

THE VOICE OF ROSA MYSTICA

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

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of the **Foundation Rosa Mystica - Fontanelle**
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A NEW FOUNDATION FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF PLACES OF WORSHIP IN FONTANELLE

On January 22nd a long process, which had begun in the month of September 2013 in collaboration with members of the Associazione Rosa Mistica Fontanelle, came to an end before a notary in Bedizzole. The aim was to create a new legal institution, based on the civil as well as on the canon law, which will assume the care of the management of the property and the administration of the movable and fixed heritage formed in recent decades on the places of the worship in Fontanelle Montichiari. Sticking with the directions of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and wanting to create more obvious the link with the diocesan ecclesiastical authority, it was thus provided for the transformation of the civil Associazione Rosa Mistica Fontanelle into a civil foundation by modifying its statute and governing bodies;



at the same time, the new foundation has been established in canon law by a special decree of the bishop as a foundation of worship and religion under the supervision and care of the Bishop of Brescia. Consequently, all the assets of the pre-

vious association have been transferred and assigned to the new foundation, which has assumed the same name of the extinct association i.e. Fondazione Rosa Mistica- Fontanelle. The objectives and

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activities of the Foundation, stipulated by the direct management of the worship and liturgy, which will remain entrusted to an episcopal delegate in accordance with the indications, provided by the Directory as approved in 2013, can be briefly outlined as follows: to provide in a spirit of cooperation with the priests in charge of the cult, all that is necessary to offer a dignified reception of the faithful coming there for devotional reasons; to assure that the expressions of devotion are conducted in a genuine spirit of prayer, sacrifice and penance; to establish appropriate measures to prevent behaviors and events contrary to public order and respect for the place and the people; to carry on the archiving and devotional study of the facts and the testimonies that have made and still make of Fontanelle a place of worship and prayer to Mary, recognizing that any final legal opinion in this regard is the sole responsibility of the Church, according to the norms of canon law and its Magisterium; to provide, without profit, for the pro-

tection of the current characteristics of the environment and the intended use of the area called 'Fontanelle'. The appointment of all members of the ruling bodies of the Foundation, in accordance with the Statute in force, is the responsibility of the Bishop of Brescia; for the first two mandates in these bodies a fair representation of members who have served on the Board of Directors of the extinct civil Association will be ensured, as a concrete sign of gratitude for the work accomplished by many of them during their long service for Fontanelle di Montichiari. The aim behind this further and important step taken by a shared desire for clearness, is not only of formal and legal character, as far as necessary, but is to express more evidently an attitude of trust and collaboration from the part of all the involved individuals, so that the service to the faithful who come to Fontanelle concretely manifests the traits of ecclesial communion.

The Episcopal Delegate
Mgr. Marco Alba

As you have read, the Associazione Rosa Mistica in a gesture of confidence in the ecclesiastical authorities and love for Mary has willingly agreed to disband itself, in order to join the new Foundation. At this point, having served for many years, we would like to say two useful things. First of all we thank all those who in various appointments, have always made their contribution with great persistence for such a long time for the cause of Rosa Mystica. We furthermore assure you to continue our commitment falling within our competence with the same good will, so that all those who come to pray to Rosa Mystica will find the necessary hospitality.

Fondazione
Rosa Mistica-Fontanelle

The Chairman
Leonardo Tanzini

THREE ROSES, THREE COMMITMENTS

All those who come to Fontanelle and love Rosa Mystica, Mother of the Church, know that she is depicted with a white coat that covers her head and with three roses on her chest: a white rose, a red and a yellow or gold one. That this beautiful flower is often associated with Mary is not new, the more because Mary herself has often chosen it as an ornament in the course of her appearances throughout history. This occurred, for example, in Lourdes where Aquero («Miss» as Bernadette used to call the Lady) appeared in the cave with a white rose on her feet. However, in this case she wore three roses in different colors. So perhaps it would be

beneficial to reflect again about the significance which the tradition attributes to the roses, to draw lessons from them and also for a spiritual stimulus. The white rose is a symbol of prayer, the red means sacrifice, the yellow refers to repentance. «Prayer», «sacrifice», «repentance»: three short simple words. It is easy to understand them, but at the same time they are quite challenging. With such words at once the question then arises: does Mary perhaps wants her devotees to be people who are separated from the world, because they have to recite the rosary continually? Do they have to be sad and anxious people, constantly looking for mortification?

Men and women who do not love life and its joys because they are concentrated on renunciation and suffering? Does it seem exaggerated? Sure, the language I use is slightly paradoxical. Yet, someone who is not thoroughly acquainted with matters of faith might think that Christians, living with the symbol of the crucifix at the core of their life, are actually choosing a road of alienation. All the more since it is certainly not only Rosa Mystica who indicates the objectives we are speaking about. Just remember Fatima where, among other things Mary proposes this path not to mature and conscientious adults, but even to children like those three simple and igno-

«... I feel that I ought to return to Thee...»

«St. Augustine»



How beautiful is this expression of ardent desire of Saint Augustine, Doctor of Grace! Now it can be ours; it even must be ours. The Saint has written this wonderful expression in his Soliloquies where his interior dialogue with God becomes the object of prayer nourished by the passion that derives from the conversion

he had just undergone.

*«... I feel that I ought to return to Thee;
let Thy door open to me knocking;
teach me, Thou, how to come to Thee!
I have nothing other than the will;
I know nothing other than that the fleeting
and the falling should be spurned,
the fixed and eternal sought after.
This do I, Father, for this is all I know;
but how to make my way
Do Thou suggest it, make it plain, equip me for the journey.
If they who take refuge in Thee find Thee by faith, give me faith.
If by virtue, give me virtue!
If by knowledge, give me knowledge!
Increase my charity».*

(translated into English by Rose Elizabeth Cleveland, 1910)

This, dear friends, is the invitation to hold the same desire that Augustine wrote about while preparing himself to receive the Baptism from Saint Ambrose, Archbishop of Milan. In Fontanelle every day we are invited to attend



the Marian and baptism cult, and to offer our hand to the Virgin to be led to the clear waters that remind us of those in the baptismal font to renounce and to believe, to return to the Lord. Let us during our journey of forty days commit ourselves to renew our consecration to Jesus through Mary. The Church, our Mother, calls us to listen to the Word of the Lord in silence, to sacrifice and fast, and to do works of charity. Let us not miss the Festive Mass, let us participate in the daily Holy Mass as much as possible, and observe abstinence from meat on Fridays. Let us intensify personal and family prayer and pray the Rosary, learning to look at the mysteries of Christ through the eyes of Mary. Let us participate in the Stations of the Cross or make a habit of praying alone or in a family with the help of good books. Let us save money for poor children. Let us prepare ourselves well for a Confession and let us not forget the Easter Precept:

**«You shall confess your sins at least once a year»
«You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season».**

May our Blessed Lady Rosa Mystica Mother of God, Mother of the Church and our Mother, help us to live with renewed commitment, the sacrifices and choices of our Baptism. Thus, it will be indeed a beautiful Easter, happy and holy according to the ardent wish of your priests in charge of the Cult of Fontanelle.

Have a good and holy Lent!

Don Giancarlo

rant shepherd children. Yet the answer is neither so difficult nor saddening such as nonbelievers presume. This is because with those three roses the Mother of Jesus wants to show us a path that, in fact, is serious and challenging, but does not only lead to suffering and pain; on the contrary, it saves us from them, leading us to a life full of serenity and sometimes, why not, to genuine happiness. Beneath those three words, in fact, there is a whole vision of life that radically changes the perspectives of what at first glance seems useful and fair to the majority of men such as to enjoy life as much as possible, to achieve their own happiness and if necessary even at the expense of honesty, of reliability and of respect for others. Mary, however, wants to remember us always of

something very important, even fundamental: our life is not just a coincidence or a fortuitous result of destiny. On the contrary – like any other life – it is designed, built and supported by a God who not only created us but also as a loving Father. It is a life where pain and sacrifice are realistically part of our existence that has a beginning and ending on earth, but which will continue in the eternity. Everything is not meaningless from the moment the Word of God itself incarnated in Jesus. He has gone through pain and, yes, even through death, but to show us that there is a destination beyond all this: His resurrection, a symbol and hope for all of us.

In this context, therefore, to pray continually means also, and above all, to live our faith with intensity. That

implies to put our days in this relationship with God, to love Him and to feel loved by Him, to ask for help but also to thank Him for what He continuously gives us. To sacrifice ourselves means first of all to offer with confidence our heart and our whole being in order that the purpose which He has planned for us be fulfilled. To remain in an attitude of repentance is to understand that life contains also this inevitable aspect. And therefore we must do our share by accepting our suffering, which sooner or later will touch all of us and that with God's help will always turn into grace. When we do all of this under the protection of Mary, we will realize how serenity and peace are at hand in every situation, even in the seemingly most difficult ones.

Rosanna Brichetti Messori

We have received



The groups in Ivory Coast and those residing in Italy for reasons of work, deserve a special mention for the great work they have accomplished

■ *From Japan* - On February 17th a Japanese Lady came to Italy to visit the major centers of prayer and worship. Together with her accompanying guide she prayed and expressed her heartfelt thanks to Rosa Mystica, to whom she is devoted, full of gratitude for the serenity and peace she enjoyed here in Fontanelle.

■ *From Ivory Coast* - news and special thanks to those who translated «The Voice of the Rosa Mystica» in French - Good morning brothers and sisters in Christ. I am Adou Maria Theresa and my language is French. I would like to receive messages and the voice of Rosa Mystica in French to better understand the events and activities of other countries. Thank you for your comprehension: one of the reasons for my lengthy silence was due to the problem of language. I will send you information about our program activities through testimonies of our commitment of the past five years and a few pictures of our prayer meetings. At present I am still the National President of the Rosa Mystica prayer groups in Ivory Coast. Despite some episodes of dissidence, our movement progresses and is integrated in eight dioceses in our country. From our prayer groups some have now become priests; they preside the prayer groups. I wish you all a peaceful and happy 2014 full of holiness, peace, joy, divine graces and blessings.

Marie Thérèse ADOU

National president of the Rosa Mystica groups of the Republic of Ivory Coast.

Also the coordinator of the French-speaking groups in Italy has sent her best wishes for a closer collaboration in love with Rosa Mystica.

Esther Akesse

Of the group Rosa Mystica in St. Pierre Yopugon

ANIMATION OF THE CULT SCHEDULES OF LENT

Remember that all the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence – we advise you to fast in the form and manner as prescribed by the Church

Daily:

15/16 Confessions
16:00 H. Rosary, Litany of the Blessed Virgin, meditation and Benediction

Wednesday, March 5:

The Ash Wednesday (day of abstinence and fasting)
15:00 – Stations of the Cross – H. Rosary – H. Mass and imposition of ashes

Every Friday of Lent:

15:00 Stations of the Cross – Adoration of the H. Cross – H. Mass

Saturday, March 8:

20:00 Procession, H. Rosary, Adoration and Eucharistic Benediction

Sunday, March 9:

Like all Sundays of Lent:
15:00 Stations of the Cross – Adoration and Eucharistic Benediction
16:00 High Mass with the Asperges, ritual sprinkling, recalling H. Baptism

On every 13th of the month:

15:00 Personal and collective adoration
15:30 Meditated H. Rosary
16:00 Holy Mass

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

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

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