedience entrusted him with the task of the custodian of the Temple, Bro. Raffaele was able to make his work a precious action of promotion of worship in the temple. By living in the place where the presence of the Father Founder is still felt, he became for the people and for the pilgrims an edifying testimony of human and religious

virtues. Also, for this connection with the Founder, he was surrounded by the esteem and affection of the confreres. On his part, he used to follow with great attention the life of the Congregation by asking for information from those visiting him during his sickness.

He ended his earthly pilgrimage on April 7, 1994, after some months of suffering which he bore with edifying serenity, being assisted by the confreres praying beside him. Bro. Raffaele remains in our memories as a man of action, energetic but at the same time rich in humanity and patience; a man of prayer who was able to communicate with great simplicity with the Saints, particularly with his dear St. Anthony; a devout child of the Father Founder whose virtues he tried to imitate and from whom he drew his great love for the Congregation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

April 8

Death Anniversary of FR. BERNARD DOURWE

He was born in Douala, Cameroon, on February 18, 1986. He entered the Congregation in Edea on October 1, 2006. He entered the novitiate on September 8, 2010, in Kigali, where he made his first profession the following year. On September 8, 2015, he made his perpetual vows in Ngoya. On September 17, 2016, he was ordained a priest in Douala.

For the first year of his ministry, he was assigned to the House of Edea as vice-rector, formator of seminarians, animator, and coordinator of vocations in Cameroon. From July 2017, he was transferred to the House of Kabgayi (Rwanda) as Vice-Professor, Treasurer, and Formator of Seminarians. In 2019, he was appointed Superior while retaining the position of formator. The following year, he received his diploma in journalism. On June 17, 2021, he was appointed Secretary of the Saint Joseph Quasi-Province, a position he fulfilled with distinction. On January 17, 2022, he was appointed Superior of the Community of Kigali-Remera, Seat of the Quasi-Province. He participated actively in the General Chapter of 2022. In September, he was transferred as Superior to the House of Edea.

Fr. Bernard did not manifest any worrying health problems, but unexpectedly he was found dead in his room on the morning of April 8, 2023, the eve of Holy Easter, after an asthma attack. He was only 37 years old.

Fr. Bernard left a great void in the Quasi-Province. He was a testimony of human and religious virtues. He was simple and kind, cheerful and hardworking, and he loved his religious and missionary vocation. His seven years of priestly life were dedicated to the promotion of vocations and the formation of future laborers for the Lord's harvest.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

April 9

Death Anniversary of BRO. GIUSEPPE BONGIOVANNI

Bro. Bongiovanni was born on September 13, 1912, in Montalbano of Elicona (Messina, Italy), and was baptized on the 22nd of the same month. He was still a child when his father's death left him an orphan. With the help of the Superior of the Daughters of Divine Zeal in San Pier Niceto, he was accepted in the Anthonian Orphanage in Oria on November 22, 1924. There, he became one of the seminarians attending the first years of high school.

He was then sent to the Mother House in Messina to continue his studies. Upon his return to Oria, he entered the aspirancy for brotherhood, and on December 8, 1931, he was accepted to the postulancy. He took the Rogationist habit in Trani on October 16, 1932, together with 22 other postulants. (It was from that time onward that the novices kept their baptismal name without adopting a religious name as it was their practice before).

He concluded the 18 months of novitiate (as prescribed by the Constitutions) with his first religious profession on April 18, 1934. On September 8, 1939, he perpetually consecrated himself to the Lord.

Serving God and neighbor in the Congregation, he worked in various Houses. He was assigned for some time as an assistant of the orphans, then he had also administrative assignments. Everywhere, he was an example of industriousness, the spirit of sacrifice, fidelity, and of dedication to the Congregation. On September 7, 1970, the Superiors transferred him from Francofronte to the Mother House in Messina.

For several years, he was affected by diabetes. In his last months, his conditions worsened, and he had to be hospitalized, first in Messina and then in Catania. But the attention of the confreres, the treatment of the doctors, and also the amputation of one leg which became necessary for initial necrosis, were all in vain. He was brought back to the Mother House where on April 9, 1972, he died surrounded by the confreres in prayer. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

And of **FATHER RAFFAELE SACCO**

He was born in Falerna (Catanzaro, Italy) on October 18, 1946. He entered the Congregation, at Messina Cristo Re, on October 10, 1958. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 28, 1965, in Zagarolo. He made his perpetual profession in Grottaferrata on September 29, 1973. He was ordained a priest in Falerna on August 14, 1975.

He carried out the first years of his apostolate, engaged in the field of formation, initially with the seminarians in Zagarolo and, from 1979, in the theological student residence of Grottaferrata, as Formator and Superior of the Community. In 1986 he was transferred to the Rogate Center in Rome and, at the same time, called to work in the Vatican, for fifteen years, in the Congregation for Catholic Education, as an Official in the Pontifical Work for Vocations. From 2006 to 2011, he resumed his work in the Rogate Center, also working as a chaplain in the "La Sapienza" University in Rome and professor at the Urbaniana University. In 2012, he was transferred to Trezzano sul Naviglio (Milan), as parish vicar and, two years later, with the office of the parish priest, to Padua, where he concluded his earthly life.

Because of his wisdom and experience, he was called to serve on several Central Commissions of the Congregation, concerning the area of formation, the charism of the Rogate, and spirituality. He participated in the General Chapters that took place from 1860 to 2010.

Fr. Raffaele, an example of affability, industriousness, fraternal availability, and fidelity to the priesthood and religious life, always showed a pastoral sensitivity, which he expressed full time in the last period of his life. May the Lord who called him to Heaven unexpectedly due to a cardiac arrest on the afternoon of April 9, 2021, the Friday of Easter week that precedes the Feast of Divine Mercy, receive him as a merciful Father.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

Death Anniversary of FR. PIETRO CIFUNI

He was born in Pisticci (Matera, Italy) on January 3, 1932. He entered the Congregation, in Oria on January 12, 1944. He was admitted to the Novitiate on September 29, 1948, in Trani, where he made his first profession on September 30, 1949. He studied philosophy in Naples and theology in Assisi and Rome. He made his perpetual profession in Assisi on September 29, 1954. He was ordained a priest in Oria on July 6, 1957.

During the early years, he carried out his apostolate as Vice Superior in Trani, then in Oria, where he also held the office of Treasurer, and then in Padua; from 1963, he was also assigned to formation and teaching, first in Subiaco and then in the Mother House of Messina, where from 1968, he also held the office of Superior for six years.

In the 1974 General Chapter, he was elected General Treasurer and was renewed in the next Chapter. In the 1986 General Chapter, he was elected Superior General and was re-elected in the next Chapter. In 1999, he was assigned to the House of Messina Christ the King as Superior. Six years later, he was transferred to the Mother House of Messina, as Vice Superior, also as Treasurer for a long time, and, finally, as a collaborator at the Shrine of Saint Anthony. In the last years, he was tried by illness, borne serenely. He fell asleep in the Lord on April 13, 2020, Monday of the Octave of Easter (Angel's Monday).

During his tenure as Superior General, he began the important process of decentralization of the Congregation, supported missionary commitment in the Philippines and Africa, and initiated new openings in India and Albania. In addition, in those years, there was the beatification of the Father Founder and the organization of the associated laity. He left us several circular letters on the history and charism of the Congregation.

Fr. Pietro was a man of deep humanity, cultured, simple, affable, attentive, and available to his confreres and those who approached him, attentive to the poor and, above all, faithful to the commitments of religious life and the priestly ministry.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

April 14

Death Anniversary of FR. FILIPPO DONVITO

Fr. Donvito was born in Gioia Del Colle (Bari, Italy) on July 5, 1913 and entered the Congregation in Trani, on November 4, 1932, where he also started his novitiate on September 29, 1934, and made his first profession on March 29, 1936. He finished his theological studies in Messina, where he made his perpetual profession on September 10, 1941. He was ordained priest in Barcelona Pozzo Di Gotto (Messina) on May 9, 1943.

In 1945, during the first Chapter of the Congregation, Fr. Filippo was elected General Councilor. From 1947 to 1962, he was the Superior of the Houses of Oria, Bari, and Desenzano. In the General Chapter of 1962, he was elected General Treasurer, an assignment which was renewed in the following Chapter and which he carried out until 1974. In the two ensuing years, he managed the Christ the King Printing Press in Messina. After only two years, as Superior of the Anthonian Institute in Rome, he was assigned to the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) of the House Christ the King in Messina, a task which he carried out with dedication and zeal until a few weeks before his death. In roles of responsibility, Fr. Filippo was always caring with his Confreres, demanding and at the same time paternal in the education and formation of the pupils. He leaves us an example of availability in obedience, fidelity to religious and priestly consecration, and of a strong attachment to the Founder and to the Congregation.

Though advanced in age, he was still enjoying a fairly good health, when, unexpectedly, a sickness which developed in a few weeks weakened his strong fiber. Comforted by the Sacraments, he returned to the house of the Father, on the evening of April 14, 2007, on the eve of Divine Mercy Sunday, the mercy to which he had entrusted himself many times.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

April 22

Death Anniversary of BRO. NUNZIO ARTINO

Bro. Nunzio was born in Alcara Li Fusi (Messina, Italy) on May 18, 1937. At the age of 3, his mother died, and at 7 his father passed away as well, leaving him orphan. In April 1944, he was accepted in our Orphanage at Messina - Christ the King (now the Institute for the Deaf and Mute).

He applied to be admitted as an aspirant to the Religious life and entered the Apostolic School (minor seminary) in Messina on April 4, 1957. On March 19 of the following year, he was admitted to the postulancy. On December 29, he entered the novitiate in Florence for the first year and in Rome for the second year, where he made his first profession on September 30, 1960. In the succeeding years, he was in Trani working as assistant of the orphans up to 1963, then, in Rome with the same assignment up to 1965. There, he made his perpetual profession on September 29, 1965. At the end of 1968, he was transferred to the Mother House in Messina where he remained up to the end of his days. Here, in 1972, he served the orphans, and then, worked at the service of the 'Sala Obolo' of the Shrine and at the same time for the animation of the 'Anthonian Paggetti' (= Anthonian Pageboys). His apostolate with the orphans and with the 'Paggetti' has characterized his Religious life for almost thirty years. Bro. Nunzio left us a clear testimony of several virtues, particularly his devotion to Our Lady and to the Founder, piety, commitment in observing his religious vows, his love for the Congregation, friendliness with the confreres, his hard work and humility.

The Lord called him to heaven on the morning of April 22, 1996. He passed away due to a heart attack. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

April 29

Death Anniversary of FR. GASPARE GALLITTO

Fr. Gaspare was born in Siracusa, Italy on December 31, 1928. He entered the Congregation in Messina on October 10, 1941. He was admitted to the novitiate in Trani (BA) on September 29, 1944; made his first profession in Oria (BR) on September 29, 1946 and his perpetual profession in Oria (BR) on September 29, 1951. He was ordained a priest in Assisi (PG) on July 17, 1955.

The early years of Fr. Gaspare's ministry were in the Houses of Desenzano and Messina, in the field of formation and education. Then, from 1964 to 1973, he was the Superior of the House of Francofonte (Siracusa), with an interlude of two years in Grottaferrata, as a formator of the religious students. From 1973 to 1978, he was the Superior in the Mother House of Messina. After three years, he was assigned to the Rogate Center of Rome. In the 1980 General Chapter, he was elected General Councilor. At the end of the mandate, he remained for three years in the Curia, as Superior delegate. After six months in the newly opened House in Aluva (India), from 1989 onward, he was assigned to the Philippine Indian Delegation as Major Superior of the Circumscription. He was reappointed to such task for nine years because of his untiring zeal for the Rogate, for the little ones and the poor and his paternal attention to the formation of young confreres. Then, notwithstanding the age, he accepted to be assigned as Superior and Novice Master in the House of Silang where he remained for six more years. At the same time, he was for many years the Vice-Postulator, not sparing himself in anything so as to spread the devotion to the Father Founder and the Rogate, and untiringly preparing all the documents for the Positio Super Miro (on the miracle attributed to the intercession of the Father Founder). For health reasons, he had to return to Italy in 2005 and was assigned to the Mother House of Messina as a collaborator in the Shrine.

In the last years, his health situation has deteriorated progressively. As consequence of a head injury due to a fall, he fell asleep in the Lord on April 29, 2012, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, 49th World Day of Prayer for Vocations. This occasion seemed to be the most appropriate day for his passage to eternity because Fr. Gaspare had

always been a zealous and indefatigable animator of the vocation apostolate of the Rogate.

In the many tasks he performed, some of them of special responsibility, he showed a great wisdom and good humor, fidelity to consecrated life, a very paternal heart in accompanying the young information, and a very intense love to our Founder and to the Congregation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

May 2

Death Anniversary of FR. CELESTINO VENTRELLA

Fr. Celestino was born in Carbonara (Bari, Italy) on October 20, 1965. He entered the "Madonna della Grotta" Rogationist Youth Community in Modugno (Bari) on October 13, 1995, after having obtained the degree in Medicine. By meeting some of our confreres and frequenting the Boys Village of Bari, near the Policlinic where he was taking his specialization courses, and particularly the Youth Center annexed to the Shrine of the "Madonna della Grotta", he got in touch with the Congregation, appreciating the charism, and then sharing it.

On September 8, 1996, he entered the novitiate in Messina - "Villa Santa Maria" where in the following year, he made the first profession. He attended the Philosophical and Theological courses at the Lateran Pontifical University in Rome, residing at the Center of Studies of Grottaferrata. Here he had his perpetual profession on September 7, 2003. He was ordained priest in Carbonara on October 1, 2005.

Assigned to the novitiate community of "Villa Santa Maria" as collaborator of the Novice Master, he was faithful to the task and happy in the exercise of his priestly ministry to the faithful who come to the chapel of the community, serving the youth and the people who came to know him and to find in him a spiritual guide.

On the afternoon of April 26, 2006, he was involved in a car accident where his father and the driver lost their lives. He was gravely injured and for some days was in coma. He died in the Lord on May 2, 2006. In agreement with his relatives his organs were donated.

Fr. Celestino has left in all the witness of a great humanity, and religious and priestly virtues. With generous, simple, humble, and jovial availability, he put his talents and his fraternal affection at the disposal of everybody who met him.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

May 6

Death Anniversary of FR. SALVATORE GERARDO ONORATO

Fr. Salvatore Gerardo Onorato was born on February 28, 1906 in Lacedonia (Avellino, Italy). On May 3, 1921, he entered the Mother House in Messina to start his journey of consecration to the Lord and formation to religious life and priesthood. He entered the novitiate on October 19, 1924; made his first religious profession on December 8, 1925; professed perpetually on April 21, 1930; and received the Order of Presbyterate on February 14, 1937, in Oria.

From 1939 to 1947, he was assigned to the House in Trani and was the chaplain of the St. Donato Church, where in 1942, he promoted the devotion of Our Lady of Fatima among his faithful. In the following years, he resided in Oria as a Treasurer and in Florence as Superior of the House from its opening in 1952 to 1958.

Then, he returned to Trani to resume, with renewed thrust, the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima, being the Rector of the newly built Shrine. Among other things, he also supported the formation of young lay women desiring to consecrate themselves to the Blessed Virgin of the Rogate. In the following years they became the "*Missionarie Rogazioniste*" (*Missionaries of the Rogate*).

In 1965, he was assigned for some years in the House of Oria as spiritual father, and then in the novitiate in Zagarolo where he remained until 1972. Then, he returned to Trani where he had started his ministry marked by the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima and worked in this apostolate up to the time his strength could support him. He spent his last years in the serene expectation of encountering the Lord, his Most Holy Mother, and our Blessed Father Founder. He passed away to the Lord on May 6, 1998.

Throughout his entire life, Fr. Onorato preserved the principles of religious formation that he luckily drew from the teachings of Father Hannibal. He particularly fostered and promoted, even though several books, the devotion to Our Lady. He loved our Father Founder and the Congregation very much.

And of BRO. SALVATORE BUSCAGLIA

He was born in Santa Elisabetta (Agrigento, Italy) on October 1, 1924. He entered the Congregation on November 5, 1945, in Santa Lucia del Mela (ME). He entered the novitiate on September 29, 1947, in Trani, where on March 29, 1949 he made his first profession. He made his perpetual profession in Naples on March 19, 1952.

In the following years, he was assigned with various tasks, mainly in the fields of management and economy, in the Houses of Naples, Desenzano, San Demetrio, Rome, Francofonte, Oria, Grottaferrata, and Morlupo. He spent the last period of his life in the Houses of Florence and San Cesareo. The frequent transfers that characterized his service to the Lord in the Congregation are a sign of his great willingness to move where there was a need and where obedience called him.

Salvatore was a pious and humble religious, faithful to the commitment of consecrated life, with a strong bond to the Father Founder and to the Congregation, hard-working and friendly, attentive, and caring in meeting the needs and wishes of the confreres. The hardships of old age did not affect his serenity and affability.

Tested by cardiorespiratory problems, while residing in the House of San Cesareo, he was admitted to the hospital in Palestrina (Rome). After a few days, on May 6, 2015, he fell asleep in the Lord. His body is buried in the chapel of the Congregation in the cemetery of Padua.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

May 15

Death Anniversary of FR. DOMENICO SERAFINO SANTORO

Fr. Santoro was born on March 9, 1898 in Ceglie Messapica, (Brindisi, Italy). He belonged to the group of students of the suppressed Institute of Fr. Eustachio Montemurro, who were accepted by the Father Founder in the Seminary of Oria on August 20, 1911. He took the Rogationist habit on November 1, 1912, assuming the religious name "Serafino". A year after, on November 1, 1913, he made his first religious profession. He perpetually consecrated himself to the Lord on April 22, 1923, in Messina where he was also ordained a priest on June 14, 1924.

When the Rogationist novitiate was canonically established in Oria on September 29, 1928, he was appointed as its first Novice Master and accomplished this assignment with devotion and zeal for many years. On December 27, 1931, he moved to Trani together with a group of religious, novices, and seminarians for the inauguration of the House "Villa S. Maria" of which he became Superior.

In 1932, he was elected as member of the first General Council of the Congregation and, in the 1945 General Chapter, as a Superior General. After being the Superior of the Boys' Village in Bari and again as Superior in Trani, he was elected General Councilor in the 1956 Chapter and in 1962, again as Councilor and Vicar General. During this second term, upon request of the Superior General, he visited the Houses in Brazil several times. In 1968, he was assigned as spiritual father to the Pious XII Seminary in Criciúma, Brazil. The following year he returned to Italy, with the same assignment in the House of Religious Students in Philosophy in Grottaferrata. In 1970, he transferred to the Mother House in Messina, as spiritual father of the Philosophy students and collaborator in the Shrine. At the end of 1973, he was transferred to Trani as spiritual father of the seminarians.

Since his transfer to Messina, his health, which has never been robust, began to decline. In Trani, his situation worsened due to colon cancer. The treatments he underwent in various clinics and hospitals were in vain. After a real Calvary of sufferings that he endured in silence and resignation, and offering it for the good of the Congregation, he died in Trani on May 15, 1974, almost on the eve of his 50th Sacerdotal

Anniversary. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Trani.

He was outstanding for prayer life, Marian devotion and attachment and fidelity to the Father Founder and to the Congregation. He was an exemplar in the field of formation for many Rogationists. He also wrote and printed several booklets and aids for the Rogationist religious formation.

And of BRO. GIUSEPPE CONCETTO RUTA

Bro. Giuseppe Concetto Ruta was born in Rosolini (Siracusa, Italy) on September 28, 1904. He was 15 when he came to know the Founder who welcomed him in the Avignone Houses on September 8, 1919.

Being pious and intelligent, he was immediately assigned to help in the printing press where he escaped unhurt from a terrible accident in August 1922. The 'Bollettino' reported about this accident and the three days of thanksgiving prayers to the Lord prescribed by the Father Founder for all our houses.

He was given the religious habit, together with Bro. Stellario Spada, on December 8, 1922, in the private chapel of the Avignone Houses and had his novitiate under the guidance of Fr. Vitale. Instead of his baptismal name, Giuseppe, the Father Founder gave him the name "Concetto of the Most Holy Mary Immaculate", a name he liked very much because of his devotion to the Blessed Virgin.

Though he had a poor health, he dedicated himself in so many ways: first, as assistant of the orphans who were still in the Avignone Houses, then with many other assignments in the Houses of Oria, Trani, Messina in the actual institute for the deaf and mute, and most of all in the Mother House where, from 1944 to 1976, he was assigned to the "Obolo", edifying the faithful dealing with him with his example. In his last decade, he suffered further due to his poor health, especially for the weakening of his sight and hearing. He accepted his long sickness with serenity, finding in consistent prayer the strength to humbly adhere to the Lord's will.

He left us the example of a religious available in his obedience, faithful in his observance, and consistent in his prayer life, while eagerly expecting his encounter with the Lord.

At the end of a letter of 1981, he wrote, "Out of love, I ask just some prayers for my good death if the Lord wills it." The Lord called him on May 15, 1987. He was 82. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

May 17

Death Anniversary of DCN. JOSEPH F. LYONS

Deacon Joseph Lyons was born on March 25, 1928 in Wilton Connecticut, USA. On February 11, 1986 he entered our Congregation, in our House in Sanger, USA.

Before taking this decision to be a religious at the age of 58, he was in the US Navy for some years, worked in several jobs and taken care of his aged mother. In entering the Congregation, after the death of his mother, he intended to accomplish his desire, manifested several times during his life, to consecrate himself to the Lord,

Six months after his entrance in Sanger, he was sent to Manila (Philippines) to start his studies for priesthood. He entered the novitiate in Grottaferrata (Italy) on September 8, 1988. The following year, he made his first profession and continued his theological studies at St. Beda in Rome. Having been granted dispensation from the three years of temporary vows, he made his perpetual profession on September 8, 1990. Then, he went back to USA and on May 25, 1991, he received the Order of Diaconate.

Though endowed with good human and religious qualities, Deacon Lyons found some difficulties in inserting himself in the community. Also, due to health problems, he was granted on May 19, 1995, the indulgence of residing *extra domum* near Sanger.

In the following years he expressed his diaconal ministry with commitment, though affected by cancer for quite a time. Until the end, he was in good relations with the confreres, and they were close to him with their fraternal concern. Comforted by the Sacraments, he passed away to the Lord on May 17, 1998.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

May 21

Death Anniversary of FR. ANTONIO BARBANGELO

Fr. Antonio Barbangelo was born in Minervino Murge (Bari, Italy) on June 10, 1920. He entered the Congregation in the House of Oria on August 10, 1931. He made his first profession on March 30, 1939, and the perpetual profession on September 26, 1944. On July 19, 1947, he received the Order of Presbyterate in Rome.

After working from 1956 to 1972 in the educational field and formation in the Houses of Messina, Trani and Assisi, he was assigned to the House of San Demetrio nei Vestini (Aquila), most of the time as Superior and parish priest. In the following years, he was in the Houses of Oria and then of San Cesareo, also as a formator.

In 1976, together with other confreres, Fr. Antonio started the presence of the Rogationists in the Philippines, where he worked until 1985, with the role of Delegate of the Superior General. Then, he was in the House of Sanger (U.S.A.) for one year, and by the end of 1986, he began of the presence of the Congregation in India, where he remained until June 1987.

In the following years, while always cultivating the ideal of missions, he worked as vocation animator in the Houses of Padua, San Demetrio, and Florence.

Because of his health conditions, he was assigned in the House of Padua in 2001, and from 2004 onwards, he was confined in the section for clergy of the Home for the Elderly "Opera Divina Provvidenza" of the Diocese of Padua, where he rested in the Lord on May 21, 2009.

Strongly attached to the Father Founder and to the Congregation and particularly devoted to Our Lady, Fr. Antonio was a zealous vocation animator and a religious whose heart was always projected towards missions.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

And of FR. CESARE BETTONI

He was born in Travagliato (Brescia, Italy) on July 14, 1953. He entered the Congregation in Desenzano on September 22, 1964. He was admitted to the Novitiate on September 29, 1969, in Zagarolo. He made his first profession in Rome on September 29, 1970, and his perpetual profession in Grottaferrata on September 29, 1979. He was ordained a priest in Pievedizio (Brescia) on June 21, 1980.

He carried out the first years of his apostolate, until 1985, in the formation of seminarians in Palermo. He left for the Philippines from the missions and stayed there from 1986 to 1998, playing different roles in the formation of young religious students in Manila and actively collaborating as a member of the Government of the Philippine-Indian Delegation. In 1995, he was appointed as Novice Master. During the General Chapter of 1998, he was elected General Councilor for the field of formation. He played this role, along with the other tasks assigned to him, as Superior in charge of the International Theological Center of Studies of Grottaferrata. In 2005, when he returned to the Philippines, he resumed the office of Novice Master until 2016, when he returned to Italy for health reasons. He fought with the illness with great fortitude, preserving his usual good humor and dedicating himself, until the end, to the translation of texts concerning the charism of the Congregation. In May 2020, his health worsened. On May 19, Father General paid him a visit and on May 21, he fell asleep peacefully in the Lord.

Fr. Cesare, generous and always available, had a strong character, determined and even demanding, with the firmness of the educator and the sweetness of an authentic father and brother. He was simple, humble, modest, and poor. He had a very special attention to the poor and the sick.

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, his friend since the early days of Fr. Cesare's stay in the Philippines, testified of him: "a good person, a wonderful man and priest."

Let us remember him in our prayers.

May 23

Death Anniversary of BRO. ANGELO MARIA PISANO

Bro. Angelo Maria Pisano was born in Licata, (Agrigento, Italy) on October 30, 1906. At the age of 25, because of the preaching of some St. Paul Fathers in his hometown, he felt inspired to consecrate himself to the Lord in the religious life. In 1932, he was accepted as aspirant for the brotherhood in the Mother House in Messina.

Few months later, on March 19, 1933, he was admitted to the postulancy. Transferring to Trani, where the novitiate House was situated, he took the sacred habit on September 29 of the same year, and on March 30, 1935, he made his first religious profession

Humble, faithful, industrious, fond of poverty, diligent in his assignments, and most devoted to the Blessed Lady: these are the main notes qualifying for his moral and spiritual personality. Because of this, even though it was after only three years of temporary vows he was admitted to the perpetual profession which was scheduled for March 30, 1938. He had to make his perpetual vows bedridden because of a grave form of typhoid fever, which was affecting him since March 24. In the days of his sickness, he showed exemplar prayer life, especially in receiving the Holy Communion.

He died on May 23, 1938, vigil of the feast of Mary Help of Christians, whom he loved and honored so much.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

May 24

Death Anniversary of BRO. GIUSEPPE ANTONIO MELI

Bro. Giuseppe Antonio Meli was born in Castelbuono (Palermo, Italy) on March 27, 1876. He entered the Congregation at the Avignone Houses in 1899. He had studied until third-year high school and was aspiring to become a priest. But in those heroic times of the Congregation in its beginnings, living with the Father Founder who was always in need of help, he understood that everything had to be immolated and he totally devoted himself to sacrifice and industrious work.

His peculiar characteristics were a great love for work, his filial attachment to the Father Founder and to the Congregation, a profound prayerful life, and a unique practice of poverty. He outstandingly showed all these virtues while living in the Houses of Trani and Oria.

He spent the last period of his life in the Mother House in Messina carrying out his office and his apostolate in the "Obolo" of the Shrine of St. Anthony. Noticeable also was his diligence and love in gathering news that could be of interest for the Biography of the Father Founder.

He was 65 when he died in Messina on May 24, 1941, feast of Mary Help of Christians, after 42 years of religious life. We like to recall the opinion expressed by a priest about Bro. Joseph: "A golden monument will not be enough for such a person."

Let us remember him in our prayers.

May 29

Death Anniversary of FR. FRANCESCO PISCAZZI

Fr. Piscazzi was born in Cassano Murge (Bari, Italy) on April 29, 1922. He entered the Congregation on October 15, 1934 and entered the novitiate in the House of Trani on September 29, 1939. He made his first profession on September 29, 1941, and his perpetual profession on April 23, 1947. He took his theological studies in Rome and Assisi, where he was ordained a priest on June 29, 1950.

He carried out his ministry in the Houses of Messina, Trani, Desenzano, Oria, Florence, Matera, Padua, and Naples, holding different offices such as formator, teacher, treasurer, and also often as Superior of the community. Even when he was already old and suffering because of his sicknesses, he continued with a commitment to the works in the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office).

Because of the worsening of his health conditions, he was transferred in the House of San Cesareo where he could be better attended to and supported by the closeness of the confreres.

There, he peacefully returned to the House of the Father on the morning of May 29, 2009.

Fr. Francesco Piscazzi has left us, in particular, an example of availability, hard work, and attachment to the Congregation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

May 30

Death Anniversary of BRO. SANTE CASIELLO

Bro. Sante was born in Biccari (Foggia, Italy) on November 28, 1893. He belonged to the group of students at the suppressed Institute of Fr. Eustachio Montemurro who were accepted by the Father Founder in Oria in 1911. In the Congregation, he changed his baptismal name Massimo into Sante.

In the House of Oria, he performed with diligence at the office of the assistant. At the same time, he attended the high school in the diocesan seminary of Oria together with his companions. Then, he started his college which was conducted in the House.

When transferred to the Mother House in Messina to study Theology, in a short span of time, he was struck by pneumonia.

He died in a very edifying way on the evening of Corpus Domini on May 30, 1918, while the procession of the Most Blessed Sacrament was passing near our institute and the bell of our Church was ringing for the Angelus.

He was pious, intelligent, and talented. He was gifted with poetic inspiration and composed some poems reflecting his noble and devout sentiments. He fostered a particular zeal for the salvation of the unbelievers, making him aspire to become a priest with the idea of becoming a Rogationist missionary.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

Death Anniversary of FR. NICOLA CORRARO

He was born in Episcopia (Potenza, Italy) on August 19, 1938. He entered the Congregation in Oria on September 14, 1952. He was admitted to the Novitiate in San Demetrio on November 17, 1957. He made his first profession in Florence on September 30, 1958, and his perpetual profession in Padua on September 27, 1964. He was ordained a priest in Oria on June 28, 1967.

He carried out the first years of his apostolate in the formation of seminarians, between the houses of Trani and Florence until 1976, when he was assigned to the house of Morlupo as Treasurer. After two years, he was transferred to the house in Palermo with the same office. From 1979 until 1996, he was based in Florence as formator of the students, except for the stay of one year, in 1988, in San Demetrio, with the office of Assistant Parish priest. Soon after, he was transferred to San Cesareo, with the office of Treasurer, where he remained until 2015, with a break of three years in Florence, from 2002 to 2005, as an educator of pupils. In May 2019, the community of San Cesareo was transferred to the Center of Spirituality in Morlupo. He was often assigned to the task of formation and teaching in various places. During the last years, he was tried by illness, which did not limit his usual humanity and serenity. He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on June 3, 2020.

Fr. Nicola was commendable for his simplicity, welcoming with his constant smile, jovial, humble, hardworking, and always available to everyone, even when he was suffering from the limits of illness. He associated these human qualities with great fidelity to the commitments of the Rogationist priestly and religious life.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

June 5

Death Anniversary of FR. GIUSEPPE GIOVANGELISTA TURSI

Fr. Tursi was born in Biccari (Foggia, Italy) on July 21, 1901, and was baptized on the following day, and given the name Giuseppe. Desiring to become a religious priest, he entered our seminary in Oria on November 18, 1915. Fr. Bonaventura Vitale welcomed him and became his first formator and Novice Master in the novitiate which he started on April 29, 1917. In 1918, on the day of the protection of St. Joseph, he made his first religious profession assuming the name Giovangelista.

In Messina, from 1919 to 1927, he prepared for priesthood, brilliantly attending classes at the diocesan seminary and, at the same time, working as assistant of orphans and seminarians. He was ordained a priest on June 11, 1927. The joy of that day was shadowed by the sadness for the recent death of the Father Founder who, in his last years, had accompanied him to the priesthood with love and expectation.

For 18 years, he pastorally served the Houses of Messina, Oria, and Trani, in various activities like: treasurer, educator, teacher, assistant Novice Master, and then Novice Master.

The first General Chapter in 1945 appointed him Vicar General, but he held the office only for a short time. The difficulties of the Congregation at its beginnings in those years and the desire he nurtured to extend beyond oceans the charism of the Rogate, brought him to ask the Superiors the permission to leave for the United States of America; he left on January 1, 1947. Though he was always in touch with the several communities of the Congregation, he was mostly alone for 20 years, exercising his ministry in various parishes because of the difficulty opening a Community for our Congregation. The first confreres who joined him found him committed full time in the pastoral care of souls, most faithfully observing our rules and traditions, exemplary in his love for the Founder and to the Congregation and in prayer life and religious virtues.

He went back to Italy in May 1987 to celebrate his 60th anniversary of priestly ordination when he met a car accident. The fractures were

apparently not so serious, but some complications shortly brought him to an end. He received the Sacraments with great serenity and died on June 5, 1987. The funeral service was held in the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Trani. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Trani.

And of FR. ANTONIO PRENCIPE

Fr. Prencipe was born in Monte Sant'Angelo (Foggia, Italy) on October 5, 1927. He entered the Congregation in Oria on October 16, 1939. He was admitted to the novitiate in 1944. After two years, he made his first profession. He made his perpetual profession in Assisi in 1952, after he finished his Theological Studies. He was ordained priest on July 17, 1955.

He started to work in the Anthonian Propaganda in Florence and Assisi, and in the field of education and formation in Chiavari, Desenzano and the Mother House in Messina. In February 1972, he went as a missionary to Brazil where he stayed at the House of Passos. Here, he also continued to dedicate himself to the education of the students. At the same time, he took care of the economy of the House. In 1977, he was transferred to Curitiba; in 1979 to Brasilia; in 1985 to Curitiba; in 1987 to Passos; in 1990 to Gravatai; and finally, to Criciúma the following year, where he carried out the tasks either as Superior or vice Superior or parish priest or assistant parish or treasurer or collaborator in the economy. All this he performed with great availability.

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In the last period of his life spent in Criciúma, the condition of his health deteriorated, particularly due to kidney problems. He endured the test with serenity, supported by the closeness of the faithful and friends, and in particular, the health workers and the confreres.

Due to a cardiocirculatory arrest, he slept in the Lord on June 5, 2002. He was a simple religious, meek, available, and pious, bound to the Father Founder and the Congregation.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

June 6

Death Anniversary of FR. ENRIQUE TAN RAVEZA III

He was born in Manila, Philippines on January 11, 1964. He entered the Congregation in Manila on May 2, 1981, and was admitted to the novitiate on June 1, 1983. He made his first profession on June 1, 1984, and the perpetual profession on June 1, 1990. In 1992, as a deacon, he spent several months as an educator in Aluva (India). On June 11, 1994, he was ordained priest at the Parish of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary in Parañaque.

He spent the first years of his apostolate, engaged in formation, first in the Center of Studies in Manila and then in the Seminary in Cebu. From 2000 to 2004, he worked in our parish of Parañaque and, in the two years that followed, at the St. Anthony's Boys Village in Silang. From 2007 to 2014, he was Councilor and Treasurer of the Government of the Circumscription. From 2008 onwards, he was delegated by the Major Superior to start and manage the Rogationist College-Parañaque and the Rogate Printing Press.

In mid-2017, he began to experience heart problems and dizziness. From the analysis carried out, he was diagnosed with "multiple myeloma", a type of blood cancer, particularly painful, which, in fact, was incurable. In the progress of the illness, which he endured with a serene fortitude, he was accompanied by the closeness of the confreres and his relatives. He died on June 6, 2018, at San Juan De Dios Hospital in Pasay. His remains were buried in our Cemetery in Paranaque.

Fr. Ravezza was faithful to the commitments of religious life and the priesthood. We recall his joviality, enthusiasm, attention to the confreres, the zeal in the field of formation and attention to the poor.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

June 7

Death Anniversary of FR. ROSARIO ANTONIO SCAZZI

Fr. Rosario Antonio Scazzi, born in Erchie (Brindisi, Italy) on September 11, 1925, entered as a seminarian in Oria in 1938, and in the novitiate in 1942. In 1944, he made the profession of the holy vows. He was ordained priest in 1953 in Assisi.

He spent the first years of his ministry in Trani and then in Oria as formator of the seminarians. In 1962, he was transferred to the Institute of Christ the King in Messina as Treasurer and Professor. Three years later, he was entrusted the direction of the House in Naples where he was at the same time parish priest, treasurer, and principal. In 1968, he was elected Superior General of the Congregation. In 1972, after leaving the role of Superior General, he was transferred to Brazil, assigned to pastoral and teaching activities until 1975. In the following year, he went to USA and dedicated himself to the parish pastoral work until the last days of his life.

His sickness, cancer of the bladder which he had from 1981 onwards, accompanied him through all his last years, with a great deal of pain and mortification which he accepted with strength and serenity. All these did not hinder his untiring commitment to use his time to translate into English the writings of our Founder. He continued this project even when his strength started to fail. He translated the biography of the Father Founder written by Fr. Vitale, "The Rogationist Anthology"; "The Father's Soul"; and "The Father's Letters".

Comforted with the Holy Sacraments and surrounded by confreres and one of his nephews from Italy, he rested in the Lord's peace on June 7, 1989.

A funeral service was held in Mendota (California) on June 12. His remains were transferred to Italy on June 25 and, after a short stay for prayers and a farewell from the confreres in Rome, they were brought to Erchie for a holy Mass on June 26. On the following day, they were transferred to St. Anthony's Shrine in our House in Oria for the last funeral Mass and then they were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Oria.

And of FR. SERGIO BINI

He was born in Goito, Mantua, on December 8, 1940. He entered the Congregation in Desenzano del Garda (Brescia) on September 23, 1951. He entered the novitiate on September 29, 1956, in Trani. He made his first profession the following year, on September 30, 1957. He made his perpetual profession on September 27, 1963, in Desenzano, where he was ordained a priest on August 7, 1966. During the early years of his religious and priestly service, he worked with seminarians and promoted vocations at the Houses in Subiaco and Desenzano. From 1976 to 1981, he worked at the Rogate Vocational Center in Rome, bringing his pastoral sensitivity to print media. In the following years, he was reassigned to vocational promotion in Palermo and then Desenzano.

From 1990 to 2000, he led the parish in Padua. He then spent the following ten years in youth ministry between Assisi and Florence. In 2010, he returned to Desenzano, where he rendered his religious and priestly service. This time, he served as a pastoral collaborator.

Fr. Sergio was a simple, upright, and sensitive man who was easily moved to compassion and emotion. He lived with passion and a sense of friendship. He was a dedicated and helpful religious figure and a priest who was serious and responsible. He was sometimes firm and demanding and usually opposed to compromise.

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, he concluded a video interview with these words: "To all of you who have celebrated this anniversary with me, I ask you to continue to pray for me, so that for the rest of my life, I may be ever more faithful to the Lord and be a good priest and man of God."

He was a good priest and a man of God.

Due to health issues, he stayed at the Casa del Clero in Negrar, Verona, for about a year, receiving necessary care and spending time with family and confreres. They visited him the day before Pentecost, when he passed away on June 7, 2025.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

June 21

Death Anniversary of NOV. JAIME ALONSO MONCADA GOMEZ

Jaime was born in Versalles, Valle del Cauca, Colombia, on November 5, 1967. In 1970, his family moved to Tuluá, where he spent most of his life. On October 5, 2022, he entered the Congregation at the House of Manizales, and on March 19, 2023, he officially began his Rogationist formation as an aspirant Religious Brotherhood. On February 2, 2025, he entered the Rogationist novitiate in Brasília.

Jaime showed signs of an adult and mature vocation. He was collected and devout and committed to personal and community prayer. He loved St. Hannibal and the spirituality of the Divine Will. He was good-natured and generous, always available and capable of carrying out the tasks entrusted to him with precision and responsibility.

In early May 2025, he fell seriously ill with a respiratory infection caused by a virus. On May 11, he was admitted to the intensive care unit, first at a private clinic and then at the Regional Hospital of Santa Maria in Brasília. When the doctors announced the seriousness of his condition and imminent danger of death, Jaime accepted it all with serenity. He asked for the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and surrendered himself to God's will with such courage and virtue that he inspired amazement and admiration in all his confreres. The Lord called him home on June 8, 2025, the Solemnity of Pentecost.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

June 21

Death Anniversary of BRO. ANTONIO RENDINA

Bro. Rendina was born in San Marco in Lamis (Foggia, Italy) on February 22, 1934. Overcoming the opposition of his father, he entered the seminary in Oria as an aspirant for brotherhood. In 1949, he entered the novitiate in Trani. On September 30, 1950, he consecrated himself to the Lord with the first religious profession.

In the same House in Trani, he was appointed to assist the orphans, a job laudably performed by him. With the same assignment, he was transferred to the House in Naples. On April 21, 1952, a House in Florence was opened, and Bro. Rendina was one of the religious assigned for the new foundation.

After a few months, while he was recovering from a violent intestinal colic which struck him on the night between June 16 and 17, he suddenly had an attack of peritonitis. An immediate surgical operation was but in vain. He accepted with resignation the news of his imminent end, and he prepared serenely. He asked for pardon from his confreres and requested the sacraments. After receiving them Bro. Antonio exclaimed, "How well I do feel now. What a joy!". Thanking all he added, "Why didn't they give me the Sacraments before?"

He loved sincerity and practiced filial confidence in his spiritual father. He was very devoted to the Virgin Mary. In her honor, he used to recite three mysteries of Rosary every day, and also the little office of the Most Holy Virgin every Sunday. His great love for Our Lady made him wish to die on a Saturday. And Our Lady listened to him and called him to her on the evening of Saturday, June 21, 1952.

His remains were buried in the Cemetery of Florence.

And of FR. FRANCESCO CAMPANALE

Fr. Campanale was born in Cassano Murge (Bari, Italy) on July 3, 1915. At the age of 14, he entered the Apostolic School (minor seminary) in Oria. In October 1932, he was admitted to the novitiate in Trani, where he made his first profession on April 18, 1934. He consecrated himself perpetually to the Lord on October 8, 1939, in Messina, where he finished his theological studies. He was ordained priest on May 30, 1942.

He was introduced to the apostolate of the Congregation as an educator of the students in Oria. He served in the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) in Messina, and later, in Florence. Subsequently, and more frequently, he was called to work in the field of formation and spiritual direction in different Communities (Trani, Oria, Subiaco, Messina, and Villa Santa Maria). He worked with the youth in formation and with the religious students, in Assisi and in Grottaferrata, at times he was also the Superior of the House.

From 1945 to 1954, he collaborated with the Postulation for the Informative Process of Canonization of the Father Founder, for the first collection of the writings (61 typewritten volumes) and for the organization of the first "Archive-Museum" of the Father Founder in the Mother House. Without doubt, these circumstances 'deepened his knowledge of the Founder and of the Rogate, which he also manifested as a much-appreciated conference speaker. He worked in the Rogate Vocational Center in Rome from 1974 to 1981. He served as the General Councilor of the Congregation from 1945 to 1947, and from 1968 to 1974, he worked at the office of General Secretary.

The last years of his life, from 1994 onwards, were spent in the Mother House in Messina as collaborator in the Shrine, a pastoral service that he carried out with great availability and fidelity.

Towards the end of the 90's, his health deteriorated because of lung and heart problems, but ultimately due to a worsening cognitive function brought about by a cerebrovascular troubles. After a short stay in clinic of Collereale, he returned to the Mother House in 2000, assisted with every care and affection by the medical personnel and the confreres, until his peaceful return to the House of the Father on

June 21, 2002.

Fr. Francis left us a testimony of his religious and priestly virtues of humility, simplicity, and spirit of service, of attachment to the Father Founder and to the Congregation.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

June 22

Death Anniversary of FR. MARIO DI PASQUALE

He was born in Tufara (Campobasso, Italy) on December 3, 1943, and on October 23, 1954, he entered the Congregation in Oria. On September 29, 1959, he was admitted to the novitiate in Florence, where he made his first profession the following year. He made the perpetual profession on September 27, 1965, in Grottaferrata (Rome), where on July 27, 1969 he was ordained a priest.

The first 22 years of Fr. Mario's apostolate were expressed almost entirely in the field of the formation of seminarians and religious students, initially in Brazil, then in Naples, Morlupo and Messina. From 1993 to 1999, he was the Superior of the House of Desenzano.

During the last 18 years of his life, he was given various roles, either as Superior of the House, as Director of the Anthonian Secretariat (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), or in the parishes and in the educational apostolate.

Fr. Mario lived in faith and fidelity to his priesthood and consecrated life. Supported by a vast culture and moved by a resolute character, he faced his commitments with decisiveness, at times even in a dialectical confrontation.

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He was attentive and caring about fraternal communion, zealous in the priestly apostolate, sensitive to charity toward the poor and was a son particularly in love with the Father Founder and with the charism of our Congregation.

The Lord called him suddenly and unexpectedly, while in the House of Ferrara, on the morning of June 22, 2017, the eve of the solemnity of the Sacred Heart. His remains rest in the Cemetery of Padua.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

June 23

Death Anniversary of FR. GIUSEPPE LAGATI

Fr. Lagati was born in Cesarò (Messina, Italy) on May 7, 1918, and on October 8, 1929 he entered the Congregation in Messina. On September 29, 1934, he entered the novitiate in Trani where he also made his first profession on March 29, 1936. He attended his theological studies in Messina, where on September 10, 1941, he made his perpetual profession. He was ordained a priest in Barcelona Pozzo of Gotto (Messina) on May 9, 1943.

He spent his first years of apostolate in the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) of the Houses of Messina, Trani and Oria. He was among the group of confreres who began the presence of the Rogationists in Brazil in 1950, where he worked with zeal and enthusiasm for 16 years, first in Passos and then in Bauru, with an interval of four years, when he was summoned back to Italy, to direct the House of Religious Students in Assisi and then the Institute of Rome. In 1970, he returned definitively to Italy, and was assigned respectively to the Houses of Grottaferrata, Oria, Messina, Morlupo and Padua, mostly taking charge of spiritual direction, the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) and the parish apostolate.

He spent his last 20 years, from 1987 onwards, in the Mother House of Messina, at the service of the Sanctuary and in particular in the ministry of confessions, until his health allowed it.

Fr. Giuseppe was a devout and affable religious, who served the Lord and the Congregation with generosity and talents of mind and heart. With his poetic mind, he has also expressed his profound attachment for the mission of the Rogate and for the Father Founder.

Comforted by the Sacraments, he passed away in the Lord on June 23, 2007.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

June 30

Death Anniversary of FR. GIUSEPPE SERGIO

He was born in Marsicovetere (Potenza, Italy) on June 22, 1933. He entered the Congregation in Oria on September 30, 1947. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1952, in Trani, where he made his first profession the following year. He completed his philosophical studies in Messina and his theological studies in Rome. He made his perpetual profession in Oria on September 26, 1958. He was ordained a priest on July 9, 1961, in Rome.

In the first eight years of the apostolate, he was engaged as a formator of seminarians or students, first in Trani and then in Messina Cristo Re. After two years, during which he was assigned to Padua, as parish collaborator, from 1972 to 1975 he returned to work in the training, first in Desenzano and then in Padua. Later he was transferred to Oria, where he remained until 1982, carrying out the office of Vice Superior, teacher, and spiritual father.

In July 1982 he was transferred as a missionary to Rwanda, in Mugombwa, where he held the office of deputy superior and parish collaborator, until September 1986, when he returned to Italy.

In the following years, Fr. Giuseppe was assigned to the house of Matera, as parish priest and in the formation of the pupils, permanence interrupted by two periods lived in Bari, the first from 1994 to 1996 as bursar, and the second from 2005 to 2011 in Bari Modugno, as rector of the sanctuary.

Giuseppe was a religious faithful to the consecrated life and to the priesthood, good, simple, and jovial, who kept these qualities even during the illness, which struck him in 2014 and requested his hospitalization in a nursing home of Altamura, where he experienced the constant closeness of the confreres.

He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on June 30, 2019, the eve of our feast of July 1st.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

July 5

Death Anniversary of FR. FELICE GIANNELLI

Fr. Felice was born in Cassano Murge (Bari, Italy) on July 4, 1933, and was baptized on October 1 of the same year.

On October 8, 1946, attracted by his townmate Fr. Paolo Petruzzellis who, at that time, was a student of Theology, he was accepted in our House in Oria. He entered the novitiate in Trani on September 29, 1950 and made his first profession on September 30, 1951. On March 19, 1957, he professed his perpetual vows in Rome. He finished his theological studies with a specialization in Mariology. He was ordained a priest on August 9, 1959, in Messina.

Except for the years from 1975 to 1978, when he was the Superior of the Christ the King in Messina, he was the vice Superior and Treasurer; or, in Naples, in his last years, he was also the Secretary of the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office). He was always exemplary in his love for the Congregation and in his eagerness to care for and protect its interests.

Affected by cancer, he had a kidney removed in 1983. But the sickness reappeared in 1984, also infecting his liver. He spent his last months in our General House in Rome. Without complaining, he bore the excruciating pains of his disease, though somehow relieved by the treatments and being daily comforted by the Holy Communion.

He had a strong attachment to life. Though conforming himself to the will of God, he hoped until the end to be able to recover. Approximately one month before his death, he confided that he saw a picture of the Father Founder in his room moving and saying to him, "Just a little more patience and you will be fine." The Founder came to call him to Heaven exactly on July 5.

Confreres and two of his sisters assisted Fr. Felice and cared for him during his sickness. When he felt the signs of his impending end, Father General who, some days before had administered to him the Anointing of the Sick, recited the prayer recommending his soul. On July 5, 1984, at 7:00 a.m. he breathed his last, the day after his 51st birthday.

After the solemn funeral Mass in our Parish Church in Rome, his remains were brought to Turin and buried in the Southern Cemetery, field 28, balcony 3, compartment 181.

And of FR. RODOLFO D'AGOSTINO

He was born in Florida (Syracuse, Italy), on January 20, 1937. He entered the Congregation in Messina on October 12, 1950. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1954, in Trani, and he made his first profession the following year. He made his perpetual profession in Oria on September 25, 1960 and was ordained a priest in Messina on August 8, 1964.

After the first year of apostolate with the orphans in Padua, he was transferred to Brazil as a teacher at the seminary in Criciúma, until 1969, when he was appointed as Superior of the House in Passos. In 1971, he went to São Paulo, as the Prefect of the religious students. During the 1974 General Chapter, he was appointed as General Councilor, assigned to Formation and Studies. In the subsequent General Chapter, he was reappointed to the same sector and elected Vicar General.

At the end of 1986, he was assigned to the House of Sanger (USA). In the following years, he held the office of Superior of the US Delegation for two terms, though not contiguous. In like manner, he served twice as Superior of the House of Sanger and of North Hills. From 2003 onwards, he worked in the House of Van Nuys. During his time in the US, Fr. Rodolfo carried out his apostolate mainly in the parish, but at the same time, he also devoted himself to spreading the charism through the press and took care of the service of the poor with solicitude.

In the summer of 2014, after surgery, he was planning to celebrate his 50th anniversary of priestly ordination in Italy. But unforeseen complications which ensued after the surgery quickly led him to the end of his earthly life, which happened on July 5, the day of the birth of our holy Founder. His body was brought to Italy and buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

With his missionary availability and the years spent in the Council of the Congregation and of the USA Delegation, with the testimony of his affability and humanity, of his apostolic zeal and his concern for the young and the poor, Fr. Rodolfo has been a gift for the Church and for our Institute.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

July 9

Death Anniversary of BRO. GAETANO TRIA

Bro. Tria was born in Francavilla Fontana (Brindisi, Italy) on August 30, 1925. In December 1939, at the age of 14, he entered the House of Oria with the desire to consecrate himself to the Lord. He entered the novitiate in Trani on October 17, 1943, where he made his first profession on September 29, 1945. He perpetually consecrated himself to the Lord in Padua on September 29, 1950.

He spent the first years of his religious life in the Houses of Oria, Santa Lucia del Mela, Naples, and Padua, assigned most of the time with the assistance of the orphans. In 1951, he was assigned to the House of Desenzano as the Secretary of the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), a task that he carried out for a brief period in Santa Lucia del Mela, and in the following year in Trani. Then, from 1953 until the end of his life, he was assigned to the House of Desenzano, where aside from working as the Secretary of the Anthonian Propaganda Office, he served as a nurse and for some time, as Treasurer.

He worked with a deep sense of responsibility and zeal in these various tasks, without neglecting his religious duties.

The last years of his life were marked with the cross of sickness, which he endured with the strength of spirit and serenity that certainly hastened his purification along the way back to the Father.

Comforted by the Sacraments, he fell asleep in the Lord on July 9, 1999, and was buried in the chapel of the House of Padua.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

July 12

Death Anniversary of FR. SANTINO BONTEMPO

He was born in Tortorici (Messina) on October 1, 1926. He entered the Congregation at Messina Cristo Re on October 20, 1937. He entered the novitiate on September 29, 1942, in Trani, where he made his first profession two years later. On September 29, 1951, he made his final vows in Trani. He was ordained a priest in Messina on August 26, 1956.

During the first year of his ministry, he was assigned to the Mother House of Messina as a teacher and in charge of the Anthonian Benefactors Office. From 1963 he was in Subiaco (Rome) as a teacher for three years. In 1970, after a year spent in Mendota (California), he received his exclaustation, which ended in 1973, when he was appointed to the House of the Deaf and Dumb in Messina, as director of the school.

From 1974 he was pastor "ad personam" in San Filippo Superiore (Messina) and joined the University of Messina, where five years later he was appointed Director of the Library of the Faculty of Letters. In 1988, he was exclaustated, during which time he maintained his closeness to the Congregation. On November 27, 1991, he expressed his desire to return, but the return was possible only on February 2, 2015, to the Mother House in Messina.

Fr. Santino was a religious of outstanding human, intellectual and pastoral qualities, which he put at the service of young Rogationists, deaf-mutes, university students, the faithful of the parish of San Filippo Superiore and a wide range of people whom he reached through the means of social communication and with whom he remained in contact as a spiritual guide, even in his last years, from his bed of illness.

He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on July 12, 2023.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

July 13

Death Anniversary of FR. GIOACCHINO DAMATO

Fr. Damato was born in Barletta (Bari, Italy) on January 12, 1912. He entered the Congregation on October 15, 1914 in Trani where he also started his novitiate on September 29, 1936 and made his first profession on March 30, 1938. He attended his theological courses in Messina, where he made his perpetual profession on September 10, 1941. He was ordained to the Priesthood on April 29, 1944, in Santa Lucia del Mela.

His apostolate was carried on mainly in the Houses of Messina, Rome, and Trani, where he returned more than once. For short terms, he was also in the Houses of Padua, Napoli, Bari, and Orià. He was mainly tasked with the education of the orphans and the poor boys. At other times, he was assigned to take care of the economy of the House, often also together with the spiritual direction of seminarians and pastoral care in our parishes and shrines.

During his long priestly service, he cared much for hearing confessions, especially to nuns and religious sisters. In this, he was inspired by the spiritual closeness of his own sister, Sr. Chiara, a Poor Claire nun in Albano Laziale who died at the age of 39 in the fragrance of sanctity and for whom he started the cause of canonization.

He had a vivid interest in promoting vocations.

He passed away in the Lord in a serene way on July 13, 1996, in Trani. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Trani.

We remember his joviality, piety, zeal for the salvation of souls, his love for the Father and for the Congregation, his attitude of hard work, and love for religious life.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

And of FR. LOUIS BUHURU

He was born on June 30, 1962 in Kichanga, Democratic Republic of Congo. He entered the Congregation in Cyangugu (Rwanda) on January 7, 1990. He made his entry into the novitiate in Cyangugu on 08/09/1990. He made his first profession on September 08, 1991 in Cyangugu. In 1997 he was transferred to the Center of Studies in Grottaferrata (Italy). On September 8, 1997 he made his perpetual profession in Messina. He was ordained a priest on Nov. 19, 2000 in Bukavu (DRC).

Over the next two years he completed postgraduate studies in Grottaferrata.

In 2002, after returning to Africa, he was assigned to Nyanza as a formator. From 2007 to 2013 he was transferred to Cyangugu, with the office of Community Superior. In 2013 he was assigned to Edea House (Cameroon), as a formator.

In May 2017 he was transferred to the General Curia, Rome, for health care. He underwent surgery to remove a brain tumor. After recovering, he spent six years in the General Curia to be assisted from a health care perspective. During this time he worked with the Translations Office. As his health condition allowed, he returned to the St. Joseph Quasi-Province on March 29, 2022. After a period of rest in Bukavu, he received the office of Spiritual Father in the House of Cyangugu.

On the evening of July 12, tired after a day of being emotionally present with a grieving confrere, Father Louis asked the brother assistant to wake him up for the Eucharistic celebration the next morning. When the confrere went to wake him up, he found Father Louis dead. The funeral was celebrated on July 16, 2022, the memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Father Louis is the first Rogationist priest from the Democratic Republic of Congo. For the many young people he formed during several years and for the people who worked with him, he was a model of simplicity, humility, service, concern for others, patience, listening, gentleness and compassion. Father Louis lived in secrecy and died in the silence of sleep on the night of July 12-13, 2022, while

the 13th General Chapter of the Congregation was gathered in Morlupo (Rome).

Let us remember him in our prayers.

July 14

Death Anniversary of FR. GIUSEPPE BORRACCINO

Fr. Borraccino was born in Barletta (Bari, Italy) on January 12, 1922. At the end of elementary school, he entered the seminary in Oria on October 4, 1934, upon recommendation of Can. Raffaele Dimiccoli who had guided him in his St. Philip Neri's Oratory, foreseeing the budding of his vocation.

After his pre-college, he entered the novitiate in Trani on September 29, 1939. He continued his studies in Trani, carried out his practical training in Messina, and his theological studies in Rome and Assisi. He made his perpetual profession in Trani on September 29, 1947 and was ordained a priest in the Shrine of St. Anthony, in Messina on August 3, 1952, in the context of the celebration of the centennial of the birth of the Father Founder.

For the first two years of his priesthood, he was assigned to the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) in Christ the King in Messina, then in 1954 he was transferred to Rome where he remained until 1968, devoted mainly to pastoral assignments, first as a Rector of the Chapel, and later as a Treasurer.

Later on, he was in the Mother House in Messina as spiritual father of the philosophy students and as collaborator in our Shrine. Then, he became a formator of the Theology students in Grottaferrata until 1972, Superior of the Anthonian Institute in Rome until 1977, and worked in the Rogate Center, also in Rome, until 1981.

Then, he was transferred to Bari, where he remained until the end of his life, as in charge of the CIFIR (our Agency for Vocational and Technical Education in that Region) and committed to the restoration of the Shrine of *Madonna della Grotta*.

His last years were marked by the sickness which he bore with serenity and abandonment to the will of God. On July 14, comforted by the Sacraments, he fell asleep in the Lord.

As expressed by his many assignments, Fr. Borraccino was gifted with intelligence, sensibility, human and religious virtues, hardworking attitude, piety, and love for souls and for our Congregation.

And of FR. PIETRO DI TURSI

Fr. Di Tursi was born in Craco (Matera, Italy) on January 3, 1923. He entered the Congregation as a seminarian in Oria on September 23, 1939. He was admitted to the novitiate in 1941. He made his first profession after two years, and the perpetual profession in 1949 in Assisi, where he finished his theological studies. He was ordained priest in Messina on August 3, 1952.

In 1956, after his initial experiences in the ministry, which were spent in the formation of the seminarians of Oria, of the deaf and mute students in Assisi, and in the Anthonian Secretariat (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) in Florence, he was assigned to the House of Desenzano as spiritual father and vocation promoter. In 1962, he was assigned to the economy of the House of Religious Students of Theology in Rome. From 1963, he carried out this task, working as well as spiritual father and vocation animator in Messina, and then, again in Florence until 1987, when he was transferred once more to Oria. Again, he served as spiritual father and collaborator in vocation promotion. He fulfilled these with priestly zeal and with all his strength.

In the last years of his life, his health deteriorated due to cardio circulatory dysfunction. He was assisted with all possible care and treatment. He endured the discomforts and sufferings with patience. Comforted by the holy Sacraments, he died in the hospital of Francavilla Fontana on July 14, 2002.

Fr. Di Tursi left us an example of a pious and industrious religious, deeply connected with the Father Founder and with the Congregation, zealous in the promotion of vocations and in missionary animation.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

And of FR. LUIGI LAZZARI

He was born in Brescia on December 31, 1948. He entered the Congregation in Desenzano (BS) on September 27, 1959. He entered the novitiate in Zagarolo (RM) on September 28, 1965, and made his first profession the following year, on November 20, 1966. After his philosophical studies, he moved to Camarillo (USA), where he began his theological studies in October 1970. There he made his final vows on May 11, 1973. He was ordained a priest in Brescia on June 15, 1974.

He began his apostolate in the parish of Rome, Piazza Asti. In 1978 he returned to California (USA) where he worked for about ten years in Mendota and Sanger. From 1987 to 1991, he was assigned to Rome, at the Rogate Center; but he began this period with an intense and valuable three-month presence, from July to September, in India, at the beginning of that foundation. He then returned to the United States and was assigned to the Rogate Center in North Hills. In 1993 he returned to Italy, working in various offices, in Morlupo, Trezzano sul Naviglio (MI), Rome Institute, Tarragona (Spain), Desenzano, Padua, Rome Rogate Center, and finally, since 2020, in his last office, Desenzano.

His human qualities, his intelligence, his ability to communicate and his sensitivity, as well as his religious and priestly qualities, allowed him, in the various places and roles to which obedience called him, to be a fraternal presence in the community and a "good shepherd" in the apostolate, especially close to those most in need.

In the last years of his earthly life, he was afflicted by a painful illness. He was able to live through this time of trial with great spirit and unwavering faith. As he approached the end of his earthly pilgrimage, with lucidity and strength, serenity and peace, surrounded by the closeness of his confreres, family and friends, he gave them and all of us his last beautiful testimony.

He went to sleep in the Lord on the evening of Sunday, July 14, 2024.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

July 16

Death Anniversary of FR. GUIDO VIVONA

Fr. Vivona was born on May 18, 1940, in loggi, Cosenza, Italy. He entered the Seminary of Oria on October 1, 1952, made his first profession in Florence on September 30, 1958, and his perpetual profession on September 27, 1964. He was ordained the Priesthood in Oria on June 28, 1967.

In 1969, Fr. Guido was transferred to Brazil and assigned to our House in Bauru, and two years later to Criciúma, where he had been previously for his practical training. He worked there until 1977 when he was transferred to Passos for two years, and then to São Paulo. In all these years and places, except for some short intervals, he was the Superior of the House. In 1978, he was appointed Vicar and Councilor of the Brazilian Quasi-Province. In February 1981, he was elected Provincial and was in office until 1987. Then, he was assigned to vocation promotion and pastoral activities in Cordoba, and in the parish of Campana, Argentina. From there, the Lord wanted to call Fr. Guido to heaven, while he was bringing to completion, with great zeal, the new Church to be dedicated to Our Lady of the Mount Carmel.

A few months before, hit by angina pectoris, he was warned about his worsening health and exhorted by doctors to be careful. However, in line with his character and his dedication to pastoral work without restraint, Fr. Guido went on without taking into consideration the other strokes and signs of over fatigue. When he was hospitalized, in Buenos Aires, for further analysis, his heart failed under anesthesia.

A few hours before, he had received the Eucharist which became his Viaticum. It was on July 16, the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the Patroness of the Parish Church Fr. Guido had already planned to inaugurate in connection with the coming 25th anniversary of his priestly ordination.

The funeral was held in Campana. His remains were brought to Italy on August 22. After a simple prayer and farewell from the confreres in Rome, upon the insistent request of the relatives, he was buried in the family chapel in loggi on the following day.

Fr. Guido is to be remembered especially for his attitude of hard work, his commitment, especially during his term as superior of the Province which was not without sufferings, and his availability to the obedience given by Superiors.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

July 19

Death Anniversary of BRO. LUIGI SGUERA

Bro. Sguera was born in Barletta, Italy on March 4, 1919. At the recommendation by Canon Raffaele Dimiccoli, he entered the Congregation in the House of Trani on August 3, 1936, when he was 17. He made his first profession in Trani at the end of his novitiate on September 29, 1939, and the perpetual profession three years later on the same day.

He soon manifested a great attachment to the Congregation, to religious life, and to work in the manifold activities entrusted to him. Obedience brought him to the Houses of Trani, Messina Christ the King, Matera, in different moments; and again, to Taranto and Trani. He was outstanding in his work in the printing press where he was a technical and practical instructor with a diploma, and in his service as an infirmarian. He was also an educator of the boarding students and a collaborator in the different sectors of the apostolate of the Houses.

In the last period of his life, from 1984 onwards, the Lord allowed him to be tested and purified by the cross of sickness. While he was in Matera, the first symptoms of arteriosclerosis and senility appeared. He was relieved from responsibilities and, after a few years, assigned to the House of Trani.

The sickness, however, became increasingly more serious in the following years to the point that it rendered very difficult for the confreres of the House to assist him. It became necessary therefore to hospitalize him in a Clinic of Saviano (Naples), where he was granted the needed care and the regular visits of the confreres.

Their last visit was exactly on the vigil of his death when his journey looked already nearing its end. For this reason, bringing Bro. Luigi back to the community was considered, but it was too late because he died the day after, on July 19, 1995.

Bro. Luigi Sguera left us a very dear example of attachment to religious life and to the Congregation, expressed most of all in his fidelity to spiritual life, regular observance, and hard work.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

July 24

Death Anniversary of FR. JOSEPH AVENI

Fr. Aveni was born in Tripi (Messina, Italy) on December 5, 1918. In September 1931, he entered our Congregation in Messina. During his early formation years, he was a student of Fr. Bonaventura Vitale and had his novitiate in Trani with Fr. Serafino Santoro as Novice Master. He had his theological studies in Messina, where he made his final vows on September 10, 1941, and was ordained a priest on July 15, 1945, in the Church of Montevergine.

He spent two more years in Messina as a formator and teacher, then with the same tasks he went to Trani where, in 1947, even though he was not yet thirty, he was appointed for the first time to the task of Novice Master. After nine years, he was called to Rome as Superior of the House of Religious Students in Theology. Then, in 1959, he resumed the task of Novice Master in Florence and then in Zagarolo until 1971, when he was assigned to the House of Christ the King in Messina as a spiritual director. In the 1974 General Chapter, he was elected Councilor for Religious Life and Vicar General. At the end of the mandate in 1980, he was assigned to the mission in the Philippines where the following year he resumed the task of Novice Master in Manila and held this office until 1991.

In line with this assignment, he did his utmost in the ministry of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and spiritual direction when required by the aspirants and religious of our communities in the vicinity, as well as by several Women Congregations in the area. He made himself available also for conferences or retreats. When he left the office of Novice Master, his ministry increased, alternating it with the times he devoted to prayer, especially before the Blessed Sacrament, and to spiritual reading.

His health, which had always been poor, deteriorated progressively over the last decade, especially because of problems in blood circulation. He serenely endured such sufferings until the end, keeping faithful to the rhythms of community life. He fell asleep in the Lord on July 24, 2010.

We remember Fr. Aveni as a humble person who was simple, exemplary, demanding with himself and paternal and loving to all, friendly, jovial, and deeply in love with the Father Founder and with the Congregation. He was a shining witness to our charismatic heritage.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

July 26

Death Anniversary of FR. GAETANO CIRANNI

He was born in Grotte (Agrigento, Italy), on September 24, 1920, and entered the Congregation in Messina on October 18, 1933. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1937, in Trani, on March 30, 1939, where he made his first profession. He made his perpetual profession in Messina on September 26, 1944 and was ordained a priest on July 19, 1947.

After the first years of ministry with the orphans in Padua and then in Oria, he was assigned as superior in Desenzano in 1950. Subsequently, he held the same office from 1954 in Oria, from 1959 in Bari, and from 1962 in Padua.

In 1969, Father Gaetano was called to Rome to direct the nascent Secretariat of the Rogate, which later became the first Rogate Center. In May 1972, he was appointed as General Councilor.

During the 1974 General Chapter, he was elected Superior General; and in the next Chapter, he was reelected.

At the end of 1986, he was assigned as Superior of the House of Religious Students in Grottaferrata. Three years later, he became the Superior of the House of Messina - Christ the King and, in 1993, in Francofonte. In 1994, because of a car accident, he suffered a fracture of the femur, which was the beginning of an ordeal that lasted twenty years marked with severe pain and numerous surgeries. Despite this hardship, he worked actively from 1997 to 2002 in the House of Naples, and from 2004 to 2014 in the Mother House in Messina. He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on July 26, 2014.

Fr. Gaetano was a significant point of reference for our Congregation, a father, and a teacher, as Superior General and as Superior in various communities. In his teaching and government, he gave emphasis to the charismatic dimension of the Rogate.

He loved and served the Lord, the Church, and the Congregation with great zeal, with strong will power, being always committed until the end, despite the great suffering of his final years, being friendly and attentive to the brothers, humble and faithful to his priesthood and consecrated life.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

July 28

Death Anniversary of FR. ANTONIO MARIA INDELICATO

Fr. Indelicato was born in Catania, Italy on January 1, 1919. On September 13, 1931, he entered the seminary of Christ the King in Messina. He moved to the novitiate in Trani in 1935. He made his first religious profession on March 30, 1937, and his perpetual consecration on March 31, 1940. In that occasion, he asked and was granted to add the name of Mary to his baptismal name. On July 15, 1945, he was ordained priest by the Archbishop of Messina, Msgr. Angelo Paino.

He spent his life diligently fulfilling the various assignments entrusted to him by the Superiors in Santa Lucia del Mela where, during the Second World War, our communities from Messina were sheltered. He was also given assignments in Rome, Assisi, then in Brazil, in Bauru, Passos, Criciúma, and lastly again in Padua, Italy.

He died on July 28, 1967, because of tetanus infection in Padua, the town of Saint Anthony, after whom he was named. He was a meek and kind person. Always and everywhere, he was an observant religious, a zealous priest, and an untiring, generous, intelligent, and devoted missionary, a model for all.

His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Padua.

And of BRO. ANTONINO ADAMO

Bro. Antonino Adamo was born in San Pier Niceto (Messina, Italy) on February 9, 1912. He entered the Congregation in Messina on November 18, 1935. He was admitted to the novitiate in Trani the following year. On March 30, 1938, he made his first profession, and, three years later, his perpetual profession in the same House where he remained for the five years that followed, assigned in the kitchen and in various tasks.

From 1943 until 1947, he was assigned in Santa Lucia del Mela, and then, at Cristo Re in Messina as a collaborator to the Treasurer. He also carried out this task in the following two years in Assisi.

In 1949, he returned to Messina and served as Treasurer. The following year, he left for Brazil with the first group of Religious who were sent to Passos.

In 1960, after ten years, he transferred to Bauru, where he remained until 1964, and then, he was in Criciúma for a year.

From 1965 to 1969, he returned to Italy and worked first, in Grottaferrata, and then, at Cristo Re in Messina, for an experience as assistant and guide for a group of young aspirants.

Back in Brazil in 1969, he was assigned at different periods to the Houses of São Paulo, Bauru, Passos, and Porto Alegre in various offices and worked either as Treasurer or collaborator in the Parish.

Finally, he returned definitively to Italy in 1986 and served at the Shrine of Saint Anthony in Messina.

He committed himself to this work for as long as his energy sustained him, until around the mid-'90s. The last period of his life was marked by sickness, which he endured in serenity, until the moment of his return to the House of the Father on July 28, 2003.

Bro. Adamo left us an extraordinary testimony of religious virtues, of industry, and of attachment to the Congregation.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

July 31

Death Anniversary of FR. GIOVANNI PRUDENTINO

Fr. Giovanni Prudentino was born on January 19, 1922, in Ostuni, Bari, Italy. He entered the Congregation in October 1934 in Ori, following the same path made by his brother Liborio five years earlier. He was admitted to the novitiate of Trani on September 29, 1939, and there he professed his first vows on March 30, 1941. He consecrated himself to the Lord with the perpetual vows on April 30, 1947, in Rome and received the priestly ordination on June 29, 1950, in Assisi.

The first years of his apostolate in Oria and then in Assisi were spent in the field of the formation of seminarians and religious students. After a short break, he was later assigned to pastoral ministry in Rome and then in our Shrine in Messina.

In the following years, he primarily worked with minors in difficult situations.: orphans and the deaf and mute respectively in Messina, Palermo, Desenzano, Oria, Bari, and Padua. He specialized in teaching the deaf and mute.

He had the opportunity to work in the different sectors of the apostolate of our communities. For many years, he was called to the office of Superior in several Houses. He was led by obedience and great availability in making use of all his strength of the gifts given him by the Lord. He was a point of reference for all his confreres.

When Fr. Liborio, his brother, died suddenly in October 1992, Fr. Giovanni was already perceiving the symptoms of the sickness which was slowly consuming him. He died on July 31, 1994, after two years of a Calvary lived by him with exemplary faith, **the** great strength of mind, untiring industriousness, and serenity.

Fr. Giovanni Prudentino leaves to us all a valid example of human and religious virtues and of great love for the Congregation.

And of FR. OSNI MARIANO ZANATTA

He was born in Jacinto Machado, Santa Catarina, on September 8, 1951. He joined the Congregation in Criciúma, Santa Catarina, on February 25, 1965. On February 28, 1971, he was admitted to the novitiate in Bauru (SP), where he made his first profession the following year. He made his perpetual profession on February 28, 1979, in São Paulo, and he was ordained a priest in Criciúma on April 26, 1980.

In his early years of ministry, he was assigned to Criciúma as a formator and secretary of the Pius XII School. From 1985 to 1988, he worked in economy and education in Passos (MG). After spending a year in the São Paulo center of studies (studentato) and another year as treasurer and parish vicar in Criciúma, he was assigned to Passos in 1991 as superior and rector of the shrine. Then, in 1995, he was transferred to Curitiba (PR) as superior and parish priest.

On October 23, 1998, he was elected Provincial Superior. He held this position with dedication until July 2001, when he had to leave for health reasons. After recovering, he was assigned to Criciúma from 2004 to 2011, serving as superior, parish vicar, and head of social work. From 2012 to early 2015, he was the pastor of the Nossa Senhora das Graças parish in Passos while serving in other roles within the community. After undergoing further medical treatment, he returned to Criciúma in 2017 as vice superior and parish vicar. He remained there until his death on July 31, 2025.

Fr. Osni was a close brother with a welcoming and approachable manner. His serene presence touched the lives of many confreres, young people in formation, and laypeople. He was a zealous, wise, and discreet religious who lived his vocation faithfully, serving the Church and the Congregation with a spirit of prayer, dedication, and fraternity. May the Lord of the Harvest and St. Hannibal Mary, whom he loved so much, welcome him into Heaven.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

August 5

Death Anniversary of BRO. SALVATORE FEDERICO

Bro. Salvatore Federico was born in Librizzi (Messina, Italy), on January 5, 1869. He was a Customs Officer for 22 years. Without regard to keeping his job any further in order to receive the maximum pension, he wanted to become religious and was accepted in 1913 by the Father Founder in Oria, where he received the religious habit on January 30, 1914.

He was pious, with a strong faith, molded by the long experience of military life, without any fear of what other people might say. He loved work and sacrifices.

He fulfilled various assignments in Oria, one of them being that of sacristan. Seeing that the Church was unadorned, he did his best to have all the altars decorated with bronze. Aside from this, he had to serve also as the cook, up to when the Daughters of Divine Zeal took over.

Then, he was transferred to Messina, where he was assigned to the "Obolo" beside the Shrine of St. Anthony. In this activity, besides being always a religious who was pious, patient, and courteous to everybody, he fulfilled a real apostolate towards all who approached him; and they turned to him more easily than to a priest. With the simple wisdom of a man rich in faith and with a wide experience in life, he was able to advice and comfort everybody.

After being tested and purified by a mental break down and by scruples, he passed away in the Lord with an edifying death on August 5, 1934, at the age of 65.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

August 8

Death Anniversary of BRO. VINCENZO DABRESCIA

Bro. Dabrescia was born in Barletta (Bari, Italy) on November 15, 1912. He was baptized two days later. On May 22, 1927, he received the Confirmation from the Archbishop of Trani, Msgr. Giuseppe M. Leo.

He resided for some time in San Severo (Foggia) where the parish priest of Santa Maria in Torremaggiore attested: "During his stay in my parish, because of his job, the young Dabrescia has always lived in a morally good way in every respect." He used to attend the Oratory of "St. Philip Neri" in Barletta, "with piety and intelligence" as testified by Fr. Raffaele Dimiccoli, the founder of the Oratory.

Perceiving that God was calling him to the religious life, he entered our House in Trani on May 3, 1938. There on September 29, 1939, he took on the religious habit. One year later, he made his first religious profession and on September 29, 1944, he perpetually consecrated himself to the Lord. He celebrated the 25th anniversary of his religious profession in Matera on September 1965.

Serving God and neighbor in his "beloved Congregation", he worked successively in the Houses of Bari, Messina - Christ the King and the Mother House, Trani, Oria, Matera, and lastly Francofonte with various assignments like assistant of the orphans; wardrobe supervisor, assigned to the "Obolo", assistant treasurer and sacristan. Always and everywhere, his salient joviality made him amiable to everyone.

He died in Rome on August 8, 1972, after a surgical operation. His remains were transferred to Trani and buried in our Cemetery chapel.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

August 10

Death Anniversary of BRO. GIUSEPPE CLEMENTE

Fr. Giuseppe Clemente was born in Milazzo (Messina, Italy) on August 22, 1916. In 1930, because of his mother's death which affected him deeply, he was accepted in Christ the King Seminary in Messina, where he attended the first year of high school. Then, he moved to the seminary of Oria to continue his studies. On December 27, 1931, he was transferred with other seminarians to the House of Trani which was inaugurated that very day.

He was admitted to the postulancy in Trani on March 29, 1932 and received the religious habit in the novitiate on October 16. He made his first religious profession on April 18, 1934.

He resumed his studies that should have prepared him for the priesthood, but his poor health did not bear it. Towards the end of 1934, the first symptoms of tuberculosis appeared, and his Superiors sent him to the Sanatorium "Campo Italia" in Messina, hoping that the mountain air could be beneficial for him. But his illness continued taking its inexorable course. He died on August 10, 1936.

He was intelligent and good, very devoted to Our Lady, in honor of whom he composed some lyrics. His religious spirit stood out particularly during the illness which he accepted with perfect resignation to God's will. He also loved the Congregation. While dying, he assured that he would have taken care of the Congregation by interceding God in heaven together with the Father Founder.

And of FR. GIUSEPPE CASSONE

Fr. Cassone was born in Castellaneta (Taranto, Italy) on November 20, 1913. He entered the Congregation as a seminarian in Oria on October 18, 1928. He was admitted to the novitiate in 1932 and made his first profession two years after. He made his perpetual profession in 1938 in Trani. He finished his theological studies in Messina where he was ordained priest on May 30, 1942.

In the first years of his ministry, he was engaged in the formation of the young religious as Prefect and Novice Master. From 1947 until 1956, he was a General Councilor while serving as formator in Assisi, and then, as Superior of the Mother House in Messina. In the following years, he continued to work for the formation of aspirants in Bari and in Subiaco. From 1963 until 1966, he was assigned as Superior of the House of the Institute in Rome, and then, in the House of Oria, first as Vice-Superior and Treasurer, and then as Superior until 1973. Then, he was engaged in the pastoral activities in Messina, San Demetrio, and Florence, and then, he was called to work in the office of the General Treasurer from 1977 to 1986. He spent the last period of his life in Trani, dedicating himself as collaborator in the Shrine and in spiritual direction.

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With serenity, he endured the sickness that afflicted him at the end of his earthly pilgrimage. He died in the Lord on August 10, 2002.

With availability and priestly zeal, Fr. Cassone placed his human and religious talents at the service of the Lord and the Congregation in the many sectors of work to which he was called by obedience.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

August 14

Death Anniversary of FR. JOSE JONAS DA SILVA

He was born in Braço do Norte (Santa Caterina, Brazil) on February 23, 1951. He entered the Congregation in Criciúma, on February 21, 1963. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 28, 1967, in Zagarolo (Rome). The following year, he made his first profession in Rome. He made his perpetual profession on September 29, 1974, in São Paulo and was ordained a priest in Criciúma on December 11, 1976.

After the initial years of ministry in the promotion of vocations in Curitiba, he was given the task of Novice Master in 1979, and as a delegate of the Provincial Superior, a position he held until 1990, when he was transferred to Criciúma, as Superior of the Seminary. At the same time, he was elected Provincial Councilor for Religious Life.

During the General Chapter of 1998 he was elected General Councilor for the Apostolate of Education and of the Poor. At the end of his term in 2006 Fr. Jonas returned to his Province, assigned to the House of Tucuman, with the office of Delegate of the Provincial Superior for the Spanish-speaking communities and Superior of the House of Tucuman.

At the end of the six-year term as Superior of the community, in the same venue, he retained the position as Director of the Socio-Charitable Work.

On the evening of August 14, 2014, the eve of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Virgin's Assumption, he met a car accident on his way to the Hogar San Agustin. He passed from this world to the Lord in the midst of his apostolic work, particularly on behalf of children and the poor. His remains were buried in the Cemetery of Braço do Norte.

Fr. Jonas lived his religious consecration with coherence and was called by obedience to animate it in positions of responsibility, and by working for many years in the field of formation as Novice Master. Moreover, he showed a special sensitivity and priestly zeal for the social and charitable apostolate, leaving an edifying testimony to the confreres and lay associates. In his righteousness and closeness to the Lord, despite the daily difficulties, he consistently maintained a peaceful, joyful, and fraternal way of life.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

August 15

Death Anniversary of BRO. FRANCESCO PERCOCO

Bro. Francesco Percoco was born in Chiaromonte (Potenza, Italy) on January 9, 1932. He entered the Congregation in Trani on September 16, 1950, where he also was accepted into the novitiate on September 29, 1951 and made the first profession on March 19, 1953. He made his perpetual profession in Naples on March 19, 1958.

He worked for the next five years in the House of Naples, then for two years in Christ the King in Messina, with various tasks.

In 1960, he was assigned to the General Curia as assistant to the Treasurer, a position he held until November 1988, when, while performing his assignment, he was hit by a car near the monastery of the Trappists Fathers in Frattocchie (Rome). Because of the accident, he went into a coma that lasted about forty days. His recovery was slow and incomplete since he was left with a deficiency of memory and some difficulties with cognitive functions.

Due to the worsening of his conditions, he was transferred the House of San Cesareo in early 2006, in order to be granted a more adequate health care.

In the final months, his physical condition noticeably deteriorated especially because of diabetes. In the long illness, particularly painful in its final stage, he maintained his usual serenity, and an admirable patience, finding strength in prayer.

Eagerly assisted by the confreres, he slept in the Lord on the evening of August 15, 2011, solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin into Heaven.

His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Trani.

Brother Francesco has left us a clear example of dedication to work, attachment and loyalty to the Congregation and to the life of consecration.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

August 17

Death Anniversary of FR. MARIO LABARBUTA

Fr. Labarbuta was born in Minervino Murge (Bari, Italy) on December 4, 1912. He entered our Institute in Oria on August 10, 1924, and was admitted to the novitiate, with the religious name Marco, on September 29, 1928. He made his first profession on October 17, 1929. He was ordained a priest in Messina on July 31, 1938.

He spent the first years of priesthood teaching. In 1945, he was appointed as Rector of the Institute of Santa Lucia del Mela (Messina).

In 1946, he moved to Bari to establish a "Boys' Village" for the salvation of the abandoned boys of the post-war period, according to the will of Archbishop Marcello Mimmi.

On May 28, he entered the 22 barracks compound near the Polyclinic left by the English Army. Few days later, he welcomed the first six boys.

He took care of the construction of the actual building, whose corner stone was blessed on July 21, 1948. The number of the little "citizens" of the Village increased, and, for a better way of living, they organized themselves democratically with their own Major and Municipal Council.

When the "Boys' Village" was firmly established, on July 12, 1950, Fr. Labarbuta was chosen to head the first group of Rogationists assigned to open a mission in Brazil. They left Genova on the ship "Anna Costa" on September 26, 1950, and reached Passos, Minas Gerais, on October 17, where he began his missionary apostolate directing the Educational Institute "Senhor Bon Jesus dos Passos."

In 1959, he moved to Criciúma, Santa Caterina, where he founded the "Pius XII" Rogationist Seminary. From 1966 onwards, he was in Bauru, São Paulo, as Superior of the "Casa da Garoto" and as parish priest of the annexed Our Lady of Graces Parish.

In summer of 1968, he participated in the 4th General Chapter in Rome, where he remained, having been elected as Councilor and General Procurator. In 1974-1975, he was in Zagarolo as spiritual father and parish priest of the Parish Our Lady of Trust.

From 1975 to 1978, he was the Superior of the Anthonian Institute in Padua. In 1978, he returned to Brazil as Superior and Parish Priest of "Sao Joao de Ipojuca" in São Paulo.

He crowned his apostolic life on August 17, 1983, in Criciúma. While undergoing surgery for cataracts, he died because of heart failure. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Criciúma.

And of FR. MICHELE FERRARA

Michele was born in Pisticci (Matera, Italy), on March 14, 1932. He entered the Congregation in Oria on January 12, 1944, and was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1948, in Trani, where, on the following year, he made the first profession. On September 29, 1954, he made his perpetual profession in Assisi and on July 6, 1957, he was ordained a priest at Oria, in the Shrine of St. Anthony.

During the first years of apostolate, he was assigned to Padua and then to Desenzano for the formation of seminarians. From 1959 onwards, he worked with the deaf, mute, and blind youths in Assisi, and in 1963, he became a professor of the seminarians in Subiaco. Then, he was assigned as parish priest and Superior of the community of Taranto. Later, he was transferred to the seminary in San Cesareo as a Superior and professor. In 1982, he returned to Desenzano as a seminary professor and vice superior. In 1986, he became the Superior to the Mother House in Messina, and, after a three-year intermission, he became the Superior of the House of Trani.

In 1988, he was appointed as Superior of the newly established Sicilian Delegation and from 1992, he was a member of the Council of the Central Southern Italian Province for two terms. Lastly, from 2002, he was assigned as Treasurer, first in Naples and then in Matera.

Fr. Michele was an attentive, learned, available and committed religious. At the same time, these qualities were accompanied by humility, affability, and cordial closeness with the confreres. His priestly sensibility and religious spirit sustained his virtues.

In the final years, he was tested for an illness, which he faced with serenity. Fr. Michele fell asleep in the Lord because of a cardio circulatory collapse on August 17, 2016.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

August 20

Death Anniversary of

BROS. GENNARO SFREGOLA and COSIMO ERCULEO

BRO. GENNARO MARIA SFREGOLA

He was born in Barletta (Bari, Italy) on May 23, 1910. After the military service, he was accepted in the House of Trani on November 6, 1936, as an aspirant for brotherhood. Because of his age and good conduct, he was admitted to the postulancy in 1937, and on September 29 he entered the novitiate in Trani and was given the Rogationist habit. He had his first profession on March 30, 1939, in Trani where he also made his perpetual consecration to the Lord on September 29, 1942.

He fostered his prayer life particularly at the feet of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in whose presence he used to stay for long time, even at night. He greatly loved God, his Congregation, and work, especially in cultivating the vegetable garden. He also practiced external mortifications by using a cilice. He showed love for his vocation and the happiness at the service of God by being humble, obedient, and jovial with all.

And BRO. COSIMO ERCULEO

He was born in Ceglie Messapica (Brindisi, Italy) on February 4, 1922, and accepted as aspirant for brotherhood in Trani on December 29, 1938. On September 19, 1939, he was admitted to the postulancy. Upon entering the novitiate, he was given the religious habit in Trani on March 31, 1940, and made his first profession on September 29, 1941. On July 8, 1944, he applied for perpetual profession. He was admitted, but he made it in heaven. An untiring worker, liked to the Congregation and to Superiors by true devotion, he was pious, observant, and had a special love for the Eucharist.

TOGETHER IN HEAVEN: During World War II, the military authority requisitioned our House in Trani. In summer of 1944, our religious community was relocated to nearby small houses without the necessary hygienic facilities. On Sunday afternoons, the religious used to go to the sea for their personal cleaning.

On August 20, Bro. Erculeo, while swimming, seemed to be drowning and in need of help. Bro. Sfregola, in his generosity, dashed to rescue him, but in vain. The drowning Brother Erculeo, by instinct of self-preservation, clung to Bro. Sfregola hindering him from any movement. Both of them drowned. All the immediate attempts to revive them were useless.

And **FR. GENNARO EUPREPIO**

He was born in Erchie (Brindisi, Italy) on March 22, 1925. He entered the Congregation, in Oria, on November 21, 1936. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1941, in Trani, where on March 29, 1943, he made his first profession. He completed his philosophical and theological studies in Assisi, where he made his perpetual profession, on March 19, 1949. He was ordained a priest, in Messina, on August 3, 1952.

In the first twenty years of apostolate, he was engaged, mainly, as educator of the pupils, also of the blind pupils, in the houses of Padua, Trani and Assisi. He graduated in pedagogy and specialized to work with the blind and deaf and mute.

In 1972, he was transferred to Messina, to the Institute for the deaf-mute, as treasurer, and then, from 1974 to 1992, to Bari, where he was engaged, first in the Vocational Training School and then in the parish apostolate. In the following six years, he was assigned to Oria, in the Anthonian Propaganda Office. From Oria, he was transferred to Messina Institute for Deaf and Mute, as Superior, and in 2002, to the Mother House, where he spent the rest of his years, as a collaborator in the Basilica-Sanctuary of Saint Anthony.

This last stage of his life was characterized by illness, which forced him into a wheelchair, but did not prevent him from exercising the ministry of confessions in the sanctuary punctually, until the last days of his life. He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord, at 94 years old, on August 20, 2019.

Fr. Euprepio testified the fidelity to the consecrated life, the bond with the Congregation and the priestly zeal.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

August 21

Death Anniversary of FR. CARMELO LA MARCA

Fr. Carmelo La Marca was born in Canicattì (Agrigento, Italy) on September 6, 1930. He entered the Congregation in Messina on October 11, 1945. He was accepted to novitiate on September 29, 1949 in Trani, where on September 30, 1950, he made his first profession. He professed his perpetual vows in Assisi, on September 29, 1956. After completing his theological studies, he was ordained priest in our Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, in Trani, on July 13, 1958. Later on, he obtained a doctorate in Classical Literatures.

In his initial apostolate, Fr. Carmelo was assigned to the formation of the orphans in the Houses of Oria and San Demetrio. After some years of pastoral service in the parish of Rome, he was assigned uninterruptedly to teaching, often also with the role as Principal in Oria, in Morlupo and San Cesareo from 1969 until 1985, and then in Messina, Palermo and Naples.

In 2002, he was assigned as collaborator in the Shrine of Messina and in 2004 in the parish of Palermo.

He passed away in the Lord because of a sudden cardio-vascular collapse, on the morning of August 21, 2007.

Fr. Carmelo was gentle, jolly, and available, zealously committed to education, while keeping at the same time a good pastoral sensibility and a righteous religious spirit.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

August 23

Death Anniversary of FR. GIUSEPPE BONAFEDE

Fr. Bonafede was born in Acquaviva Platani (Caltanissetta, Italy) on April 1, 1913. He was 16 when he entered the House of Messina as an aspirant. He had his novitiate in Trani and made his first religious profession on March 30, 1937. He consecrated himself to the Lord with the perpetual profession on September 5, 1942, in Messina.

He finished his theological studies first in Messina, attending classes at the Diocesan Seminary, and then in Rome, where he enrolled at the International University of the Dominican Fathers. He was consecrated priest by the Archbishop of Messina, Msgr. Angelo Paino, on August 15, 1946, in the Shrine of St. Anthony.

For more than 30 years, Fr. Bonafede carried out his ministry as educator of the orphans and of the deaf and mute, mainly in the Houses of Bari, Oria, Messina and Palermo. Holy obedience at times placed him also to the office of Treasurer, and, in the last period of his life, to the Ministry of spiritual direction and Confessions.

With the children to be assisted, he was able to enhance his natural gifts of meekness and amiability. He was usually calm, serene, understanding, available and committed to any work.

While still a cleric, especially in the hard times during the war, and in the years that followed, with the many problems and hardships and the hundreds of orphans crowding our houses, he was outstanding in obedience, love of sacrifice and poverty. His simplicity and sensitivity in speaking and treating others, his liturgical and Marian piety, his habitual concentration, were the signs of a consistent presence of God.

The last two years of his life were accompanied by a rapidly progressing arteriosclerosis that weakened his physical sensibility as well as his mental faculties. In his suffering, he became more particularly conformed to the humility and meekness of Christ, whom he imitated in his life.

He died in Messina at the Cappellani Clinic, on August 23, 1986, and his remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

And of FR. LUIGI TOFFANIN

Fr. Toffanin was born in Pincara (Rovigo, Italy) on August 27, 1950. He entered the Congregation in Padua in 1961. He was admitted to the novitiate in San Cesareo in 1967 and made his first profession the following year in Rome. He made his perpetual profession in Grottaferrata, on September 29, 1975, and was ordained a priest in Pincara on July 16, 1977.

From 1978 to 1987, he carried out his apostolate in the House of Padua, engaged in the seminary, at different times as a formator, teacher, spiritual director, and vocation promoter. Having given his availability for missions, Fr. Luigi was assigned to the Philippines, where he arrived on October 21, 1987. His assignment was still in the field of formation, by carrying out from 1991, the office of Superior and Novice Master in Cebu and, from 1994, the task of Superior of the House of Religious Students of Theology in Manila.

In 1999, India became Fr. Luigi's mission, when he was tasked with the formation accompaniment of the religious students in Aluva (Kerala). Gradually, then, he assumed the leadership of the Rogationist communities in India, from 2005 as Delegate *ad personam* of the Superior of the Philippine-Indian Delegation, from May 2008 as Superior of the Indian Delegation and, from March of 2012 as Superior of the Quasi Province of India.

The burden of this responsibility was accompanied by the burden of the sickness. A tumor appeared and was cured a few years before but reappeared again at an advanced stage. In July 2013, he started the medications in India and continued them in Italy but with no benefit. Fr. Luigi faced his sickness to the end with great peace and union with the Lord, closeness with the confreres and his family members who assisted him constantly with admirable care. He fell asleep in the Lord on the evening of August 23, 2013, in Lendinara (Rovigo) at the Clinic "Casa del Vento Rosa". His body was buried in the family tomb in the Cemetery of Pincara.

We remember Fr. Luigi for his faith and love for Jesus and Mary, for his consistency and faithfulness to his Rogationist consecration and priestly ministry, for his attachment to the Church and to the

Rogationist Congregation, for the service at Rogate in the formation of many young people who today are religious and priests. We remember his human and spiritual virtues, such as simplicity, serenity, calm in activities and in enterprising, his hospitality, his joyous and unrestricted missionary availability, his confident optimism, and generosity. In his will, entrusted to a niece, he said, "*A great remembrance for my India will always remain in my heart.*"

And of BRO. RUBEN DARIO ARANGO NICAN

He was born in Abejorral (Colombia), on October 26, 1962. As an adult, he entered the Congregation in Manizales (Colombia) Community of the Province of St. Anthony, on January 24, 2015; he entered the Novitiate on February 3, 2016, in Brasilia, where he made his first profession the following year.

Returning to Manizales, he resumed his theological studies, but, two years later, due to difficulties encountered in his studies, he was allowed to continue his formative journey as a Brother.

In this new capacity, Brother Ruben manifested in the best way possible the richness of his human and spiritual virtues.

In his personal and community encounters with the Lord, he found the strength to devote himself generously, humbly, and with the utmost dedication to the service of the community, attentive to the care of the house, reserved and jovial, always available for fraternal service.

The illness from which Brother Ruben had been suffering for some time worsened in the last months of his life. He faced it with religious abandonment to the will of the Lord, who called him to his house on August 23, 2021.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

August: 25

Death anniversary of

FATHER MAXIMILIANO NOBILE

He was born in Partinico, Palermo, on April 8, 1978. He entered the Congregation in Palermo on September 24, 1989. He entered the novitiate on September 8, 1997, in Messina, where he made his first profession the following year. On September 8, 2006, he made his perpetual profession in Rome, and on April 26, 2008, he was ordained a priest in the Cathedral of Monreale (Palermo).

Endowed with an extraordinary voice and a natural talent for *bel canto* (opera singing), during his academic formation in Rome and his first year of priesthood, he was part of the music group of the Sistine Chapel, as soloist and director of the Pueri Cantores.

From 2011 to 2019 he was assigned to the House of Palermo - except in 2013 when he was a formator in Messina Villa S. Maria - where he successively held the positions of vice-parish priest, youth and vocations animator, treasurer, Benefactors Office, and superior. In 2020 he returned to Messina Villa Santa Maria as Superior of the community.

He did not suffer from any particular ailment, but in the summer of 2023, while in Shenkoll for a period of rest, he was struck by a massive heart attack, at only forty-five years of age, and fell asleep in the Lord on August 25, 2023, leaving those who knew him shaken, sorrowful and actively involved.

Fr. Maximiliano was a kind man, a faithful, active and enterprising religious, who always tried to do his best in the tasks entrusted to him, with pastoral passion, dedication to the ministry and animation of the sacred liturgy with songs.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

August 26

Death Anniversary of FR. PIETRO CAMPANALE

Fr. Pietro Campanale was born in Cassano Murge (Bari, Italy) on November 22, 1922. He entered the Congregation in Oria on September 21, 1933. At the end of the novitiate, he had the first Profession in Trani on September 29, 1939, and then the perpetual Profession in Messina on September 26, 1944. He was ordained priest in Rome on July 19, 1947.

At the beginning, he started to work in the House of Trani as vice Superior and Treasurer and from 1950, as Superior. In the General Chapter of 1956, he was elected General Councilor and Secretary General of the Congregation until 1962.

In the following years until 1990, he was assigned as Superior in the Houses of Oria, Padua and Trani. He also worked in the Professional School in Oria and in the Antonian Secretariat (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) in Bari. In 1990, he was entrusted once more with this task in Bari, which he carried out for about ten years, in spite of the inconvenience caused by the diabetes, which progressively impaired his sight.

During the last period, his health conditions became even poorer. For this reason and in order to offer him proper assistance, he was admitted to the clinic Oasis of Nazareth near the Shrine "Our Lady of Graces" in Corato.

At the start, it was difficult for him to accept his condition of inactivity due to his sickness. Nevertheless, in faith, prayer and, particularly, in the devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, he was able to find the strength to serenely carry his cross.

Supported by the Holy Sacraments and surrounded by the affection of his relatives and confreres, he died in the Lord on August 26, 2004.

He has left us as witness to a faithful, industrious, jovial religious, passionately committed to the good of the Congregation, which he has served with that stint of sacrifice so much recommended by the Father Founder.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

August 31

Death Anniversary of FR. TEODORO TUSINO

Fr. Tusino was born at Casalnuovo Monterotaro (Foggia, Italy) on March 23, 1899. He belonged to the group of students of the suppressed Institute of Fr. Eustachio Montemurro when he was accepted by the Father Founder in the Seminary in Oria in 1911. There, he put on the religious habit on November 1, 1912, assuming "Diodoro" as his religious name. He made his religious profession on November 1 of the following year. He perpetually consecrated himself to the Lord on April 22, 1923, in Messina where he completed his higher studies in the Diocesan Seminary.

While still a theology student, he was one of the editors and pioneers of the *'Bollettino della Rogazione Evangelica del Cuore di Gesu'* published in January 1922 and edited by him for many years. On June 14, 1924, assisted by the Father Founder, he was ordained priest by the Archbishop Angelo Paino in the Cathedral of Messina.

He began his apostolate as Rector of the orphans in the Mother House. In 1932, he became the Rector of the House in Oria. In the same year, he was appointed as Second General Councilor during the first General Chapter. He continued to be the Rector in Oria up to the time when he returned to Messina in 1937 as the Rector of the Mother House.

Fr. Agostino of the Virgin of the "Trinitarian Fathers", appointed by Fr. Vitale on May 3, 1937, as Postulator for the cause of beatification and canonization of the Father Founder, chose Fr. Tusino as Vice-Postulator with a letter on May 17, 1937. Because of this appointment Fr. Tusino had the opportunity to study the Founder's writings with more care and commitment.

In 1944, he left the rectorship of the Mother House for a closer collaboration, together with the other Councilors, with Fr. Francesco Vitale, the General Superior of the Congregation. In December 1947, he was elected Superior General, the third successor of the Father Founder. He held that office up to the General Chapter of July 1956. Among his circular letters, peculiarly relevant are those presenting the spirit and aspects of the Rogationist formation and life. During his government, on September 14, 1948, the Rogationists finally were able to enter Padua

and assume the direction of the "Shelter for Minors". Then, on October 18, 1950, Fr. Tusino started the first foundation in a foreign country by accepting to direct the "Educandario Senhor Bon Jesus dos Passos" in Passos, Brazil.

In 1951, he promoted the celebration of the first centennial of the birth of the Father Founder. On April 15, 1952, he opened the House in Florence. The foundation in Passos, Brazil was followed by the opening of a new Houses in Bauru on August 18, 1951, and in Criciúma on June 18, 1954. During the 3rd General Chapter (1962), he was elected as 3rd General Councilor.

When Fr. Agostino died, Fr. Tusino became the Postulator for the cause of beatification of the Father Founder, which he carried out until his death. Because of this assignment, his life was totally dedicated to the study of the writings and life of the Founder. He alternated the time of work in the office of the Postulation with the time of prayers in the chapel for his personal practices of piety. Because of his dedication in studying the life of the Founder, our Congregation was granted the gift of several publications as a contribution to the Rogationist formation and to a better knowledge of the life, spirit, and thought of the Founder.

Fr. Tusino, who had taken part in all the General Chapters, was elected as a representative to the 1980 Chapter. He could be present only at the opening session due to the worsening of his kidney problems. He was hospitalized in the "Agostino Gemelli" Polyclinic in Rome, where he was always assisted by the confreres and was an exemplar of serenity and piety to the medical and paramedical staff.

He died on the evening of August 31, 1980 and was buried in our chapel in the Verano Cemetery.

Unfortunately, he could not finish a very important work: the "Biographical Memories" about the Father Founder; he left five big typewritten volumes of it.

We can summarize Fr. Tusino's life testimony in this way: devotion to the Father Founder, dedication to the Congregation and to work, fidelity to his practices of piety, consistency with the principles and demands of the religious and Rogationist life.

And of FR. GIUSEPPE PITRONE

Fr. Pitrone was born in San Pier Niceto (Messina, Italy) on April 26, 1909. Having known the Congregation through the Daughters of Divine Zeal who were present in his city, he entered as an aspirant in the House of Oria on August 15, 1922, at the age of 13. At the age of 15, he entered the novitiate under the guidance of Fr. Carmelo Drago. On April 26, 1926, he made his first religious profession, and on April 19, 1931, his perpetual profession. He finished his philosophical studies in Oria and his theological studies in Messina, where he was ordained priest in our Shrine on June 8, 1935.

In the first years of his priestly ministry, he worked as the guide of the students of the House of Oria. He, then, worked for the formation of the religious students of Philosophy in Trani in 1937, and of the religious students of Theology in Messina from 1939 to 1945. In the subsequent two years, the care of the Shrine of Oria, and then, that of Messina, was entrusted to him. Then, he served as responsible of the House of Rometta from 1947 to 1952, the year when he transferred to the House of Messina at Cristo Re, where he remained for around 50 years, dedicating himself to Confession and spiritual direction of the students and seminarians. He took care of the chaplaincy of the Sacred Temple of Cristo Re and collaborated in the Secretariat of the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), and in many other precious and humble functions of the House.

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His last years were marked by the cross of sickness, which he accepted with great peace and serenity. He was assisted and cared for with loving attention. The life of Fr. Pitrone was marked by the two World Wars. Intellectually gifted and zealous in religion, he came out psychologically shaken and conditioned the expression of his qualities by the events of the war that closely affected him.

Above all, in the footsteps of Fr. Hannibal, whom he personally knew, he lived a long testimony of fidelity and love for the Congregation, of thoughtful affection for the students, the seminarians and the poor, of attachment and availability in the ministry, especially in the Confession, of joyfulness, of love of poverty and a serene acceptance of suffering. He died in the Lord, full of merits, at the age of 91, on August 31, 2000. His body was buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

September 1

Death Anniversary of BRO. MARIA ANTONIO SCOLARO

Bro. Scolaro was born in Sant' Angelo di Brolo (Messina, Italy) on March 10, 1876. Being an orphan from childhood, he soon had to look for a job to earn a living. He was a carpenter until the age of 30. In 1905, Bro. Giuseppe Antonio Meli happened to be passing by Sant' Angelo, and he spoke to Mr. Scolaro about our starting Institution in the Avignone Houses in Messina. The young carpenter immediately made his decision.

The Father Founder accepted him in 1905 and gave him the Rogationist habit on April 21, 1907, then he made his consecration to the Lord. Simplicity, purity, meekness, and unflappable tranquility because of an exemplary abandonment of God's will were his spiritual characteristics. So highly was he esteemed by the Father Founder that, because of the lack of priests, he was in charge of the House that was opened in Gravina in Puglia. Later, the Father Founder chose him as a companion in his travels in the final years of his life.

He was very devoted to the Child Mary, and the Most Holy Virgin wanted to bring him to heaven on the first day of the novena in honor of her Nativity, on September 1, 1947, in the "Mother House" in Messina, where he had lived for many years at the service of the faithful at the "Obolo" beside the Shrine of St. Anthony.

The Lord prepared him for his death with a long sickness that paralyzed his right arm. According to those who meet him in those last days of his life, the image of Bro. Scolaro that is worth to be imitated is that of a religious who, in the break from his work, slowly walks on the terrace with the rosary in his left hand and gazing up into heaven.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

September 2

Death Anniversary of FR. PANTALEONE PALMA

Fr. Pantaleone Palma was born in Ceglie Messapica (Brindisi, Italy) on April 13, 1875. He was ordained priest in 1899, and for some years he was a teacher in the Diocesan Seminary of Oria.

Willing to obtain a Doctorate in Humanities, he chose the University of Messina, where Professor Fr. Vincenzo Lilla, from Francavilla Fontana, and a close friend and admirer of our Father Founder, was teaching. Through Prof. Lilla, he was granted hospitality at the Avignone Houses on October 28, 1902. The evangelical poverty, prayer, and sacrifices of that place conquered him.

After some years, abandoning his academic career, he was granted the possibility to make himself available for the Father Founder who was so direly in need of help amidst the difficulties of starting the institution. He was a valid collaborator. Together with Bro. Giuseppe Antonio Meli, his constant companion for many years, visited not only Messina and its neighboring towns, but also the whole of Sicily, spreading the devotion of the "Bread of St. Anthony of Padua" and placing the collection box in the Churches so as to help alleviate the impelling financial problem of the starting institution.

From this work derived the magazine "God and Neighbor" published in 1907, and the institution of the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office): he was their untiring organizer. He was Superior of the House of Oria for several years but worked in all the Houses both of the Rogationists and of the Daughters of Divine Zeal, especially in organizing the Anthonian Propaganda.

He died in Rome on September 2, 1935. His remains were buried in the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

September 4

Death Anniversary of FR. DOMENICO MALGIERI

Fr. Domenico Malgieri was born in Sant'Agata di Puglia (Foggia, Italy) on July 23, 1922. He entered the Congregation in Oria on September 11, 1934. He entered the novitiate in the House of Trani on September 29, 1939 and made his first vows on March 30, 1941. He made his final profession in Rome on April 23, 1947, and was ordained a priest June 29, 1950, in Assisi.

Initially, he carried out his apostolate in the field of formation, first in Messina, and Trani, and for a year, in 1957, he served as Novice Master in San Demetrio.

In the following year, he was assigned to Brazil where he continued to work in the field of formation, first in Passos and then Criciúma where, in 1966, he also became the Superior of the Community. He held this office in the following years also in São Paulo in 1969, then in Passos from 1971. From December 1977 to January 1981, he was appointed in São Paulo to the office of the Provincial Superior. After an interval of two years in the community of the General Curia in Italy, he was back to Brazil just for another year before returning permanently to Italy, where he always kept a fond memory of his experience in Brazil.

From 1984, he was called to handle the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) first in Padua until 1986, and then in the Mother House in Messina until 1996. Then, he was assigned to the House of the Religious Students in Grottaferrata, as vice Superior and Treasurer, and, in 2006 he was back to the Mother House, as a collaborator in the adjacent Shrine.

There, in his last years, the infirmities of old age were added to his particular health problems, which he endured with strength and serenity until the end. He fell asleep in the Lord on September 4, 2010.

For those who knew him, Fr. Malgieri has left a sincere and shining testimony of a priest and Rogationist available and engaged in the various fields of apostolate to which he was assigned by obedience, showing a strong bond with the Congregation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

September 6

Death Anniversary of FR. MICHELE AMATO

Fr. Michele Amato was born in Irsina (Matera, Italy) on August 7, 1920. Accompanied by his parish priest, he entered our seminary in Oria at the age of 12. After his novitiate in Trani under the guidance of Fr. Santoro, he made his first profession of the religious vows in the hands of Fr. Vitale on September 29, 1937. He professed perpetually on September 29, 1942, also in Trani. After the secondary education in the House of Trani, he completed his theological formation in Messina where he was ordained a priest on August 15, 1946, in the Shrine of Saint Anthony and Temple of the Evangelical Rogation. For more than 50 years of his priestly ministry, he served as Secretary of the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) from 1947 to 1963, in various Houses including Naples, Trani, Bari, and Oria. He worked as well as a teacher in the seminary of Padua from 1963 to 1968 and had a brief pastoral experience in Taranto from 1968 to 1972. Then, from 1972 to 1997, a period of almost 25 years, he again worked as Secretary of the Anthonian Propaganda Office in the Institute of Rome. Finally, he was assigned to the House of Trezzano sul Naviglio as a collaborator in the parish.

In the last months of his life, he was afflicted with leukemia. He stayed in the hospital of Desenzano for treatment. Here, comforted by the Sacraments, prayers, and fraternal affection, he died serenely in the Lord on September 6, 1999. His body was buried in the chapel of the House in Padua. In the last two years of his life, while he was engaged in the pastoral work in the parish, Fr. Michele manifested special attention towards others expressed in acceptance, in understanding, and in availability be it in the fraternal life in the Community or in the apostolate of writing and publishing.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

September 7

Death Anniversary of FR. PIETRO CELLURA

Fr. Cellura was born in Licata (Agrigento, Italy) on May 6, 1922, and baptized a few days later on May 15. Being recommended by his parish priest, he was accepted in the seminary in Messina "Rocca Guelfonia" on September 24, 1934. He entered our novitiate in Trani on September 29, 1939, made his first religious profession on September 29, 1941, consecrated himself to the Lord with his final vows on March 23, 1947, in Rome, and ordained as a priest on June 29, 1950, in Assisi.

He was assigned first to Desenzano as a collaborator in the St. Anthony Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), then in Oria as assistant of the seminarians, and later in Trani as assistant of the orphans. From 1955 to 1957, he was prefect of the deaf and mute in Assisi; then for one year, in Naples, prefect of the seminarians; and another two years in our St. Anthony Propaganda in Bari. Then, he moved to Messina also as Secretary of the Propaganda: from 1966 to 1973 in the Mother House; from 1974 to 1981 in Cristo Re, as spiritual father; and from then until his death, he was assigned once more in the Mother House. In all his years in Messina, especially in the last two years before the sickness that led him to death, he always collaborated generously at our Shrine of St. Anthony and Temple of Evangelical Rogation. On September 7, 1983, he was confined in the hospital of Caltagirone for a surgery due to cancer of the kidney and of the bladder. In December of the same year, he had to undergo another surgical operation in the Regina Apostolorum Hospital in Albano (Rome). Because the sickness metastasized with abundant hemorrhages, he underwent another operation in the same hospital on August 21, 1984, which failed to save his life. On September 7, 1984, in the morning, exactly one year after the beginning of his "Way of the Cross", a further hemorrhage brought him to an end. Comforted by the hospital chaplain, confreres, and by his only sister, he serenely surrendered his soul to God. His funeral was celebrated in our House in Zagarolo and his remains were buried in the Cemetery of Messina in the chapel built by the Father Founder for the Rogationists.

Fr. Cellura is to be remembered for his affection to the Confreres: he collected news and information about all of them; for his apostolate of the writing in our publications; and particularly for his devotion to the Virgin Mary. She showed him a sign of her maternal affection by visiting him with that sickness and calling him to Paradise on the vigil of the Feast of her Nativity.

And of FR. ANTONIO PATAVINO

Fr. Patavino was born on September 13, 1915, in Colletorto (Campobasso, Italy) and entered the Institute in Oria on November 18, 1928. He was admitted to the novitiate in Trani on October 16, 1932. There, on October 18, 1934, he made his first profession and had his humanistic studies until 1939. He transferred later to Messina for his theological studies. He perpetually professed his vows in Trani on March 11, 1940 and was ordained a priest at the Holy Spirit Church in Messina on May 30, 1942. He expressed his apostolic activities in the Houses of Trani and Assisi until 1951 when he left as a missionary to Brazil in order to open the House in Bauru. There he worked until 1960 in the education of the orphans. Then he was assigned to Criciúma for the formation of the seminarians, vocation promotion, and later, as Novice Master. In 1969, he was back to Bauru for some years and, later, again, in the seminary in Criciúma. From 1975 to 1979, he was the vice Superior in Passos, then he was assigned to the parish in Criciúma where he worked with admirable apostolic zeal as long as his strengths sustained him.

His health started weakening in 1988 because of insufficient heart circulation. The following year, he had a cerebral hemorrhage which caused partial paralysis. This was the beginning of the most painful part of his earthly pilgrimage as a refining touch for his virtues. He was serene in his suffering, spending many hours of the day in prayer and spiritual reading, surrounded by the care of the confreres and the affection of the pupils who admired his joviality. With great spiritual joy, on May 30, 1992, he celebrated the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination. In the last days of August, he was stricken by a sudden and irreversible form of cancer which quickly led him to the end.

He died with the comfort of the sacraments on September 7, 1992. His remains rest in our funeral chapel of Criciúma.

Fr. Patavino greatly loved the Congregation and Brazil which he regarded as his adoptive country. He lived his religious consecration with faithfulness, following the example of Fr. Hannibal, especially in his priestly zeal, sacrifice, humility, availability, and charity, particularly towards the little ones and the poor.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

September 8

Death Anniversary of FR. PAOLO TANGORRA

Fr. Tangorra was born in Cassano Murge (Bari, Italy), on July 2, 1922. He entered the Congregation in Oria in 1933 and was admitted to the novitiate in 1937 in Trani, where he made his first profession in the following year. He made his perpetual profession in Messina on September 26, 1944 and was ordained a priest in Rome on July 19, 1947.

During the early years of his ministry, he worked in the Houses of Bari, Trani, and Oria. From 1955, he worked in the Houses of Naples and Messina, then, along with that task he also carried out the task of teaching. Then, by 1960 he was in Subiaco and then in Desenzano, with the office of the school principal. From 1966 to 1981, he was first in Messina and then in Naples and Matera, assigned to the school and, from 1975 to the promotion of vocations. In 1981, he was transferred to Padua, as school principal until 2004, when he returned to Bari, where he resumed the task of the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) for a few years.

In December 2011, due to the precarious state of his health, he was hospitalized at the Villa Santa Maria, Corato, where he was frequently visited by his confreres and his family. He fell asleep peacefully in the Lord on the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on September 8, 2013.

Fr. Paolo lived faithfully his priesthood and religious consecration, loved the Father Founder and our Congregation devoted himself with passion and commitment in the manifold apostolate he accomplished, was a man of culture and academics, and felt teaching as his second vocation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

September 11

Death Anniversary of FR. TOMMASO CINIERO

Fr. Ciniero was born in Ceglie Messapica (Brindisi, Italy) on October 19, 1913. He entered the seminary of Oria on October 15, 1928. He moved to Trani on December 27, 1931, with the group that opened that new House. There he entered the novitiate with 22 companions on October 16, 1932, made his first religious profession on April 18, 1934, and perpetually consecrated himself to the Lord on March 30, 1938.

Having transferred to Messina for his theological studies, where he was ordained a priest on May 30, 1942. Because of his seriousness and exemplary life as a student, both in Trani and Messina, he was almost always entrusted with the assignment of an assistant.

After his priestly ordination, he worked and fulfilled many assignments in several Houses of the Congregation. In September 1976 he left San Demetrio to join the community of Oria. There, in his last months, he had symptoms of a severe malaise to require his hospitalization at the Polyclinic of Bari. The check-up revealed cancer of the stomach that was already so widely spread that it was no longer operable. It was the end.

Aware of this, he was very resigned to God's will. Though experiencing tremendous pains which were visible only through the involuntary contractions of the muscles in his face, he never lamented. On the contrary, he was always jovial and prepared himself for his last journey longing for the heavenly homeland by singing the verses that used to be sung in the communities for the feast of the Assumption of Mary. This is attested by many confreres who visited and assisted him.

From the Polyclinic in Bari, he was sent to the hospital of Ceglie, with the permission to stay for three days with his family. While he was at his sister's house, the Lord called him to eternity. It was on September 11, 1978. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Oria.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

September 24

Death Anniversary of FR. GIUSEPPE VILARDI

Fr. Vilardi was born in Messina, Italy on September 13, 1919. He was 13 and a member of the "Paggetti Antoniani" (= Anthonian Pageboys), when he was accepted in the seminary of Messina. He entered the novitiate in Trani on September 29, 1935. His first religious profession was on March 30, 1937, and the perpetual profession on May 5, 1942. He was ordained priest in Messina on July 15, 1945. He took part in the first General Chapter which was celebrated in the month of August of the same year.

After his ordination, he worked for 18 years in our St. Anthony Propaganda Offices (= Anthonian Benefactors Office) in Messina, Napoli, and Bari. Then, he was assigned to pastoral work in the Temple of the Evangelical Rogation (Shrine of St. Anthony) in Messina. He was also an outstanding spiritual director for the youth of the technical school in Bari and to the seminarians in Napoli. In August, 1964, he was assigned to Brazil, first in the house of Passos and then in Criciúma, as Superior in both cases. At the same time, he was one of the Councilors of the "Consulta" of Brazil. He was later transferred to Bauru as parish priest, and then in Brasilia where his parish works were carried out together with the assignment as Superior. In 1979, he returned to Bauru where he stayed until the end as vice Superior, Treasurer, and assistant parish priest. In this House sometime in May 1991, though still fully active, he sensed the sickness which very soon proved to be incurable: cancer of the stomach. He was assisted and supported with all the affection and care, while with serenity and strength, aware of his situation, he spent his last days offering his sufferings and his life for the Congregation and for vocations. At the end of July, the Superior General paid him a visit in Bauru, witnessing Fr. Vilardi's faith and communion with the congregation. He serenely died on the morning of September 24, 1991, in the Hospital of Bauru.

We remember him as a meek, generous, and admirably simple religious. He served the Lord in our Congregation with full availability and fidelity, spending all his energies with humility and in spirit of

prayer and leaving to his confreres, students, and parishioners a shining example as Rogationist religious priest.

The funeral was held in our Parish of Our Lady of Graces in Bauru, and his remains were buried in our chapel in the St. Benedict Cemetery at Villa Indipendenza.

And of FR. SALVATORE CIRANNI

Fr. Salvatore was born in Grotte (Agrigento, Italy), on March 25, 1927. He entered the Congregation in Messina on October 16, 1938, following the path of Gaetano, his older brother. He was admitted to the novitiate on October 17, 1943, in Trani, where on September 29, 1945, he made his first profession. He made his perpetual profession in Assisi on September 29, 1951 and was ordained as a priest in Padua on December 8, 1955. During the first years of the apostolate, he carried out the tasks of Secretary of the Superior General, Prefect of the theology students, Superior and professor of Canon Law in Grottaferrata.

In 1969, he was transferred to Mendota (USA) where he started his long missionary experience, dedicated to different tasks, as Superior and other roles of pastoral services. This experience was interrupted only in the years 1981-83 when he worked in the Rogate Center in Rome.

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Then, he was assigned to the Philippines, initially in the seminary of Manila, and successively as Treasurer of the Delegation, Superior of St. Anthony's Boys Village in Silang, and in charge of the construction of St. Anthony's Boys' Village in Silang and of the Seminary in Cebu. In 1991, he returned to the USA where he remained until 2013, in the Houses of Sanger, North Hills, and Van Nuys, with roles as Superior, Treasurer, or parish priest.

In 2013, he was granted to return to Italy, at the Mother House, to be near his brother, Fr. Gaetano, whose health conditions were worsening. At the same time during that period, he also worked in the Shrine and continued this apostolate even after his brother's death.

On September 9, 2015, Fr. Salvatore suffered a stroke and cerebral ischemia, with ensuing complications. He quietly endured this test until September 24, when he fell asleep in the Lord.

Fr. Salvatore placed his gifts of intelligence and heart at the service of the Lord and of the Congregation, by being committed to his religious life, zealous in his pastoral ministry, and showing a particular sensitivity in helping the poor.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

September 27

Death Anniversary of FR. ANTONIO TISCI

Fr. Tisci was born in Cassano Murge (Bari, Italy) on December 12, 1944. He entered the Congregation in Oria on September 9, 1956, and was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1961, in Florence, wherein the following year he made his first profession. He made his perpetual profession in Desenzano on September 29, 1968 and was ordained a priest in Grottaferrata on September 29, 1971.

During the first ten years of the apostolate, he was assigned to Oria, Messina, and Francofonte in charge of the seminarians and the pastoral care for vocations, and then to Padua as assistant of the orphans. In the following years, he held mainly the role of vice Superior and Treasurer, at times also in charge of the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), successively, in the Houses of Bari, Oria, Padua, Desenzano, San Cesareo, and Rome (Anthonian Institute). For some years, he was the Superior Delegate of our Curia in Rome, and then Director of the printing press of Morlupo. In January 2016, he was assigned as an assistant parish priest in Rome-Massimina.

Consistent with the commitments of his consecrated and priestly life, when facing inconsistencies about regular observance, he manifested his intransigence, though, always maintaining his jovial trait and closeness to the confreres. He left us an example of industriousness, great generosity, and warm availability.

In the last few months of his life, Fr. Antonio suffered a progressive health decline, underestimated, until he was hospitalized in mid-September for appropriate checkups due to the appearance of more evident symptoms. The findings revealed the presence of cancer, which had already attacked several vital organs.

Aware of the critical situation, he endured the painful test with a strong heart, in a peaceful dialogue with the family and confreres who attended to him. He fell asleep in the Lord on September 27, 2016. His remains rest in the Cemetery of Trani.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

October 7

Death Anniversary of FR. MICHELE LAMACCHIA

Fr. Lamacchia was born in Barletta (Bari, Italy) on March 30, 1920. Recommended by Don Raffaele Dimiccoli, he entered our seminary in Trani on October 1, 1933. There, he completed the novitiate under the guidance of Fr. Santoro. He made his first profession in the hands of Fr. Vitale on March 30, 1939. He made his perpetual profession in Messina on September 26, 1944. After his theological studies in Messina and in Rome, he was ordained priest in Rome on July 19, 1947. During the first years of his priestly ministry, he was engaged in the formation of the seminarians in Oria, and then, from 1954 to 1968, in the service of the children in the different Institutes of Padua, Trani, and Florence. Finally, from 1968 onward, he worked in the parish for 30 years. From 1968 to 1983, he was in Rome. From 1984 to 1990, he served in Padua. Then, in the last years, he again stayed in Rome.

Being a gentle and welcoming person, in the initial years of his ministry, he developed a sense of spiritual paternity among the children and even in his parochial services. This he manifested through availability in helping the weak and the suffering. In the service of the altar, he showed particular attention to the liturgy and the animation of songs. In his last months, the general condition of his health worsened. For this, it was deemed necessary to take him to the hospital, first, in Albano (Rome), and then, at the "Gemelli" in Rome. He endured his final sufferings with serenity and great peace. Comforted by the Sacraments, and by the nearness of the confreres, relatives, and friends, he fell asleep in the Lord on October 7, 1999, the feast of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, of whom was a devotee.

His body was buried in our chapel at the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

And of BRO. HERMAN SURYANTO YOSENI

He was born in Lempang Paji, Manggarai Timur Flores (Indonesia) on May 21, 1987. He grew up in a deeply Christian family. He expressed the desire to become a priest since his childhood. After experiences of vocational accompaniment, a year of discernment in an inter-congregational vocation center and being attracted by the simplicity of life of our initial community in Maumere, he entered as an aspirant in August 2007.

Having completed his philosophical studies, he was admitted to the Postulancy in June 2011, and a few months later he went to Manila (Philippines) to complete the year of preparation for the novitiate. On May 31, 2012, he entered the novitiate, in Silang, where he made his first profession a year later. Then, after spending a month in the seminary of Manila, he was assigned for practical training in the seminary of Maumere (Indonesia) as an assistant to the seminarians. In his task, which he received with enthusiasm, he expressed lavishly his profound human and spiritual qualities.

In fact, he was kind and sociable, committed, and responsible, faithful and happy in following his religious and priestly vocation. He had talent in music and in the arts in general, and he possessed good organizational skills.

In the first days of October 2013, he was struck by a severe form of malaria, dealt with by all possible treatments, but found to be in vain. He fell asleep in the Lord at Maumere on October 7, 2013, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, comforted by the holy Sacraments, and assisted by his parents and brothers, October 7, 2013.

From Heaven, he will implore the blessings of the Lord for the new vocations and for the diffusion of the Rogate, especially in Indonesia.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

October 12

Death Anniversary of FR. LIBORIO PRUDENTINO

Fr. Liborio was born on June 2, 1915, in Ostuni (Brindisi, Italy). He entered the Congregation in the House of Oria on November 29, 1929, and then the novitiate in Trani on October 16, 1932. His first profession was done in Trani on October 17, 1933, and the perpetual profession in Messina at our Shrine of St. Anthony on October 8, 1939. He completed his theological studies in Messina and was ordained to the Sacred Order of Presbyterate in Barcellona (Messina) on May 9, 1943.

He carried out his service to the Lord and to brothers and sisters in several Houses of the Congregation, particularly in Oria, Trani, Messina, Matera, Padua, San Demetrio, and Grottaferrata. In accepting the invitations of obedience, he had to go back more than once to some of these places.

Because of his wisdom, meekness, and understanding, but much more because of his faithfulness to the religious consecration, he was often requested to be a Superior. He was always committed to a sense of service and to favor fraternal communion.

He lovingly committed himself also to the education and formation of the orphans, especially in Padua where he had been engaged in teaching, pastoral ministry, and spiritual direction. The latter was his assignment in the House of Religious Students of Theology in Grottaferrata during the last part of his precious life when he was called by the Lord on October 12, 1992.

In this way, while on the breach, he brought to a close a life of hard work, sacrifice, and serene and humble donation to others.

The funeral was held in our St. Anthony Parish Church in Rome, and he was buried in the Congregation's chapel in the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

To all those who know him, the memory of Fr. Prudentino is that of a meek and pious man, an example of apostolic zeal, religious fidelity, and attachment to our beloved Congregation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

October 16

Death Anniversary of FR. MICHELE FERLISI

Fr. Ferlisi was born in Acquaviva Platani (Caltanissetta, Italy) on April 30, 1920. He entered the Congregation in Messina on September 26, 1932. He was admitted to the novitiate in Trani on March 30, 1938, where he had his first profession on September 29, 1939. He made his perpetual profession on September 26, 1944, in Messina. He was an ordained priest in Oria on August 8, 1948.

From 1948 to 1962, he worked for the education of the orphans, and in the formation of the aspirants. He also served as Treasurer in the Houses of Oria, Bari, Naples, and Messina.

From 1962 until 1969, he was assigned as Superior and Treasurer of the House of Matera, and then, with the same task, in the House of Francofonte, until 1972.

Later, he transferred to the House of Cristo Re in Messina, where he remained for 20 years, and served as vice Superior and Treasurer.

Then, he was assigned to the Mother House in Messina as a collaborator in the Shrine.

In his last days, he was afflicted with sickness, which he endured with strength and serenity, keeping himself always busy with the things that he could still do, including the priestly ministry and the ordinary tasks in the life of the House. His service was marked by his great availability.

Due to the consequences of an accidental fall, he died in the Lord on October 16, 2003.

Those who knew him spoke of him as a person who was gentle, humble, joyful, and welcoming, fatherly and generous, faithful to his religious and priestly consecration.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

October 17

Death Anniversary of FR. MICHELE LOMUSCIO

Fr. Lomuscio was born in Andria (Bari, Italy) on April 1, 1918. He entered the Congregation in Trani on October 21, 1932. At the end of the novitiate, he made the first profession in Trani, on September 29, 1937, and the perpetual profession on September 4, 1942, in Messina, where he was ordained a priest on August 15, 1946.

Since the first years of his priesthood, he worked for the apostolate of the Anthonian Propaganda (= Anthonian Benefactors Office), at first, in the Houses of Messina Oria, Rome, Trani, and then, from 1954, in Padua. In this House, he carried out this task for almost 50 years.

In this way, the Office of the Anthonian Propaganda became for him, for almost the whole of his life, the main field of his apostolate, his pulpit, and confessional box. He carried out this responsibility through diligent and accurate work, always abreast of times, worried about putting up, through printed matters, and correspondence, a dialogue of faith with thousands of benefactors everywhere in the world. Through his initiatives, the message and the protection of St. Anthony reached the benefactors who increased each day. In this way, he became an efficacious instrument of the Divine Providence for the House of Padua and for the whole Congregation, and also for the many works of charity in the missions where the Congregation was present.

Cordial and available, he carried out his service in serene, daily manifestations of his religious and priestly consecration.

He went back to the House of the Father because of a sudden heart failure on October 17, 2004.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

October 18

Death Anniversary of BRO. BARTOLOMEO DI FONZO

Bro. Di Fonzo was born in Poggiorsini (Bari, Italy) on February 15, 1913. He was baptized on June 3 of the same year and received the Confirmation on June 1, 1924.

Perceiving the call to the religious life, following his brother who became a Conventual priest, he entered that Order as a Brother, but because of his failing health, he had to return to his town. After recovering, he was introduced by Fr. Vito Perniola, his parish priest, to our House in Oria, on September 19, 1937.

He entered the novitiate on September 29, 1939, and consecrated himself to the Lord with the holy vows on November 29, 1940. On September 29, 1946, he made his perpetual profession. His life was a constant exercise of love for the Congregation by accomplishing various assignments in the Houses of Oria, Trani, and Desenzano. He was never idle but always committed to something to be done, to be repaired, or caring for the House to be kept in order. He alternated work with prayer. Besides the community practices of piety, he preferred the Rosary to the Blessed Virgin. It became almost his continuous prayer when he had to be confined in the clinic "Villa Torresina" near Palestrina because of a sickness that affected his nervous system.

He was praying when he died! On the morning of October 18, 1983, he participated in the Holy Mass and received the Holy Communion. After breakfast, he returned to the chapel of the sisters to pray, kneeling. Around 8:30, in the morning, a doctor, having seen him in such a posture, said to him, "Brother Bartolomeo, why are you kneeling? There is no Blessed Sacrament in this chapel!" Obediently he rose, but suddenly, before the eyes of the doctor, he felt lifeless to the ground stricken by a stroke.

The solemn funeral was celebrated in our Parish of St. Anthony at Piazza Asti in Rome, and his remains were buried in our chapel in the Verano Cemetery.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

October 22

Death anniversary of DCN. ANTONIO CARLUCCI

He was born in Ceglie Messapica (Brindisi) on May 10, 1931. He entered the Congregation in Oria on September 24, 1945, and the Novitiate on September 29, 1950, in Trani, where he made his first profession on September 30, 1951. He made his perpetual profession in Messina, on September 30, 1957.

While completing the initial formation, he was assigned to the assistance and formation of the orphans, or seminarians, in the houses of Naples, Florence, Assisi, Messina and Trani.

In 1961, he went to Brazil as a missionary, continuing with the tasks carried out in Italy. He was initially assigned to Bauru and then to Criciúma and Passos. From 1975, he worked in the parish ministry in Bauru and then in Curitiba, in San Paolo and in Criciúma, where he also held the office of treasurer.

In 1993 in Bauru, he received the sacred order of the permanent Diaconate that he exercised with zeal there until 2014, when he was assigned to the house of Criciúma. In the last years, health problems arose. This worsened in the last period, which he faced with great serenity. He fell asleep in the Lord due to heart attack on October 22, 2018.

We keep the memory of his fidelity to religious life and zeal in pastoral service, of laboriousness and humility, of love for the Congregation and his bond with Brazil.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

October 25

Death Anniversary of FR. LUIGI LUCA APPI

Fr. Luigi Luca Appi was born in Rome on July 18, 1903, baptized two days later, and confirmed on November 10, 1905. He entered our seminary in Oria on April 10, 1919, and there he took the religious habit on April 25, 1920. He was ordained priest on July 30, 1930.

After some years in Trani as vice Superior and vice Novice Master, he was appointed Superior in Oria and from that time on, he held several roles of responsibilities which he performed with diligence and love until 1956, when, because of the trust of the confreres, he was elected Superior General of the Congregation.

During his term as Superior General, he promoted vocations in Italy and other countries and enhanced the devotion to our Lady by presiding a pilgrimage of the Rogationists to Lourdes in 1958, on the centennial anniversary of the Apparition of our Lady and consecrating to her the entire Congregation. He had also the joy of receiving the "Decretum Laudis", the official approval of the Congregation from the Holy See.

After his tenure as Superior General, he continued to be the Superior in several Houses. Finally, he was granted to care only for the good of souls by ministering in our Shrine of St. Anthony in Messina.

He died, almost suddenly after the Superiors had called him again to be the Superior of the Mother House. He passed away at St. Camillo Clinic in Messina, on the evening of October 25, 1974, due to an embolism.

His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

October 28

Death Anniversary of BRO. DOMENICO FILOGRASSO

Bro. Filograsso was born in Barletta (Bari, Italy) on July 19, 1921. Presented by Don Raffaele Dimiccoli, he entered our seminary in Trani on October 26, 1936, at the age of 15. In this House, he was admitted to the novitiate in 1939. There he remained to complete his formation years, and then, served as educator of the boys in the adjacent orphanage until his perpetual profession in 1945.

Bro. Domenico carried out this educative task for more than 20 years, until 1965, in the Houses of Messina (Mother House), Oria, Bari, Padua and Matera.

In 1965, after the inauguration of the Saint Anthony Parish Church at Piazza Asti (Rome), he was assigned there, where he stayed and worked in the Church, its sacristy, and for some years, also took charge of the altar servers. In order to be more qualified in the service of the altar and of the liturgy, he asked for and received the ministry of the Lectorate and the Acolytate. His work in the service of the Church fitted well with the observance of the rules and, in particular, with the fulfillment of the practices proper to our life of piety.

He returned to the House of the Father in October 1999, afflicted with a sudden sickness while he was attending the conclusion of the annual course of the spiritual exercises in Loreto.

His body was buried in our chapel at the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 1

Death Anniversary of FR. ANDREA STELLA

Fr. Andrea Stella was born in Trani (Bari, Italy) on January 7, 1922. He entered the Congregation in Oria on October 28, 1934. After he finished the secondary school, he entered the novitiate in Trani on September 29, 1939. He finished his literary and philosophical studies in Trani, and the theological studies in Rome and Assisi. He made his perpetual profession in Trani on September 29, 1946 and was ordained priest in Assisi on June 29, 1950.

After completing his initial formation, he worked in Oria for ten years as formator of the seminarians, and then, in Messina and Matera as Superior and Treasurer. Later on, he was assigned to Bari, where he remained for almost 25 years. During this long period, he worked for the Community, for the Boy's Village, and for the Vocational Training School as Superior, Center Director, a zealous and gifted teacher, especially in technical and scientific subjects. He was skilled organizer and was open to the new means of social communication. He was wise and provided fatherly guidance to a great number of youths. From 1987 to 1994, Fr. Stella was assigned to the House of Desenzano, first, as the Principal, and then, as Superior. Then, he transferred to Padua where, in his last years, his health was tested.

He died in the Lord, comforted by the Sacraments, assisted by the care and affection of the confreres and relatives, on November 1, 1998, on the Solemnity of All Saints.

We keep the memory of his human and religious virtues, of his industry and attachment to the Congregation.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 2

Death Anniversary of BRO. ANTONINO BONTEMPO

Bro. Bontempo was born in Galati Mamertino (Messina) on September 6, 1919. He was a relative of the Drago Family, from whom many Religious entered our Congregation. He wanted to become member of our Religious Family from his youth. He achieved his dream when was admitted to the House of Messina, on July 20, 1949, although he was already in his 30s. The year after, he was admitted to the novitiate in Trani. On March 19, 1952, he made his first profession, and after four years, the perpetual profession in Messina.

His life, spent at the service of the Lord, with exemplary love for work and attachment to the Congregation, can be divided into two periods. In the first, which lasted for almost twenty years, extending to 1975, he was consistently engaged with the education of children and various offices, as a sacristan, or in-charge of the workshops, in different periods, in the Houses of Oria, Messina (Institute of the Deaf and Mute) and Palermo. In the second, which was spent in the Mother House of Messina, he was in-charge of the “Sala Obolo”, a task that he carried out until the last moments of his life even when his health started to fail.

During the final years, he was greatly tested by his sickness which he endured with serenity and patience, while taking care of his spiritual life and edifying the confreres who approached him.

Sustained by the Holy Sacrament, he died in the Lord on the evening of November 2, 2005, day of the commemoration of all Souls.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 4

Death Anniversary of FR. REDENTO LEVI

Fr. Redento was born in Naples on August 13, 1897. In the first months of 1909, the Father Founder who, by chance, was in Naples and invited him. He accepted the invitation and followed the Father Founder to Francavilla Fontana. He was then 12 years old.

Admiring his simplicity and piety, the Father Founder moved him from the orphans to the aspirants to the religious life. On April 28, 1912, he was given the Rogationist habit and changed his baptismal name Luigi into Redento.

He was a military sergeant during the World War I, from 1915 to 1918. Back home, he resumed his studies and was ordained priest on July 30, 1930. He performed various assignments, showing particular skills for the ministry of Confession and of preaching, which he exercised especially in the Shrine of St. Anthony in Messina. He was among the founders of the House in Naples. He was very effective in promoting the liturgical worship in our chapel in Varallo Street, in Rome.

He went to the United States of America to collect funds for the construction of the church of Piazza Asti in Rome. He returned to Italy, but a little later, while about to leave for Argentina to extend our Congregation there, an illness that had been wearing out his health for a long time, took over and ended his life on November 4, 1949, in Rome. His remains were buried in the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

He was outstanding for his simplicity, frankness, natural affability, love for work and the spirit of self-sacrifice. These qualities made him loved by all.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 7

Death Anniversary of FR. ROY MOOTHEDATH

Fr. Roy was born in Udayamperoor (Kerala, India) on February 25, 1984. He entered the Congregation in Aluva on June 12, 1999, and was admitted to the novitiate on August 22, 2005, in Silang (Philippines), where the following year he made the first profession. He made the perpetual profession in Aluva on June 1, 2011 and was ordained priest at Udayamperoor on January 5, 2012.

During the early years of apostolate, he was assigned to the formation of the seminarians in the House of Mananthavady. Having manifested his availability for missions, Fr. Roy was included in the planning of the foundation of a Mission House of the Province of St. Luke (Latin American Province) in Angola (Africa). To prepare for the mission, in December 2014, he went first to Rome and then to Brazil.

The new presence in Cuango (Angola) began on December 13, 2015.

From the time he joined the Congregation, Fr. Roy was renowned for his simplicity and humility. He was reserved, but also a point of reference for his companions; intelligent and with a great listening ability; a happy religious open to missions.

Fr. Roy had engaged enthusiastically in the missionary experience. To the people close to him, he confided that the best days of his life as a religious were those when he was living in the mission, which ended up in a tragic road accident while heading to Dundo for a diocesan assembly on November 7, 2016, exactly one year after his arrival in Angola. The previous day, during the Sunday Mass, he had given a beautiful reflection on the resurrection.

His remains were transported to India and buried, for the meantime, in the cemetery of his parish in Udayamperoor, Kerala.

And of FR. VITO GIORGIO

He was born in Cassano Murge (Bari) on May 29, 1939. He entered the Congregation in Oria on September 17, 1951. He entered the novitiate on September 29, 1956, in Trani, where he made his first profession the following year. On September 29, 1963, he made perpetual profession in Desenzano, and on July 28, 1966, he was ordained a priest in the Shrine of St. Anthony in Oria.

His first apostolic commitment was in the field of education, formation, teaching and parish apostolate, mainly in the house of Padua, with some brief interludes in Grottaferrata, Bari and Morlupo.

On January 13, 1981, he arrived as a missionary in Rwanda, at Mugombwa, where he was vocation director, treasurer, parish priest and community superior. In 1988, he was transferred as superior to the community of Nyanza, a shelter for minors in difficulty.

At the General Chapter of 1992, he was elected General Councilor for the Apostolate of Educational Assistance to Youth and the Apostolate for the Poor. From May 1994 to the beginning of September, he returned to Nyanza during the terrible situation of the civil war to replace Fr. Eros Borile, who had to go to Italy for medical treatment. At the end of his term as General Councilor, in 1998, he returned to Rwanda, once again as Superior of the House of Nyanza,

When he returned to Italy in 2005, after a year as pastor of Sant'Angelo in Vado (Urbino), he was successively assigned to houses in Florence, Trezzano sul Naviglio, Rome and Padua, where he worked mainly in parish ministry. On October 2, 2011, the City of Padua conferred on him the title of "Righteous of the World" for his peacemaking work in Rwanda.

At the end of 2020, Fr. Vito experienced health problems that gradually worsened until, at the beginning of June 2021, he had to be hospitalized in a suitable facility for proper care. In July 2023, he was stricken with cancer and after four months, on July 7, he came to the end of his earthly life.

Fr. Vito was a religious faithful to priestly and religious consecration, erudite and wise, sincere and generous, humble and

industrious, generous in dedicating himself to the education of minors, to pastoral work and to the mission to the little ones and the poor of his Africa.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

November 09

Death Anniversary of FR. VITO GIRASOLI

He was born in Santeramo (Bari, Italy) on January 9, 1927. He entered the Congregation in Oria on October 2, 1937. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1942, in Trani, where on March 29, 1944 he made his first profession. He completed his philosophical studies in Messina and the theological studies in Assisi, where he made his perpetual profession on December 3, 1949. He was ordained a priest in Assisi on June 29, 1953.

In the first fifteen years of his apostolate, he was engaged mainly in formation and teaching in the houses of Padua, Oria, Subiaco, Messina, and Padua. In 1966, he was assigned to Naples as a Vocation Promoter.

The following year, he was transferred to Grottaferrata as a teacher. Then, he returned to Naples where, in later times, he carried out the office of Superior, Vocation Promoter and Treasurer. In 1981, he was transferred to Florence as Superior. From 1988 to 2005, he worked in Bari, as Prefect of the Pupils, and then in Matera and Oria, as Treasurer and Anthonian Benefactors Office.

In 2005, he was transferred to the House Madonna della Grotta in Modugno, where he spent the rest of his years as Treasurer and collaborator at the sanctuary. For a sudden cardiac arrest, he passed to eternal life on November 9, 2019.

Fr. Vito, with a simple and joyful spirit, a lover of music and singing, has trained generations of seminarians and students in the various houses in which he has worked, witnessing the fidelity to the consecrated life, the bond with the Congregation and the priestly zeal.

And of FR. GIUSEPPE BOVE

He was born in Nocera Inferiore (Salerno, Italy) on February 17, 1943. He was nearing the completion of his degree in Economics and was working in a social-educational work when he felt called to the religious and priestly life. He met our religious community in Naples and, after a few years, on November 6, 1971, he entered the Institute. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1972, in Zagarolo. He made his perpetual profession on December 7, 1977, in Morlupo, where he was ordained a priest on September 22, 1979.

In the early years of his ministry, he was involved in the education and formation of students and later called to oversee the house in Florence and then Padua. He was counselor and secretary of the Center-North Italy Delegation from 1988 until 1993. When the Circumscription was established as a Province, in January 1993, he was elected councilor and provincial secretary; three years later he was re-elected as councilor and, this time, provincial treasurer, until 1998. At the General Chapter of that year, he was elected General Treasurer, a mandate that was renewed at the General Chapter of 2004.

In the following years, he was engaged in the office of Treasurer in the Houses of Desenzano, San Cesareo, and Naples. Due to the worsening of an illness, given his already precarious health, he fell asleep in the Lord on November 9, 2021.

Fr. Giuseppe, always jovial and helpful, has left us an example of goodness, fraternity, industriousness, and generosity, in fidelity to the priesthood and religious life.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

November 11

Death Anniversary of FR. GERARDO ARGENTIERI

Fr. Gerardo Argentieri was born in Sant'Agata of Puglia (Foggia, Italy) on March 9, 1925, and entered our Congregation in Oria on October 16, 1937. On September 29, 1942, he entered the novitiate in Trani, where he made his first profession on March 30, 1944 and the perpetual profession on May 12, 1949. He completed his theological studies in Assisi, where on June 29, 1953, he was ordained to the priesthood.

In the first 25 years of his apostolate, he worked in several roles in formation, spiritual direction, education, economy, and administration, oftentimes also as Superior of the community, in the Houses of Desenzano, Messina, Trani, Padua, Grottaferrata, Oria and Francofonte.

In 1977, he was assigned to the House of Tarragona, Spain where he remained for the rest of his life, always dedicated to apostolate in the Shrine of our Lady of Loreto and at times also as Superior or Treasurer of the House.

In coherence with his choice of a life of consecration and attachment to the Congregation, Fr. Gerardo was always available to go where he was sent by obedience, and accomplished the assignments entrusted to him with great humanity and affability, in faithfulness to his religious duties and kindness towards the confreres and the persons whom he met in his apostolate.

He faced with serenity the last test of his sickness, surrounded by the affection of the confreres and of the faithful of the Shrine, comforted by the Sacraments and by the closeness of the Blessed Virgin, to whom he was particularly devout.

Because of an unexpected cardiovascular collapse, he returned to the House of the Father on November 11, 2005.

His remains were transferred to Italy and buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Padua.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 14

Death Anniversary of FR. JOÃO BATISTA SIMON

He was born in Jacinto Machado (SC) on June 24, 1966. He entered the Congregation in Criciúma (SC) on February 28, 1982. He entered the novitiate in Bauru (SP) on January 31, 1986, and made his first profession the following year. He made perpetual profession in São Paulo (SP) on December 16, 1993, and was ordained a priest in Jacinto Machado (SC) on May 6, 1995.

In 1995 and 1996 he was assistant parish priest of the parish of Nossa Senhora Aparecida in Curitiba (PR). From 1997 to 2001, he was formator at the Pius XII Rogationist Seminary in Criciúma (SC). From 2002 to 2011 he worked in Brasília (DF) in the Parish of the Most Holy Spirit, the first two years as assistant parish priest and eight years as parish priest. From 2012 to 2016 he worked in Criciúma (SC), in the parish of Our Lady of Grace, as assistant parish priest. In 2017 and 2018 he was in charge of the social work of St. Hannibal (OSSA) and at the same time assistant parish priest of Nossa Senhora Aparecida Parish in Curitiba (PR). In 2019 he was transferred to Gravataí (RS), where he held several positions: Superior of the Religious Community (2019-2021); Vicar of the Cristo Rei Parish (2019-2023); Treasurer (2022-2023); and Director of the Rogationist Association of Education and Social Assistance (AREE) (2019 to 2023).

After a short period of hospitalization, he returned to the House of the Father at the Pius XII Rogationist Seminary in Criciúma, SC, on November 14, 2023, where he died of a pulmonary embolism.

Fr. João Batista Simon was an example and witness of religious life, as well as a great promoter of vocations and a zealous pastoral worker. Our confrere leaves a beautiful legacy of dedication and generosity to the Rogate in the Province of St. Luke.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 16

Death Anniversary of BRO. LUIGI MARIA BARBANTI

Bro. Barbanti was born on May 10, 1885 in Militello Val di Catania in the District of Catania (Italy) and Diocese of Caltagirone.

He studied until fourth year high school as a boarder student at the Salesian Institute of Pedara with "an excellent scholastic and moral conduct" as his Rector attested on December 12, 1903. Then, he joined the Capuchins of Modica and entered their novitiate. But, as the Novice Master certified in March 1906, "he left our Order only because his health could not cope with the demands of our austere life." In spite of this, he was accepted in 1906 by the Father Founder in the Avignone Houses as an aspirant, and on April 21, 1907, he was given the religious habit, changing his baptismal name from Mariano into Luigi.

With much devotion, he performed various roles, mainly that of assisting the orphans. He did it with patient zeal for about 30 years in Messina, Francavilla Fontana, Oria and Trani. He had almost a motherly courtesy, care, and sensibility especially with the young.

In 1938, he was transferred to the Mother House in Messina and was assigned to the "Sala Obolo" of the Shrine of St. Anthony. His piety, amiability, and intelligence in dealing with people were a continuous edification for the faithful who were coming to the Shrine. He was very devoted to Our Blessed Mother whom he invoked with filial confidence, and to his Holy Protector whose virtues he imitated.

The Lord visited him with a sickness which lasted for 12 years. He accepted it with full conformity to the Divine Will, finding strength in a deeper prayer life and humbly thanking the confreres for all their attention for him. Even with his illness, he continued to follow with lively interest the expansion of the Congregation. He died on November 16, 1963, and his remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 19

Death Anniversary of FR. ORONZO PAOLO PUTIGNANO

Fr. Oronzo was born on April 29, 1916, in Ostuni (Brindisi, Italy). At the age of 13, he entered as aspirant in the House of Oria. On October 16, 1932, he started his novitiate in Trani where he made his first profession on April 18, 1934. He consecrated himself to the Lord with the perpetual profession also in Trani on March 11, 1940. His ordination to the priesthood was held in Oria on August 9, 1942.

His first years of apostolic activity, until 1948, were spent in working mainly as a teacher in the Mother House and in Christ the King Institute. In the subsequent years, up to 1956, he was assigned to the care of the orphans in Rome, except for two years of interval as Treasurer in Christ the King Institute. Then, he was transferred to Florence, then to Oria and Matera, always assigned to the formation of orphans, seminarians and teaching.

In 1963, he was assigned to the House for the mute and deaf. In 1981, he was transferred to Oria as Rector of the Shrine, and then for parish activities in San Demterio. Lastly, he was transferred to the Institute for the deaf and mute in Messina in 1986.

In his final years, the deterioration of his health became visible, but not so much to foresee his sudden death while he lovingly cared and assisted by the confreres and also being cautious himself.

He was hospitalized for an intestinal hemorrhage. As long as he was mentally aware, he kept close to the Lord by praying and associating his sufferings to the Eucharistic Sacrifice he celebrated. He serenely passed away on November 19, 1991.

We remember Fr. Oronzo for his joviality, simplicity, and for his commitment to work, availability in obedience, the zeal in teaching, and most of all for his love for the values of the religious life and priesthood.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 20

Death Anniversary of FR. GIOVE ROMUALDO

Born in Santeramo (Bari, Italy) on February 7, 1922, Romualdo entered the Congregation in Oria on October 19, 1935. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1940, in Trani, where he made his first profession on March 29, 1942. In Trani he also made his perpetual profession on September 29, 1947. He was ordained a priest in Assisi on July 8, 1951.

In the following years, he worked as an educator and formator of the orphans and seminarians, successively in the Houses of Trani, Oria, Padua, Florence, Naples, and Messina - Christ the King where, for some years, he was also the Superior of the House.

Later, he carried out mainly the role of spiritual father, sequentially, in the Houses of San Cesareo, Naples and Messina. He also collaborated in the service of the Shrine of St. Anthony in Messina, from 1998 to 2012, after which he transferred to the House of San Cesario due to his need of care and assistance.

He had just celebrated his 94th birthday when, after several days of serious general health deterioration, which he endured with great serenity, he fell asleep in the Lord on November 20, 2016, solemnity of Christ the King, on the closing day of the Jubilee of Mercy.

We recall the strong and jovial character of Fr. Romualdo, his availability and commitment to various tasks, his ability in listening and offering spiritual guidance, his piety, and his witness to religious and priestly life.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 22

Death Anniversary of BRO. STELLARIO SPADA

Bro. Stellario was born on July 9, 1905, in Sava, Italy, in district of Taranto and Diocese of Oria. He entered our seminary in Oria on March 30, 1917, overcoming the oppositions of his parents. From Oria, he transferred to Messina to continue his studies. There the Father Founder admitted him to receive the sacred habit on December 8, 1923, changing his baptismal name Antonio to Stellario, as his religious name.

He was musically talented. In fact, he was the first renown organist of the Shrine of St. Anthony. He studied college and the first years of Theology at the Archdiocesan Seminary of Messina where he so excelled in diligence and intelligence to earn a medal for "excellence in studies and good conduct" for the 3 consecutive years 1925-27. He eagerly pinned them on the statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

In the last years of life, his improvement in piety, obedience and humility was noticeable. He intended to prepare himself for the priesthood in this way. But after receiving the first two Minor Orders on December 8, 1927, he was stricken by sudden lung phthisis. There was nothing which proved effective to cure him, neither through medicines nor the changing of climate in Oria, where he died on November 22, 1928.

And of BRO. COSIMO GALETTA

Bro. Galetta was born on May 2, 1913, in Ceglie Messapica (Brindisi, Italy). He entered our House of Trani as aspirant to brotherhood in 1936, when he was 23. There, two years later, he was admitted to the novitiate. His first profession was the following year, on September 29, 1939, and three years later, he made his perpetual vows.

He remained in Trani until 1952, accomplishing his tasks as gardener and storeroom steward. Then, he was transferred to the House of Bari, which became his residence until the end of his life and where he carried out the roles of Treasurer and sacristan.

In 1966, he started several fund-raising initiatives for the construction of the parish church. With the same commitment, he promoted the worship in the Shrine of *Madonna della Grotta* to whom he had a great devotion. These two concerns accompanied him and kept him busy until the last days of his life.

In his final year, he was able to see the accomplishment of the renewal of the Shrine while the Alzheimer disease had already seized him and was rapidly consuming him.

Surrounded by the warm affection of the confreres, he passed away in the *Villa del Sole* Clinic, on November 22, 1997.

We treasure the remembrance and testimony of his simplicity, joviality, wisdom, hard work, solid piety, and filial attachment to the Congregation.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

November 24

Death Anniversary of BRO. FRANCESCO MARIA DRAGO

Bro. Francesco Maria Drago was born in Galati Mamertino (Messina, Italy) on March 6, 1882. He spent his youth in his native town living an innocent and Christian life, taking care of the flock, and working in the fields.

He came to know about our rising Congregation through Bro. Giuseppe Antonio Meli who happened to be passing by his town. Having applied, he was accepted as aspirant and entered the Avignone Houses on November 29, 1905.

The Father Founder admitted him together with others to wear the religious habit on April 21, 1907, changing his baptismal name Gaetano to Francesco Maria of the Child Jesus. He made his first profession on May 10, 1908.

His interior life was very intense. He was most exemplary for his piety and religious observance. There were great expectations about his future when the Lord visited him with an illness that was soon found out to be bone tuberculosis. The removal of the affected parts of bones and the treatments was of no use.

On November 24, 1908, he passed away to eternity leaving behind examples of exceptional virtues.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 25

Death Anniversary of FR. FILIPPO PUNTRELLO

Fr. Puntrello was born in Acquaviva Platani (Caltanissetta, Italy) on November 25, 1936. He entered the Congregation in Messina in 1948 and in 1953 he was admitted to the novitiate in Trani, which concluded with his first profession on September 30, 1954. He made his perpetual profession in Messina on September 29, 1959, and was ordained a priest on August 10, 1963.

The early years of his ministry were spent in the House of Desenzano, working in the field of formation and education. From 1966 to 1974, he was assigned as assistant parish priest in our parish in Rome and, from 1974 to 1983, as parish priest in our parish in Naples. In 1984, he was appointed Superior of the House of Padua. Three years later, in 1987, with Fr. Antonio Barbangelo, he began the presence of the Congregation in Aluva, India. He carried out his apostolate for 12 years, alternating his periods in India engaged in the formation, and in Italy, as a collaborator in the Shrine of Messina or, for some years in Grottaferrata as formator. In 1999, he was assigned to the House of Sanger in the U.S.A., where he remained until his last days, once more dedicated to the parish ministry and then, for six years, as Parish Priest and as Superior of the House.

In his final years, he suffered various health problems, which he often tried to conceal and which he always bore with strength and serenity, while being faithful to his pastoral duties until the end. Stricken by cardiovascular collapse due to leukemia, he was called by the Lord on November 25, 2012, on his 77th birthday and on the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Fr. Philip has left us an exemplary testimony of fidelity to the commitments of consecrated life and to pastoral service, of love for the Congregation, of industriousness and availability to religious obedience.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 28

Death Anniversary of BRO. VINCENZO ARPINO

Bro. Arpino, born in Minori (Salerno, Italy) on November 13, 1915, entered the Religious Life in 1947 at the age of 32 years old. Some years before, at the end of the military service in the Navy during the Second World War, he learned about our Congregation and was attracted by an invitation, which was attuned to his inner desire. He decided to leave everything and entered the House of Trani on February 19, 1947.

After the novitiate in Trani and the years of temporary profession, he consecrated himself to the Lord with the perpetual profession in 1955.

Very pious and hardworking, he served the Lord in our Congregation with enthusiasm in Messina (Shrine of St. Anthony and Christ the King), in Trani, in our Parish in Taranto, and in Messina (institute for the deaf and mute), where he stayed until 2005.

Among the tasks entrusted to him was his careful and creative service in the "Sala Obolo" at the Shrine of St. Anthony in Messina, where he welcomed people with great availability. He actively collaborated in the activities in the Parish in Taranto, and then, he also served in the chapel of the Institute of the deaf and mute in Messina.

In December 2005, due to the infirmities of his age and the precarious health conditions, he was transferred to the House of San Cesareo in Rome.

Until the last days of his life, he was serene and cordial. He was sustained by a deep honesty and faith, nourished by a simple, constant, and exemplary piety.

Towards the end of November 2006, a sudden illness due to internal hemorrhage compromised his fragile health and his heart collapsed

He died peacefully in the Lord on November 28, at the age of 91.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

November 30

Death Anniversary of FR. GIUSEPPE MARRAZZO

A column of "L'Osservatore Romano" on March 13, 1993, remembered Fr. Giuseppe Marrazzo with this title: "The humble heart of an untiring apostle of reconciliation." His life, in fact, was spent in the confession box of the Temple of the Evangelical Rogation at St. Anthony's Shrine in Messina, near the tomb of the Blessed Father Founder. Fr. Marrazzo's ministry lasted almost 50 years. It started back on May 9, 1943, when His Excellency Bishop Angelo Paino consecrated him as a priest in Barcellona, a town 40 kilometers from Messina which was at that time continuously martyred by the bombs.

Fr. Marrazzo was born on May 3, 1917, in San Vito dei Normanni (Brindisi, Italy). He entered the scuola apostolica (minor seminary) in Oria on October 20, 1930, welcomed by Fr. Pantaleone Palma. On September 29, 1934, he was admitted to the novitiate in Trani where he had Fr. Domenico Serafino Santoro as Novice Master. There he consecrated himself to the Lord on March 29, 1936. He transferred to Messina for his theological studies, and he made his perpetual profession on September 24, 1940, there. After his ordination, he envisioned that his mission would consist of distributing the Lord's mercy in silence, humility, and acceptance. In Messina, he was the Chaplain of the Daughters of Mary, of the Anthonian Pageboys and of the Zelatrixes of the Rogate. For almost 20 years, he was also the spiritual father of the House of Religious Students of Philosophy located in the Mother House.

He nurtured and spread to all a tender and filial Marian devotion which brought him every year to Lourdes where he again carried out his ministry as confessor. All throughout the trip on board the train and in the days of his stay in the Shrine of Lourdes, he made himself available to all, never showing any sign of tiredness.

On Sundays, he was often seen going out of the Institute with his "inseparable guitar". He went to a hospital to pay a visit to the sick, or to a home for the aged to cheer up the elderly through his playing of the guitar, singing, distributing sweets and candy bars, to give them much serenity. He left this earth silently in the early hours of November 30, 1992. During his funeral, on December 1, the Shrine of

St. Anthony was incredibly jam-packed, and the people overflowed also in the nearby streets. The Mass was presided by the Archbishop of Messina, His Excellency Bishop Ignazio Cannavò and was concelebrated by several diocesan and religious priests.

The exemplary virtues of Fr. Marrazzo were the topic of the Bishop's homily who said, "In his life, we find some constant aspects: simplicity, humility and meekness. He has fulfilled his vocation with meekness, in silence and humility and has been a visible sign of the heavenly Father's love by administering his mercy and reconciling the souls with God."

Numerous faithfuls attended the burial of his remains rest in our chapel at the Camposanto Grande in Messina.

(Note: The process of his canonization has been opened. On Nov. 8, 2023, Pope Francis authorized the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints to sign the Decree of Venerability. His remains have been transferred and now rests at the Shrine of St. Anthony in Messina for public veneration).

And of Fr. RODOLFO PATIAG Jr.

He was born on November 15, 1968, in Gapan, Nueva Ecija (Philippines). He entered the Congregation in Manila on June 5 1986. He entered the novitiate in Silang on June 1, 1988. He made his first profession in Manila on June 1, 1989, and his final profession in the same place on June 1, 1995. He was ordained a priest in Manila on January 11, 1997.

In the first year of his ministry, he was assigned to Cebu as Spiritual Father and in charge of the Benefactors' Office. From 1999 to 2001, he was assigned to the Rogate Center in Rome where he received his specialization in Spiritual Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University.

Upon his return to the Philippines, he was assigned to Silang as Vice-Master and Spiritual Father for one year, and then in 2004, he was transferred to Manila, via Calcutta, as Formator of the Senior Seminary (for adult vocations), Treasurer, and then also Vice Superior of the Rogate Center and Spiritual Father of the Study Center. From 2009 to 2018 he was Superior and Formator of the Center of Studies. Then he was transferred to Silang as Vice Superior and Treasurer.

His ministry has been almost entirely in formation and spiritual direction, and at the same time, because of his experience, he has been called since 2005 to serve in various commissions in the areas of vocation promotion, initial formation, religious life, and ongoing formation.

He had health problems due to diabetes, but he took care of himself. However, this was not enough because, on the morning of November 30, 2022, he fell asleep in the Lord after a cardiac arrest.

Rodolfo left a great void in the Province of St. Matthew. He was a witness of human and religious virtues; he generously offered his religious and priestly life at the service of the Congregation and the Church.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

December 2

Death Anniversary of NOV. SERGIO BEHENCK EVALDT

Novice Sergio was born on September 25, 1973, in Torres, Rio Grande del Sur, Brazil on February 15, 1988. When he was 14 and willingness to consecrate himself to the Lord, he entered our Pius XII Seminary in Criciúma where he attended college.

He was part of the first group of 12 youth to enter of the Propaedeutic Stage (a year prior to the philosophical course) that was newly instituted in Bauru in 1992. On January 31, 1993, he entered the novitiate in Curitiba. He showed a great spirit of fraternity and zeal. He worked with commitment in catechizing a group of young people preparing for Confirmation and in the parish bible group. In the meantime, the journey of his spiritual life was progressing daily.

In the activities he accomplished, he demonstrated intelligence, availability, and wisdom, overcoming some health problems, among them, a controlled epilepsy. He always gave testimony to his willingness to be a religious and often talked with the confreres of his plan of being missionary ad gentes in one of our missions. However, the Lord's plans were different. A day of fraternity on the beach of Matinhos was scheduled as a closing activity towards the end of the novitiate year. On December 2, 1993, while swimming, Sergio had an epileptic attack and drowned when the attempts of the confreres to help him failed. On January 31, 1994, during the first profession, the presence of Sergio was alive in the mind of all the people attending the event. While preparing for profession, he wrote to one of the sisters that, like the apostle Paul, he was ready to place himself in the hands of the Lord who chooses what is little, unworthy, and contemptible to confound what is considered to be important. In his application for religious profession, he wrote that he desired to be consecrated to the Lord for the good of Him who calls, of those who are waiting for the call and of those who are ever more in need of new chosen ones.

His remains were buried in the chapel of the Congregation in the Cemetery of Criciúma, with the consent of his family and because of the desire of all who knew him and admired his exemplary Rogationist spirit.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

December 3

Death Anniversary of BRO. MAURO DRAGO

Bro. Mauro was born on August 31, 1897, in Galati Mamertino (Messina, Italy). When he was 12, following the examples of his brothers and cousins, he entered the Avignone Houses in Messina to consecrate himself to the Lord. On April 28, 1912, the Father Founder admitted him to receive the religious habit.

He loved very much to work, and any sacrifice connected with it. He never wasted his time. Besides his work in the printing press, he did his best in any other work needed by the community.

He loved prayer. For his Hour of Adoration to Heart of Jesus, he chose the time after the night prayers so that he could converse better with the Lord. He was highly esteemed by all for his virtues, especially for his obedience and spirit of sacrifice.

He got a serious form of hemoptysis, and his Superiors, following the therapy suggested at that time, sent him to his hometown to rest and enjoy the native air. There he died on December 3, 1916. He was just 19 years old.

And of BRO. MARIANO DRAGO

Bro. Mariano was born on December 4, 1890, in Galati Mamertino (Messina, Italy). In 1907, he was 17 years old when he followed his brother Gaetano, who had assumed the religious name of Bro. Francesco, to the Avignone Houses so as to serve the Lord like him. On December 8, 1908, feast of the Immaculate Conception, the Father Founder admitted him to receive the Rogationist habit.

He was renowned for his great devotion to Our Lady and a particular filial affection and admiration for the Father Founder from whom he obtained and wrote down many personal details about the beginnings of our Institutions.

He was a very active laborer and an untiring collaborator of Bro. Mauro Drago in the printing press, even to the point of sacrificing part of their rest at night for that purpose. Thanks to their work, it was possible to have printed the "Great Manual of Prayers" which, until then, was just transcribed into handwritten form. Then, they printed a book collecting the usual songs sung in our Institutes, and finally, a thick book of the collection of Father Founder's poems found at that time.

He became blind during the military. Later he also had recurrent attacks of epilepsy making him a true victim before the Lord. But he was able to accept the cross with patience and serenity.

He died in Messina, during the novena to the feast of the Immaculate Conception, on December 3, 1927.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

December 6

Death Anniversary of BRO. NICOLA MICHELINO LAPELOSA

Bro. Lapelosa was born in Irsina, (Matera, Italy) on September 8, 1898. He entered the House of Gravina in Puglia, accompanied by the Father Founder, on November 1, 1913, which was the very day of the opening of the House. On March 19, 1914, he moved to the House of Oria where he received the religious habit on September 8, 1914, feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, changing his baptismal name Nicola to the religious name of Bro. Michele of the Most Blessed Child Mary. He was commonly called "Michelino" (= small Michele), because of his stature. In Oria, he also made his first religious profession on May 14, 1916, and his perpetual vows on May 10, 1928.

Bro. Michelino was filially devoted to the Child Mary because of the many anniversaries of his life that take place on September 8 and following the example of the Father Founder. In Oria, every September 8, during the procession of the Blessed Child Mary's image within the House, to address the short exhortation for that occasion was his longed-for privilege. Every year, he was also committed and creative in making the Nativity scene for Christmas.

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He was called to the army during the First World War. Then, from Oria, he moved to Messina to assist the Father Founder during his last sickness, in the summer residence of Fiumara Guardia. He provided precious testimonies for the Informative Process of the Cause of Beatification of the Founder. Since he was transferred to the Mother House of Messina, where he remained until his death, the name, person, and activities of Bro. Michelino were linked with the Shrine of St. Anthony. He was the untiring collaborator of the sacristan Bro. Raffaele Quinto. He assiduously and faithfully took care of the "St. Anthony Collection Boxes", which he distributed among benefactors of the towns and villages surrounding Messina.

He was always gentle, simple, ready to serve, available, an untiring laborer, serene, smiling, and faithful to the practices of piety. For these qualities, he constantly made a very good impression on the people who approached him in the Shrine or in the "Sala Obolo". No wonder then, on the day of his funeral, the Shrine was crowded with faithful people who highly esteemed him.

In the last years of his life, the Lord wanted to purify him with a long illness. The spirit of faith sustaining him in his sufferings could evidently be seen in the way he answered some confreres visiting him and who asked about his health. He would say, "I am with Jesus on the Cross."

From the Mother House, he joined the Father Founder in heaven, at whose death on June 1, 1927, Bro. Lapelosa was present. He died on December 6, 1979, at the age of 81, the day before the eve of the feast of the Immaculate Virgin and feast of his heavenly Patron, St. Nicholas of Myra. He was buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

December 8

Death Anniversary of FR. FRANCESCO BONAVENTURA VITALE

Fr. Francesco Vitale was born in Messina, Italy on December 1, 1866. Living with his family, he studied very proficiently to become a professional. In the scholastic environment, he was able to preserve the purity of his Christian life.

He took the clerical habit on December 24, 1885, and attended his ecclesiastical studies as an extern seminarian. At that time, he had his first contact with the Father Founder who invited him to the Avignone Houses.

He was ordained priest on December 20, 1890. He began a life of ardent apostolate in Messina and surrounding areas, as Rector of several churches, as a zealous and popular preacher, as a director and promoter of various activities of apostolate for the youth. Archbishop Cardinal Guarino appointed him spiritual father, professor of languages and civil and ecclesiastical history in the seminary, and Canon of the Metropolitan Cathedral in Messina. Meanwhile, the encounters with the Father Founder at the Avignone Houses became more and more frequent. Finally, on May 1, 1909, feast of St. Joseph, he entered the rising Congregation, receiving the name Bonaventura from the Founder.

He directed the first seminary in Oria. He made all the possible efforts for the juridical establishment and canonical recognition of the two Congregations of the Rogationists and of the Daughters of Divine Zeal, which was granted on August 6, 1926. In 1928, the first Rogationist novitiate was established in Oria. Fr. Vitale was the one who wrote the Constitutions for the two Congregations.

After the death of the Founder, he was the first successor in governing the Congregation. His main concern was fidelity to the spirit of the Founder. He wrote the first biography of Fr. Hannibal and, next to the St. Anthony Shrine in Messina, he built the actual Mother House that replaced the Avignone Houses.

On April 21, 1945, he started the Diocesan Informative Process for the Cause of Beatification of the Founder. In May, he opened a House in Rome at Santa Caterina della Rota. In Rome, he also bought the land

for the actual Rogationist Curia. He spent his last years in the House of Christ the King in Messina, offering to the Lord the suffering of his sickness.

He died on the night of December 8, 1950. His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

He was a man of filial fidelity to the directives of the Founder, profound interior life and union with God, continuous prayer, great humility and mortification.

And of FR. MARIO LONGHI

Fr. Longhi was born in Lucera (Foggia, Italy) on June 2, 1921. He entered the Congregation on September 10, 1935, in Messina. Four years later, he entered the novitiate in Trani and concluded it with the first profession on Sept. 29, 1941. He made his perpetual profession in Rome, on April 23, 1947, and was ordained a priest in Assisi on June 29, 1950.

He carried out his ministry in many Houses of the Congregation: Messina, Oria, Naples, Bari, Urbania, Trani, San Demetrio, Rome, and Assisi. He lived in Assisi in the last 20 years of his life. He was engaged at times in education, or in pastoral activities, and at other times in the office of Treasurer.

He had turned 90 years old yet continued to be always dedicated to with small tasks in the community, with his usual diligence, good humor, and willingness, when, in November 2011, he had a sudden deterioration of general health conditions and was transferred to the house of San Cesareo in order to be better attended to. He peacefully endured the sufferings that befell him and fell asleep in the Lord on December 8, 2011, solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. He was buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Assisi.

Father Mario has left us a clear example of human virtues and attitude of hard work, of attachment to the Congregation and fidelity to religious life.

And of FR. LUIGI LA MARCA

He was born in Canicattì (Agrigento - Italy) on November 30, 1932. He entered the Congregation, at Messina Cristo Re, on October 10, 1946. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1951, in Trani. He made perpetual profession on March 19, 1958, in Rome, where he was ordained a priest on July 9, 1961.

In the early years of his ministry he was engaged in the education and formation of seminarians and students, in Messina, then in the oratory in Urbania, where he also held the office of superior, and then in Padua, with the position of teacher.

From 1969 until the last period of his life he worked in parish ministry, in some cases also as Superior of the Community, then in Padua, in Naples, in Palermo, in Messina, as rector of the Shrine, in Bordonaro, in Oria, again as rector of the Shrine, and finally, since 2017, once again in Messina.

In the latter location, as long as his health allowed, he was always available to collaborate in the service of the Basilica-Shrine.

He returned to the Father's House, on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, on December 8, 2021.

P. Louis was a man of a good and jovial spirit, helpful, dynamic, creative and tenacious in facing difficulties, habitually serene, even in the last year of his life, marked by a painful illness, always faithful to the priesthood and religious life.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

December 14

Death Anniversary of FR. CARMELO DRAGO

Fr. Carmelo Drago was born on December 24, 1892, in Galati Mamertino (Messina, Italy) and was baptized on the 27th of the same month, given the name Calogero.

Like some of his brothers and cousins, he also willed to consecrate himself to God in the service of the orphans in our Institute. He entered the Avignone Houses on April 2, 1908. He was accepted by the Father Founder who, after testing him for some months, admitted him to the novitiate, changing his name into Bro. Carmelo of Mary Immaculate. During the December 28, 1908, earthquake which destroyed Messina, he was unhurt together with the members of the male Community.

After his first profession on April 24, 1910, he was transferred to the new House in Oria. He was there for many years, except for the military service during period of war in 1915-1918 War. With great generosity and self-denial, he helped his Superiors for the good management of that House. Oftentimes, because of the situation, he had to shoulder all the responsibilities. He made his perpetual profession on April 22, 1923.

Lovingly compelled by the Father Founder to study for the priesthood, he did his best, with great sacrifices, together with his confreres, Luca Appi, Rendento Levi and Camillo Ruggeri. With them, he was ordained priest on July 20, 1930, in Oria by its Bishop Msgr. Antonio Di Tommaso.

During the government of Fr. Vitale, from 1932 until the first General Chapter in August 1945, he was a General Councilor of the Congregation. From the autumn of 1933 until the 1945 General Chapter, he was also Rector of Christ the King in Messina.

After the 1945 Chapter, he was put in charge of the construction of the Orphanage in Rome, which he did with his usual great spirit of sacrifice. In Messina, from 1947 to 1950, he was Superior of the Mother House and, from 1951 to 1956, the first Superior of the Institute for the Deaf and Mute. He was again elected General Councilor during the government of Fr. Appi until the 1962 General Chapter, when he was elected Superior General up to 1968.

On November 17, 1957, with a decree from the Sacred Congregation for Religious, he was appointed as Assistant of the Daughters of Divine Zeal whom he supervised with much interest until the closing of their special General Chapter on May 31, 1969. For this reason, since then, he has always resided in

our General Curia in Rome, attending to the apostolate of Confessions in our Parish Church. He was acquainted to the greatest sacrifices. In both his local and general government, he was quite demanding that the confreres assisting orphans and persons with disability would really offer them a continuous and diligent assistance. The predilection for the orphans was the characteristic of Fr. Carmelo.

During his government, he did not forget the propaganda of the "Rogate". In fact, he had the pamphlet "Mitte Domine Operarios" printed in several languages and in full colors, distributed to the Bishops gathered in Rome for the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. He was very attached to the Father Founder and longed for his glorification. Tirelessly, he related episodes regarding the Founder and wrote several of them which, as of now, are available only in a typewritten form. He followed with great interest the development of the Congregation, which he had seen newly born in the misery of the Avignone Houses and in the wreckage of the earthquake. What a joy could be seen in his eyes during the memorable audience granted by the Holy Father John Paul II, on April 23, 1983, to the big Rogationist Family, on the occasion of the first centenary of the charitable institutions of the Father Founder, for which he had spent all his life.

Since that day, his already fading strengths have weakened all the more. In the last weeks of his life, though most punctual as usual in the community activities, he could be seen arriving in all bent on one side and walking unsteadily: the ancient oak was about to fall.

In those conditions, and refusing any help, as usual, he celebrated his last Mass on December 11. The following day, he remained in bed and there he received devotedly the Holy Communion. Following the indications of the doctor who attended to his health over the years (whose prescriptions Fr. Carmelo obediently followed), he was brought to the Regina Apostolorum Hospital in Albano Laziale (Rome) on Tuesday, December 13, for a treatment apt to his condition. There he was given the Holy Communion which he had not yet received on that day: it was his 'Viaticum'.

The following day, Wednesday, his blood pressure suddenly went down. Any assistance of the doctors was in vain. At about 7:15, he passed away serenely in the peace of the Lord. It was December 14, 1984.

The funeral was celebrated in our St. Anthony Parish in Piazza Asti in Rome and his remains were buried in our chapel in the Verano Cemetery.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

December 16

Death Anniversary of FR. ORAZIO DI FINI

Fr. Di Fini was born in Cesaro' (Messina, Italy) on January 24, 1915. He entered the Seminary of Messina on October 19, 1931. On September 29, 1935, he entered the novitiate in Trani and there he made his first religious profession on March 30, 1937. He pronounced his perpetual vows in Oria on September 5, 1942.

After attending his theological studies in Messina during the troubled time of the Second World War, he was ordained priest in Patti (Messina) on October 27, 1946.

As a new priest, he established in Messina a "Boys' Village" in the actual place of the Christ the King Institute, where he worked as prefect until 1952. Then, he was assigned as assistant and in parish activities in several Houses.

In 1967, he was assigned to the Mother House in Messina as collaborator in the adjacent Shrine of St. Anthony. With assiduous zeal, though almost blind because of his advanced diabetes, he continued to be available, even only for the ministry of holy Confessions.

His sickness became worse until it was necessary to amputate one of his legs. Even this, however, could not prolong his life. He died due to complications of bronchitis and pleurisy. According to the testimony of the confreres who assisted him, the last five months of his life were for him a true Calvary "of most intense, and sometimes atrocious sufferings". This manifested his spiritual richness and emphasized his characteristic filial abandonment in the hands of God, his heartfelt devotion to Our Lady and to her Rosary, and his willing participation to the Cross of Christ with the specific intention of obtaining from the Heart of Jesus numerous and holy vocations. While still in full possession of his faculties up to the end, he passed away to eternal rest in the Lord on December 16, 1981.

His remains were buried in our chapel in the Cemetery of Messina.

And of FR. VINCENZO VOLLERO

Fr. Vollero was born in Naples, Italy on July 26, 1938, and he entered the Congregation in Naples on October 12, 1949. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1954, in Trani, where on the following year he made his first profession. His perpetual profession was done in Oria on September 25, 1960. He was ordained a priest in Trani on August 1, 1964.

In the following two years, he held the offices of Treasurer and vocational promoter in the House of Padua. Then, he went to the House of Naples, where he was assigned for the first two years to the formation of the seminarians, and later on, to the parish pastoral activities. There he remained until the end of his earthly life, except for two short stays in Grottaferrata in 2001, and in Trani in 2002.

He spent his time accompanying parish groups, in administering the sacrament of penance, in teaching religion and assisting the sick. Afflicted by diabetes, he too had to fight, and in the last period, he continued to perform his ministry even on a wheelchair.

Even in this uneasy situation, he never missed his good sense of humor, the value of friendship and acceptance, the human virtues that found support in his fidelity to his priestly and religious consecration.

Unexpectedly, he concluded his earthly existence because of a sudden heart attack on the evening of December 16, 2016.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

December 26

Death Anniversary of FR. LUCA GAGLIARDI

Fr. Luca was born in Toritto (Bari, Italy) on June 3, 1937. He entered the Congregation in Oria on October 13, 1949. He was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1953, in Trani, where the following year he made his first profession. He made his perpetual profession on September 27, 1959, in Oria, where he was ordained a priest on July 28, 1963.

The first years of his apostolate were carried out in Bari and in Subiaco with administrative economic tasks. In 1970, after a brief experience in foundation of the House in Spain, he was assigned to Desenzano as Superior of the House. In the second part of the 70s, he worked in the field of formation in Messina, and then in Palermo. Immediately afterwards, he was given charge of the direction of printing press in Morlupo, and then in Messina. From 1984, he was the Treasurer in Palermo, and after a few years, also in Grottaferrata.

From 1992, he had been called to the General Curia as a collaborator of the General Treasurer, a position he held until 1999 when he was elected Provincial Treasurer and moved to Padua. There he also held the office of Superior of the House for some years, and later for various periods, until 2017, the office of vice Superior and Treasurer.

Although engaged in economic and administrative tasks, Fr. Luca also carried out in the same period the tasks of spiritual father and vice Novice Master.

The Lord unexpectedly called our confrere to himself on December 26, 2017.

He has left us a testimony of righteousness and wisdom, of availability to the Will of the Lord manifested in religious obedience, of fidelity to the life of consecration and to the priestly mission.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

December 27

Death Anniversary of BRO. SEVERINO FERRERI

Bro. Ferreri was born in Chiaromonte (Potenza, Italy) on June 15, 1907. He had desired to enter our Congregation since his youth, but because of the death of his father, he had to support his mother and sisters through his job.

As a lay man in his parish community, he was very active and especially committed to social and charitable works. He was already a Rogationist in his spirit because he was guiding plenty of young men to priestly and religious life, especially to our Congregation.

When he entered the house of Trani on September 18, 1951, he was welcomed by the group of young men he had conducted to enter there. He immediately became an example of industriousness and religious virtues for all of them.

He entered the novitiate on March 19, 1952. He made his first profession on September 30, 1953, and three years after, he professed his perpetual vows. He was given different assignments in Trani, Bari, San Demetrio, Grottaferrata, and Zagarolo.

Since his first years of religious life, Bro. Severino strengthened the virtues that were already rooted in him, such as piety, attachment to hard work, capacity to sacrifice himself for others, patience, and meekness. Though very demanding on himself, he was always sensitive and warm with confreres, respectful of Superiors, kind and available with the seminarians.

In 1981, in Zagarolo, he was tested by the cross of illness which he bore for some years with serenity and strength, surrounded by the esteem and affection of the confreres.

He was 81 years old when, on December 27, 1988, comforted by the Sacraments and assisted by the confreres, he passed away in the Lord in the Regina Apostolorum Hospital in Albano Laziale where he had been brought few days before due to heart and blood circulation problems. He was buried in our chapel in the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

December 29

Death Anniversary of FR. PLACIDO CAMILLO RUGGERI

Fr. Ruggeri was born in San Pier Niceto (Messina, Italy) on March 14, 1903. He entered the Congregation on January 4, 1916, in the House of Oria where he was soon given the religious habit and took the religious name of Camillo. He made his first profession on May 10 of the following year.

He did his military service during the World War I. Back to Oria, he made his perpetual profession on May 10, 1928, completed his studies and was ordained priest on July 20, 1930, by Msgr. Antonio Di Tomaso. Because of his particular talent in preaching, he was requested by so many people for triduum, novenas, religious instructions, conferences, speeches for special occasions and retreats.

During the World War II, he exerted every effort with devotion and sacrifice so that nothing might be lacking for the communities of the Rogationist and of the Daughters of Divine Zeal.

He carried out many times the roles of Superior, Treasurer, vice Superior, counselor in the institute of the deaf and mute in Assisi, in the "Shelter for Minors" in Padua, Desenzano del Garda, Padua Arcella and Oria.

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He attended several General Chapters, and in 1962, he was elected General Councilor and Procurator and resided in our General Curia. Then, he was spiritual director, formator and confessor of our religious and other communities, Diocesan ecclesiastical assistant of the Catholic Action Women Association in Trani, Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Trani and of the Shrine of St. Anthony in Oria.

In his last years, he was spiritual father and house councilor of the the House of Religious Students of Philosophy in Morlupo, but because of his poor health, he had to retire at the General House. Struck by heart attack, he was rushed to St. John Hospital, where he died on the same day, on December 29, 1979. He was buried in our chapel in the Verano Cemetery in Rome.

Fr. Ruggeri is to be particularly remembered for his life of work and sacrifices in the initial difficult years of the foundation of the House in Oria, for his love for the Father Founder and the Congregation, and diligence in the offices entrusted to him.

Let us remember him in our prayers.

December 30

Death Anniversary of FR. GIOVANNI CARBOTTI

Fr. Carbotti was born in San Vito dei Normanni (Brindisi, Italy) on November 14, 1914. He entered the Congregation on October 23, 1926, in Oria where he was admitted to the novitiate on December 8, 1930 and made the first profession on December 9, 1931. He attended his theological studies in Messina, where he had the perpetual profession on September 22, 1937, and was ordained priest on July 30, 1939. In the first years of his apostolate, he was assigned in Messina, and then, to Trani as an educator and a teacher.

During the 1945 Chapter, he was elected as General Treasurer, a task he carried out until 1962. From 1956, he served as a General Councilor. In the following years, he was Superior in the different Communities: in Desenzano up to 1966, in Padua (Shelter for Minors) up to 1971, in Trani the year after, and in Palermo from 1972 to 1975. After that, he was assigned as formator and vocation promoter for nine years in Palermo. In 1984, he transferred to the Rogate Vocational Center in Rome, where he expressed his skills as a journalist. There, he grew sensitive to the problems related to vocation ministry. He was always available to collaborate in the parish, particularly in the hearing Confessions. He carried out these tasks even when his blindness was gradually affecting his activities.

He nourished a particular affection for the Founder and the Congregation. While remaining faithful to the duties of religious life and keeping the priestly virtues in the last period of his life, his serene acceptance of his blindness and the infirmities of the old age prepared him to meet the Lord on December 30, 2005, in the House of San Cesareo, where he was transferred in order to be better attended to.

And of BRO. RUGGIERO MARIA DICUONZO

He was born in Barletta (Bari, Italy) on March 4, 1937. He entered the Congregation on September 25, 1950, in Oria and was admitted to the novitiate on September 29, 1955 in Trani where he made his first profession on March 30 1957. His perpetual profession was done in Florence on September 29, 1962.

He worked in the assistance and education of orphans, from 1959 to 1974, in successive periods in the Houses of Trani, Rome, Florence, Matera, Padova, Desenzano and Messina. During the course of the next five years, feeling attracted to priesthood, he resumed the classical studies and philosophy in Morlupo, but in 1979 he gave up this intention, and was assigned to the General Curia in Rome as a collaborator of the General Secretary, in the care of the Archives. He distinguished himself in this position because of his precision and sense of order. In 1993, he returned to his Italian Central-Southern Province and was assigned to the House of Matera and then, from 2008, in Trani, always with the task of collaborator in the Anthonian Propaganda Office (= Anthonian Benefactors Office).

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In his last years, he wrote several booklets of simple biographical sketches on some holy priests from his native place.

Bro. Ruggiero did not have a florid health, but no signs indicated what brought him suddenly to death on December 30, 2014, due to cardiovascular stroke, while in a short visit in the house of his family, in Barletta. His remains were buried in the chapel of the Congregation in the cemetery of Trani.

Bro. Ruggiero was a pious and hardworking religious, with a strong sense of belonging to the Congregation and faithful to his life of consecration.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES @ 20250402

JANUARY- 1 Fr. Omobono Bianca, Fr. Vincent Anuforo; 2 Fr. Salvatore Sottile; 3 Fr. Salvatore Labarbuta; 8 Fr. Pasquale Donvito; 11 Fr. Antonio Ricciardi, Fr. Pietro Chillemi; 15 Fr. Giuseppe Leo; 18 Nov. Didio Servidio; 19 Fr. Vincenzo Santarella, Fr. Francesco Cifarelli; 24 Fr. Mario Gallucci; 25 Fr. Giacomo Alberto Rossini; 27 Fr. Umberto Mario Bellini; 28 Dcn. Vito Cosimo Donvito, Fr. Ernesto Butano; 29 Fr. Maria Germinario; 31 Nov. Marcelo F. Alves Da Costa, Fr. Reginaldo Ferreira.

FEBRUARY – 4 Fr. Ciro Quaranta; 6 Fr. Antonio Coluccia; 8. Fr. Carmelo Ippolito; 9 Fr. Francesco Tarantini, Fr. Antonio Armone; 11 Fr. Sabino Cafagna; 13 Fr. Egidio La Fauci, Bro. Giuseppe Balice; 14 Fr. Fernando Menegolli, Bro. Ajin George Moolakunnel; 16 Fr. Francesco Bonarrigo, Fr. Ciro Gentile, Fr. Rocco Musarra, Fr. Arturo Mele; 21 Bro. Concetto Drago, Fr. Alberto Oselin; 22 Bro. Francesco Cosimo Camarca; 26 Bro. Placido Romeo, Fr. Nicola Liardi, Fr. Jacinto Pizzeti; 28 Fr. Corrado Guccione.

MARCH – 1 Bro. Arcangelo Casamassima; 6 Fr. Giovanni Cecca; 10 Fr. Diego Buscio; 11 Fr. Venuste Sibomana; 22 Fr. Gioacchino Cipollina; 24 Bro. Mansueto Drago, Bro. Gregoire Hyacinthe Eteme Tsala; 26 Bro. Vincenzo Esposito; 27 Fr. Antonio Bizzarro; 29 Fr. Gaetano Curella; 30 Fr. Luigi Alessandrà; 31 Fr. Paolo Petruzzellis.

APRIL – 4 Fr. Antonio Magazzu; 5 Bro. Francesco Chirico; 7 Bro. Raffaele Quinto; 8. Fr. Bernard Dourwe; 9 Bro. Giuseppe Bongiovanni, Fr. Raffaele Sacco; 13 Fr. Pietro Cifuni; 14 Fr. Filippo Donvito; 22 Bro. Nunzio Artino; 29 Fr. Gaspare Gallitto.

MAY - 1 Fr. Celestino Ventrella; 6 Fr. Gerardo Onorato, Bro. Salvatore Buscaglia; 15 Fr. Domenico Santoro, Bro. Concetto Ruta; 17 Dcn. Joseph Lyons; 21 Fr. Antonio Barbangelo, Fr. Cesare Bettoni; 23 Bro. Angelo Pisano; 24 Bro. Giuseppe Antonio Meli; 29 Fr. Francesco Pisciuzzi; 30 Bro. Sante Casiello. 205

JUNE – 3 Fr. Nicola Corraro; 5 Fr. Giovangelista Tursi, Fr. Antonio Prencipe; 6 Fr. Enrique Ravezza III; 7 Fr. Antonio Rosario Scazz, Fr. Sergio Binii; 8 Nov. Jaime Alonso Moncada Gomez; 21 Fr. Antonio Rendina, Fr. Francesco Campanale; 22 Fr. Mario Di Pasquale; 23 Fr. Giuseppe Lagati; 30 Fr. Giuseppe Sergio.

JULY - 5 Fr. Felice Giannelli, Fr. Rodolfo D'Agostino; 9 Bro. Gaetano Tria; 12 Fr. Santino Bontempo; 13 Fr. Gioacchino Damato, Fr. Louis Buhuru; 14 Fr. Giuseppe Borraccino, Fr. Pietro Di Tursi, Fr. Luigi Lazzari; 16 Fr. Guido Vivona; 19 Bro. Luigi Sguera; 24 Fr. Giuseppe Aveni; 26 Fr. Gaetano Ciranni; 28 Fr. Antonio Indelicato, Bro. Antonino Adamo; 31 Fr. Giovanni Prudentino, Fr. Osni Mariano Zanatta.

AUGUST - 5 Bro. Salvatore Federico; 8 Fr. Vincenzo Dabrescia; 10 Bro. Giuseppe Clemente, Fr. Giuseppe Cassone; 14 Fr. José Jonas Da Silva; 15 Bro. Francesco Percoco; 17 Fr. Mario Labarbuta, Fr. Michele Ferrara; 20 Bro. Cosimo Erculeo, Bro. Gennaro Sfregola, Fr. Euprepio Gennaro; 21 Fr. Carmelo La Marca; 23 Fr. Giuseppe Bonafede, Fr. Luigi Toffanin, Bro. Ruben Dario Arango Nican; 25 Fr. Massimiliano Nobile; 26 Fr. Pietro Campanale; 31 Fr. Teodoro Tusino, Fr. Giuseppe Pitrone.

SEPTEMBER - 1 Bro. Marianantonio Scolaro; 2 Fr. Pantaleone Palma; 4 Fr. Domenico Malgieri; 6 Fr. Michele Amato; 7 Fr. Pietro Cellura, Fr. Antonio Patavino; 8 Fr. Paolo; Tangorra; 11 Fr. Tommaso Ciniero; 24 Fr. Giuseppe Vilardi, Fr. Salvatore Ciranni; 27 Fr. Antonio Tisci.

OCTOBER - 7 Fr. Michele Lamacchia, Bro. Herman Suryanto Yoseni; 12 Fr. Liborio Prudentino; 16 Fr. Michele Ferlisi; 17 Fr. Michele Lomuscio; 18 Bro. Bartolomeo Di Fonzo; 22 Dcn. Antonio Carlucci; 25 Fr. Luigi Luca Appi; 28 Bro. Domenico Filograsso.

NOVEMBER - 1 Fr. Andrea Stella; 2 Bro. Antonino Bontempo; 4 Fr. Redento Levi; 7 Fr. Roy Moothedath, Fr. Vito Giorgio; 9 Fr. Vito Girasoli, Fr. Giuseppe Bove; 11 Fr. Gerardo Argentieri; 14 Fr. Joao Batista Simon; 16 Fr. Luigi Barbanti; 19 Fr. Oronzo Putignano; 20 Fr. Romualdo Giove; 22 Bro. Stellario Spada, Bro. Cosimo Galetta; 24 Bro. Francesco Maria Drago; 25 Fr. Filippo Puntrello; 28 Bro. Vincenzo Arpino; 30 Fr. Giuseppe Marrazzo, Fr. Rodolfo Patiag Jr..

DECEMBER - 2 Nov. Sergio Behenck Evaldt; 3 Bro. Mauro Drago, Bro. Mariano Drago; 6 Bro. Michelino Lapelosa; 8 Fr. Francesco Vitale, Fr. Mario Longhi, Fr. Luigi La Marca; 14 Fr. Carmelo Drago; 16 Fr. Orazio Di Fini, Fr. Vincenzo Vollero; 26 Fr. Luca Gagliardi; 27 Bro. Severino Ferreri; 29 Fr. Camillo Ruggeri; 30 Fr. Giovanni Carbotti; 30 Fr. Ruggiero Dicuonzo.

LIST OF DEPARTED CONFRERES

1 Bro. Francesco M. Drago	24.11.1908 Messina, ITA
2 Fr. Francesco Bonarrigo	16.02.1910 Messina, ITA
3 Nov. Didio Servidio	18.01.1913 Oria (BR), ITA
4 Bro. Concetto Drago	21.02.1914 Oria (BR), ITA
5 Bro. Mauro Drago	03.12.1916 Galati Mam.(ME),ITA
6 Bro. Mansueto Drago	24.03.1917 Monte Nero, Italy
7 Bro. Sante Casiello	30.05.1918 Messina, ITA
8 Bro. Mariano Drago	03.12.1927 Messina, ITA
9 Bro. Stellario Spada	22.11.1928 Oria (BR), ITA
10 Bro. Salvatore Federico	05.08.1934 Messina, ITA
11 Fr. Pantaleone Palma	02.09.1935 Roma, ITA
12 Bro. Giuseppe Clemente	10.08.1936 Messina, ITA
13 Bro. Angelo M. Pisano	23.05.1938 Trani (BT), ITA
14 Bro. Placido Romeo	26.02.1940 Oria (BR), ITA
15 Bro. Giuseppe A. Meli.	24.05.1941 Messina, ITA
16 Bro. Cosimo Erculeo	20.08.1944 Trani (BT), ITA
17 Bro. Gennaro M. Sfregola	20.08.1944 Trani (BT), ITA
18 Bro. Marianantonio Scolaro	01.09.1947 Messina, ITA
19 Fr. Redento Levi	04.11.1949 Roma, ITA
20 Fr. Francesco Vitale	08.12.1950 Messina, ITA
21 Bro. Antonio Rendina	21.06.1952 Firenze, ITA
22 Fr. Umberto Mario Bellini	27.01.1962 Messina, ITA
23 Bro. Luigi M. Barbanti	16.11.1963 Messina, ITA
24 Fr. Antonio M. Indelicato	28.07.1967 Padua, ITA
25 Bro. Giuseppe Bongiovanni	09.04.1972 Messina, ITA
26 Bro. Vincenzo Dabrescia	08.08.1972 Roma, ITA
27 Bro. Salvatore Labarbuta	03.01.1974 Messina, ITA
28 Fr. Domenico S. Santoro	15.05.1974 Trani (BT), ITA
29 Fr. Luigi Luca Appi	25.10.1974 Messina, ITA
30 Fr. Antonio R. Bizzarro	27.03.1975 Napoli, ITA
31 Fr. Diego Buscio	10.03.1978 Parang, PHL
32 Fr. Tommaso Ciniero	11.09.1978 Ceglie M. (BR), ITA
33 Bro. Michelino Lapelosa	06.12.1979 Messina, ITA
34 Fr. Camillo Ruggeri	29.12.1979 Roma, ITA
35 Fr. Teodoro Tusino	31.08.1980 Roma, ITA
36 Fr. Orazio Di Fini	16.12.1981 Messina, ITA

37 Fr. Ciro Gentile	16.02.1982 Messina, ITA
38 Fr. Francesco Tarantini	09.02.1983 Albano L. (RM) , ITA
39 Fr. Mario Labarbuta	17.08.1983 Cricium, BRA
40 Bro. Bartolomeo Difonzo	18.10.1983 Palestrina (RM), ITA
41 Fr. Carmelo C. Drago	14.12.1983 Albano L. (RM), ITA
42 Fr. Felice Giannelli	05.07.1984 Roma, ITA
43 Fr. Pietro Cellura	07.09.1984 Albano L. (RM), ITA
44 Fr. Paolo Petruzzellis	31.03.1985 Sanger, USA
45 Bro. Egidio Luigi La Fauci	13.02.1986 Roma, ITA
46 Fr. Giuseppe Bonafede	23.08.1986 Messina, ITA
47 Bro. Giuseppe Concetto Ruta	15.05.1987 Messina, ITA
48 Fr. G. Giuseppe Tursi	05.06.1987 Trani (BT), ITA
49 Bro. Severino Ferreri	27.12.1988 Albano L. (RM), ITA
50 Fr. Antonio Coluccia	06.02.1989 Messina, ITA
51 Fr. Rosario Scazzi	07.06.1989 Fresno, USA
52 Bro. Da Costa Marcelo	31.01.1990 Avai, BRA
53 Fr. Guido Vivona	16.07.1991 Buenos Aires, ARG
54 Fr. Giuseppe Vilardi	24.09.1991 Bauru, BRA
55 Fr. Oronzo Paolo Putignano	19.11.1991 Messina, ITA
56 Bro. Pietro Bianca (Omobono)	01.01.1992 Messina, ITA
57 Fr. Sabino Cafagna	11.02.1992 Albano L. (RM), ITA
58 Fr. Antonio Patavino	07.09.1992 Criciúma, BRA
59 Fr. Liborio Prudentino	12.10.1992 Marino (RM), ITA
60 Fr. Giuseppe Marrazzo	30.11.1992 Messina, ITA
61 Nov. Sergio Behenck Evaldt	02.12.1993 Matinhos, BRA
62 Bro. Raffaele Quinto Nicola	07.04.1994 Messina, ITA
63 Fr. Giovanni Prudentino	31.07.1994 Padua, ITA
64 Bro. Francesco Cosimo Camarca	22.02.1995 Messina, ITA
65 Fr. Corrado Guccione	28.02.1995 Messina, ITA
66 Bro. Luigi Sguera	19.07.1995 Saviano (NA), ITA
67 Fr. Giuseppe Leo	15.01.1996 Passos, BRA
68 Bro. Nunzio Artino	22.04.1996 Messina, ITA
69 Fr. Gioacchino Damato	13.07.1996 Trani (BT), ITA
70 Fr. Antonio Ricciardi	11.01.1997 Modugno (BA), ITA
71 Fr. Fernando Menegolli	14.02.1997 Bauru, BRA
72 Bro. Cosimo Galetta	22.11.1997 Bari, ITA
73 Fr. Rocco Musarra	16.02.1998 Roma, ITA
74 Fr. Gerardo Onorato	06.05.1998 Trani (BT), ITA

75 Dcn. Francis Joseph Lyons	17.05.1998 Fresno, USA
76 Fr. Giuseppe Borraccino	14.07.1998 Bari, ITA
77 Fr. Andrea Stella	01.11.1998 Padua, ITA
78 Fr. Vincenzo Santarella	19.01.1999 Roma, ITA
79 Dcn. Vito Cosimo Donvito	28.01.1999 Messina, ITA
80 Bro. Gaetano Tria	09.07.1999 Desenzano (BS), ITA
81 Fr. Michele Amato	06.09.1999 Desenzano (BS), ITA
82 Fr. Michele Lamacchia	07.10.1999 Roma, ITA
83 Bro. Domenico Filograsso	28.10.1999 Loreto (AN), ITA
84 Fr. Giuseppe Pitrone	31.08.2000 Messina, ITA
85 Fr. Antonio Prencipe	05.06.2002 Criciúma, BRA
86 Fr. Francesco Campanale	21.06.2002 Messina, ITA
87 Fr. Pietro Di Tursi	14.07.2002 Francavilla F.(BR), ITA
88 Fr. Giuseppe Cassone	10.08.2002 Corato (BA), ITA
89 Fr. Francesco Cifarelli	19.01.2003 Corato (BA), ITA
90 Bro. Antonino Adamo	28.07.2003 Messina, ITA
91 Fr. Michele Ferlisi	16.10.2003 Messina, ITA
92 Fr. Pietro Campanale	26.08.2004 Corato (BA), ITA
93 Fr. Michele Lomuscio	17.10.2004 Padua, ITA
94 Bro. Antonino Bontempo	02.11.2005 Messina, ITA
95 Fr. Gerardo Argentieri	11.11.2005 Tarragona, ESP
96 Fr. Giovanni Carbotti	30.12.2005 S. Cesareo (RM), ITA
97 Fr. Salvatore Sottile	02.01.2006 Tucuman, ARG
98 Fr. Celestino Ventrella	01.05.2006 Cosenza, ITA
99 Bro. Vincenzo Arpino	28.11.2006 Palestrina (RM), ITA
100 Fr. Filippo Donvito	14.04.2007 Messina, ITA
101 Fr. Giuseppe Lagati	23.06.2007 Messina, ITA
102 Fr. Carmelo La Marca	21.08.2007 Canicatti (AG), ITA
103 Bro. Vincenzo Esposito	26.03.2008 S. Cesareo (RM), ITA
104 Fr. Gaetano Curella	29.03.2008 Messina, ITA
105 Fr. Antonio Barbangelo	21.05.2009 Padua, ITA
106 Fr. Francesco Piscazzi	29.05.2009 S. Cesareo (RM), ITA
107 Fr. Giuseppe Aveni	24.07.2010 Parañaque, PHL
108 Fr. Domenico Malgieri	04.09.2010 Messina, ITA
109 Fr. Luigi Alessandrà	30.03.2011 Messina, ITA
110 Bro. Francesco Percoco	15.08.2011 S. Cesareo (RM), ITA
111. Fr. Mario Longhi	08.12.2011 Palestrina, ITA
112. Fr. Gaspare Gallitto	29.04.2012 Messina, ITA

113. Fr. Filippo Puntrello	25.11.2012 Sanger, USA
114. Fr. Vincent Anuforo	01.01.2013 Roma, ITA
115. Fr. Pasquale Donvito	08.01.2013 Trani, ITA
116. Fr. Antonio Arnone	09.02.2013 S. Cesareo (RM), ITA
117. Fr. Luigi Toffanin	23.08.2013 Lendinara (RO), ITA
118. Fr. Paolo Tangorra	08.09.2013 Corato (BA), ITA
119. Bro. Herman Joseni	07.10.2013 Maumere, IDN
120. Fr. Rodolfo D'agostino	05.07.2014 Los Angeles, USA
121. Fr. Gaetano Ciranni	26.07.2014 Messina, ITA
122. Fr. José Jonas Da Silva	14.08.2014 Tucuman, ARG
123. Fr. Ruggiero Dicuonzo	30.12.2014 Barletta (BR), ITA
124. Fr. Carmelo Ippolito	08.02.2015 Palermo, ITA
125. Fr. Arturo Mele	16.02.2015 Altamura (BR), ITA
126. Bro. Francesco Chirico	05.04.2015 São Paulo, BRA
127. Bro. Salvatore Buscaglia	06.05.2015 S. Cesario (RM), ITA
128. Fr. Salvatore Ciranni	24.09.2015 S. Cesario (RM), ITA
129. Fr. Michele Ferrara	17.08.2016 Altamura (BR), ITA
130. Fr. Antonio Tisci	27.09.2016 Roma, ITA
131. Fr. Roy Thomas Moothedath	07.11.2016 Cuango, AGO
132. Fr. Romualdo Giove	20.11.2016 S. Cesario (RM), ITA
133. Fr. Vincenzo Vollero	16.12.2016 Napoli, ITA
134. Fr. Ernesto Butano	28.01.2017 Messina, ITA
135. Fr. Mario Di Pasquale	22.06.2017 Ferrara, ITA
136. Fr. Luca Gagliardi	26.12.2017 Padova, ITA
137. Fr. Reginaldo Ferreira	31.01.2018 Uberaba (MG), BRA
138. Fr. Nicola Liardi	26.02.2018 Napoli, ITA
139. Fr. Enrique Raveza III	06.06.2018 Pasay, PHL
140. Bro. Dcn. Antonio Carlucci	22.10.2018 Criciúma, BRA
141. Fr. Pietro Chillemi	11.01.2019 Messina CM, ITA
142. Fr. Ciro Quaranta	04.01.2019 San Cesario, ITA
143. Bro. Ajin George Moolakunnel	14.01.2019 Aluva, Kerala, IND
144. Fr. Alberto Oselin	21.02.2019 Bauru, BRA
145. Fr. Venuste Sibomana	11.03.2019 Magi, RWA
146. Fr. Giuseppe Sergio	30.06.2019 Messina, ITA
147. Fr. Gennaro Euprepio	20.08.2019 Messina CM, ITA
148. Fr. Vito Girasoli	09.11.2019 Modugno, ITA
149. Fr. Mario Gallucci	24.01.2020 Bari, ITA
150. Fr. Mario Germinario	29.01.2020 Messina CM, ITA

151. Bro. Giuseppe Balice	13.02.2020 Roma Curia, ITA
152. Bro. Archangelo Casamassima	01.03.2020 Messina VSM, ITA
153. Fr. Gioacchino Cipollina	22.03.2020 Messina CM, ITA
154. Fr. Antonio Magazzu'	04.04.2020 Messina CM, ITA
155. Fr. Pietro Cifuni	13.04.2020 Messina CM, ITA
156. Fr. Cesare Bettoni	21.05.2020 Mairano (BS), ITA
157. Fr. Nicola Corraro	03.06.2020 Morlupo RM, ITA
158. Fr. Giovanni Cecca	06.03.2021 Bitonto (BA), ITA
159. Bro. Gregoire Hyacinthe Eteme Tsala	24.03.2021 Ngoya, CMR
160. Fr. Raffaele Sacco	09.04.2021 Padova, ITA
161. Bro. Ruben Dario Arango Nican	23.08.2021 Manizales, COL
162. Fr. Giuseppe Bove	09.11.2021 Naples, ITA
163. Fr. Luigi La Marca	08.12.2021 Messina CM, ITA
164. Fr. Louis Buhuru	12.07.2022 Cyangugu, RWA
165. Fr. Rodolfo Patiag Jr.	30.11.2022 Silang, PHL
166. Fr. Bernard Douwre	08.04.2023 Edea, CMR
167. Fr. Santino Bontempo	12.07.2023 Messina CM, ITA
168. Fr. Massimiliano Nobile	25.08.2023 Shenkoll, ALB
169. Fr. Vito Giorgio	07.11.2023 Padua, ITA
170. Fr. Joao Batista Simon	14.11.2023 Criciúma, BRA
171. Fr. Jacinto Pizzeti	26.02.2024 Criciúma, BRA
172. Fr. Luigi Lazzari	14.07.2024 Desenzano DG, ITA
173. Fr. Giacomo Alberto Rossini	25.01.2025 Messina CM, ITA
174. Fr. Sergio Bini	07.06.2025 Negrar, VR, ITA
175. Nov. Jaime Alonzo Moncada Gomez	08.06.2025 Brasilia, BRA
176. Fr. Osni Mariano Zanatta	31.07.2025 Criciúma, BRA
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