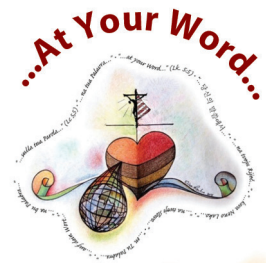


# International News

## Adorers of the Blood of Christ



ASC International Communications - Central Office - Via Maria De Mattias, 10 - 00183 Rome

[www.adoratrici-asc.org](http://www.adoratrici-asc.org)

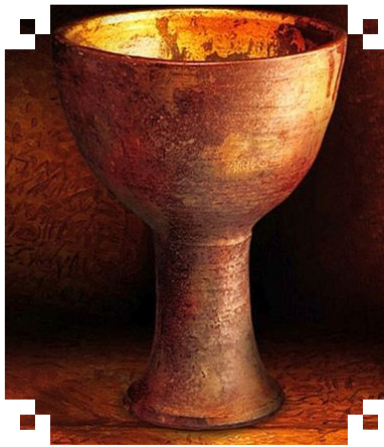
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Lima, Peru  
3-28 Luglio 2017

### A special red-colored phrase

Editorial

This is my Blood, the blood of the covenant poured out for many. This phrase reported in the Gospel of the Last Supper is catalogued among those that cannot be erased, nor much less not listened to, since they are part of the memorial. It is part of that sign which, each time it is stated at the altar, actualizes Christ, who died and is risen. It makes Christ present who, in shedding His blood on the cross, invites us "to go out" and to go further toward the infinite love that took hold of St. Maria De Mattias and has also taken hold of us, her Sisters, after more than a century



This is an experience that touches our hearts, involves and disrupts, urging us not to remain static, but to abandon our traditional patterns, freely making of our lives a gift and without personal interests and gains to search for ways to embrace the future with hope, without enduring

and passively going forward. This means not being frightened by numbers or the works and overcoming cultural challenges coming from a post-modern society that imprisons us in an individualistic and relativistic system. It is a matter of putting ourselves in relationship with history, without remaining indifferent, and sowing what is new, proposing evangelization again for the purpose of announcing peace and working for justice for everyone. The example of so many men and women who gave their lives without holding anything back and were martyred to the shedding of blood in order to serve the dear neighbor urges us to create a young Church that savors the beauty of the "joy" that has its roots in the "Gospel of the Beatitudes."

**Sr. Mimma Scalera, ASC**

### Summary

#### Editorial

A special red-colored phrase 1

#### General Administration Space

Celebration of the XV anniversary of the canonization of St. Maria De Mattias  
Sr. Nadia Coppa's reflection and words of thanks giving 2  
We celebrate Maria De Mattias' holiness 4  
... Andariego de Dios (God's Wanderer) 5

#### From the ASC World

The Celebration of the 15th anniversary of St. Maria De Mattias' canonization in Manyoni 7  
The Life of the Risen One 8  
Sister Leona Service award 8  
Precious Blood ... lifegiving stream of my life (Poetry) 9  
The roots of the education are bitter... but the fruits are sweet 10

#### Behind prison walls:

presentation of the book Love Within 11  
- Through the eyes of a witness  
- Through the eyes of a journalist  
- Through the sentiments of young ministers

Ten years with St. Maria De Mattias in Bolesławiec 13

Thanks for the sanctity of Maria De Mattias 15

#### JPIC/VIVAT Space

JPIC-VIVAT contact persons form congregational network 16

#### In the Congregation

General Administration Calendar 17

Birthdays: Let us celebrate life 17

Professions 17

Anniversaries of Religious Profession 17

They have returned to their Heavenly Home 17

**Celebration of the XV anniversary of  
St. Maria De Mattias' canonization,**

**Sr. Nadia Coppa's reflection and words of thanks giving**

Good evening to everyone!

It is a true joy to gather here to celebrate Maria De Mattias together. We feel she is the presence of a friend whose holiness attracts and enchants.

This celebration is an event that allows us to feel in deep communion established by the Blood of Christ, the Blood of the immaculate Lamb to whom St. Maria De Mattias was a disciple, adorer and apostle.

We want to take this occasion to greet all of you and sincerely thank you for having wanted to share with us the joy of the gift of the life of Maria De Mattias and the special charism entrusted by the Spirit to the Congregation through her.

We celebrate this strong woman, tireless worker, mirror of Christian virtue... Woman of talent and endowed ingenuity, woman of charity and distinguished kindness, strong and kind, wise and prudent woman, through this decisive and clear picture Father John Merlini describes for us the personality of a woman who allowed herself to be transformed by Grace as gift for everyone. His deep knowledge, which was the fruit of his patient accompaniment, let Father Merlini understand the gifts of nature and grace that made Maria De Mattias a passionate woman and spouse of the Blood of Christ.

We celebrate St. Maria De Mattias because she made of her life a loving response by living for God who wanted her completely for Himself and because she wanted to be completely God's.

Fifteen years have already passed since that May 18, 2003, when St. John Paul II proclaimed Maria De Mattias a saint, recognizing the heroic nature of her virtues and her radical lifestyle that made her a Gospel. Many of us have already imprinted in our hearts the image of St. Peter's Square filled with joyful faithful for this precious recognition. There were so many red caps of moved and grateful faithful. These people were moved by the beauty of this soul who relied on the Word, leaning on the Word to make this wonderful journey of holiness: They were grateful to God for having given her to us as a sister from whom we learn wisdom and grateful to the Church who recognized how exemplary it was in her.

That was a time of grace for the entire Congregation



because it rekindled in all of us a profound desire for a possible sanctity, an ordinary, everyday holiness.

Fifteen years later we celebrate the sweet memory of that event and especially the holiness of Maria De Mattias, asking this daughter of Vallecorsa for help to respond to the invitation of a God who loves us so much as to want us to be "holy" like He is holy, ... sharers in the same nature ... coheirs of the same joy: eternity. As Pope Francis wrote, "God does not expect that we be happy with a mediocre, watered-down, inconsistent existence." We are called to fly high... beyond the difficulty of an often up-hill climb with evangelical radicalness of those desiring to imitate the greatly sought-for Beloved.

We hope this jubilee rekindles the desire for Heaven in us as we passionately journey upon this earth. God's dream is our profound joy!

St. Maria De Mattias encourages us and accompanies us in this journey, reaffirming with her life that it is possible to love the Gospel to the point of a complete transfiguration, becoming a reflection of the Beloved as we serve him in this earthly pilgrimage.

A glance was enough for Maria De Mattias, a glance of the Beloved. Great inner strength was released for Maria De Mattias from that attraction, ... deep motivation for every choice in accepting Jesus' invitation to the beatitude of the school of joy, of a successful life and measure of God's ability. In looking at her holiness we can comprehend that the secret of the beatitudes is not in being poor, pure, or meek, but in having such a deep

## General Administration Space

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relationship with Christ as to transform her existence and reality based on Him. The blessedness of Maria De Mattias was that of entering into an ever-deeper relationship with her Lord. She wanted to be all his... to be all for everyone, showing that "to the degree we are made holy, the more we become fruitful for the world." (GE 33)

Each of us is asked to enter into this friendship with Christ, to let ourselves be looked at by Him and loved like his friends by living the best we can and growing in humanity through a journey made up of many small daily deeds, details, those of love and among these is the care for and defense of the weakest people.

Allow me this evening to remember the daily holiness of many Sisters around the world, those Sisters committed to giving their lives in service to the poor and outcasts in frontier areas, those called to brave discipleship of going against the trend and who pay the price for it in their own flesh.

I think of the holiness of the older Sisters living docilely and offering their sickness or old age – a holiness tested by the crucible of doubt and uncertainty....

I gratefully remember the enthusiasm and passion of the offering of the younger Sister who are open to following Christ with great desires and allow themselves to be transformed into gift through simple, but concrete actions of giving themselves...

And then, how not to see in their faithfulness measured by the time of the Sisters living their consecration as an open space for welcoming the cry of the blood...

Remembrances and experiences of a possible, ordinary holiness made up of faithfulness to the daily, often uphill path, marked by the paschal mystery, by the encounter in the soul with the Beloved who attracts us to Himself for even more life.

St. Maria De Mattias, intercede for us so that our hearts be rekindled with a pure, true love for the Lord... because only if we are enamored can we enamor... only in being passionate can we wake up the world! In this journey of full and lasting joy, make us ready and able to respond to God's invitation knowing that the road to Heaven passes through the earth and that "life is mission." (GE 27) Allow me to thank Father Emanuele, Missionary of the Precious Blood, in particular, who presided at this Eucharist, enriching it with his reflection and experience. Father Emanuele came from a popular mission in Aversa and broke the Word for us, reminding us to take care of our election and to walk each day desiring the fullness of a life lived in Love.

Special thanks to Michele Antoniani, mayor of Vallecorsa, who is present with a group of young people to give homage to St. Maria De Mattias. Thanks to all the Sisters from nearby communities for reliving this sweet remembrance.

Many wishes for holiness for you, my dear Sisters, coming to celebrate this jubilee with us, to our collaborators, to you our friends, to you our lay associates and to all those who are passionately committed to follow the footsteps of the Lamb through the example of St. Maria De Mattias.

Rome, May18, 2018

**Sr. Nadia Coppa, ASC**  
*General Superior*



### ***We celebrate Maria De Mattias' holiness***

The 15th Anniversary of St. Maria De Mattias' canonization gave us the opportunity to revisit her life and holiness with the eyes of the Church and today's world.

Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation, *Gaudete et Exultate*, also found us in tune with his invitation to rediscover and regain possession of our baptismal call to holiness. The general administration wanted to offer three days of reflection and prayer about holiness, through the life witness of St. Maria De Mattias.

The first evening had the theme of call to ordinary holiness, the second and third evenings developed call to missionary holiness and call to the joy of holiness, respectively. The times of prayer and solemn celebration were held in the Church of the Precious Blood in Largo Pannonia - Generalate house - Rome.

Maria De Mattias' expressions of praise and thanks to the Blood of Christ inspired and guided the adoration of the Body and Blood of Jesus during the first evening of prayer.

The reading of the Gospel about the Beatitudes interspersed with testimony of the Sisters about the canonization process of the saint animated the second evening of prayer.

On May 18, the day of the solemnity, the Call to the joy of holiness was celebrated. The theme was developed by Father Emanuele Ruggeri, CPPS, who presided at the solemn Eucharistic celebration. During the time of final thanks, Sr. Nadia Coppa, general superior, also shared her reflection by

speaking about some of the characteristics of Maria De Mattias' holiness.

There were two especially meaningful, creative moments at the end of the Mass offered by some young people. The first group from Vallecorsa, St. Maria De Mattias' hometown, presented a modern scene of Maria's personality. The main character, to whom a picture of the saint had been commissioned, has a dream. During this dream he encounters people who knew Maria when she

was alive and they speak to him about her. There was her father, mother, Merlini and one of her first companions. It resulted in an original and fresh idea about the personality of Maria De Mattias. The youth expressed the characteristics of her holiness through the colors of the rainbow.

The second group presented three dances using the music of songs written for Sr. Maria De Mattias on previous celebrations. It offered us time for prayer, as graceful

as the young women who communicated the harmony and beauty of St. Maria De Mattias' relationship with Christ through their dance steps. Both groups witnessed how the life of our foundress continues to inspire and create art. Her life is the reason for attraction and an instrument of aggregation. Her fresh way of living her love relationship with Jesus in service to the least continues to challenge and call new generations to live an authentic life.



**Sr. Maria Grazia Boccamazzo, ASC**

### **...Andariega de Dios (God's Wanderer)**

My brief but very intense Spanish adventure was characterized by pleasant and interesting days when I allowed Teresa of Avila, God's andariega, the holy and wandering traveler, to accompany me.

I arrived in Madrid on May 26 with the desire to spend some time and get to know the Sisters in a more meaningful way, to share their lives and enjoy their apostolic mission among the people known to be joyful and creative.

In my suitcase, I brought a great desire to walk with them, certain that there is no life without encounter.

My arrival in community was very lovely. All the Sisters of the foundation were gathered in the central house to spend some days together. This initial impact allowed me to understand their desire for encounter, nearness and relationship that animates the hearts of these Sisters.

We spent a very intense week where we alternated between times of sharing, dialogue, prayer and communal searching. The dreams that keep their hearts alive were certainly present!

The community of Madrid is very attentive to welcoming their brothers and sisters having greater problems. The Sisters are also involved in the support of refugees by serving in a parish listening center. In spite of the challenges it encounters, the Foundation tries to identify current responses to the requests of the place. The local communities are attentive to gather in the signs of the times, God's invitation to "choose life." The choice of "vulnerability" is a priority of the mission of the foundation: the elderly, refugees, prisoners, parishioners living in situations of poverty and weakness.

In the light of this current and courageous vision, an apostolic center was opened some years ago in the outskirts of Madrid where the Adorers work especially with the marginated and poor through constant service at the caritas and the district penitentiary. These are prophetic signs in a society that tends to exclude and leave the weak along the edges, those who are defined as trash by contemporary culture, according to Pope Francis.

I was able to visit the parish where Sr. Pilar has been working for some years now to get the

immigrants involved in jobs and be socially integrated. It is truly an enriching and involving opportunity. I experienced the gratitude of the poor firsthand as they never stopped blessing the loving and humble work of Sr. Pilar. They had also left some thank-you cards with the pastor, which he gratefully and proudly gave to me.

I was unable to visit the community of Castuera this time, but it is a significant presence in the



area through its attention to the elderly and to the parish community needing pastoral ministry. Located far from Madrid in the extreme east of Spain, the community of Castuera continues its humble and ordinary ministry of hospitality to the elderly who, as in all developed societies, are on the sidelines of care and interest. The Sisters manifest the desire to make weakness their preferential option, in spite of the daily challenges they encounter.

It was great to rejoice with the Sisters, remembering events and paschal transitions that have marked the path of the shared life and mission of this foundation that is still so alive and proactive.

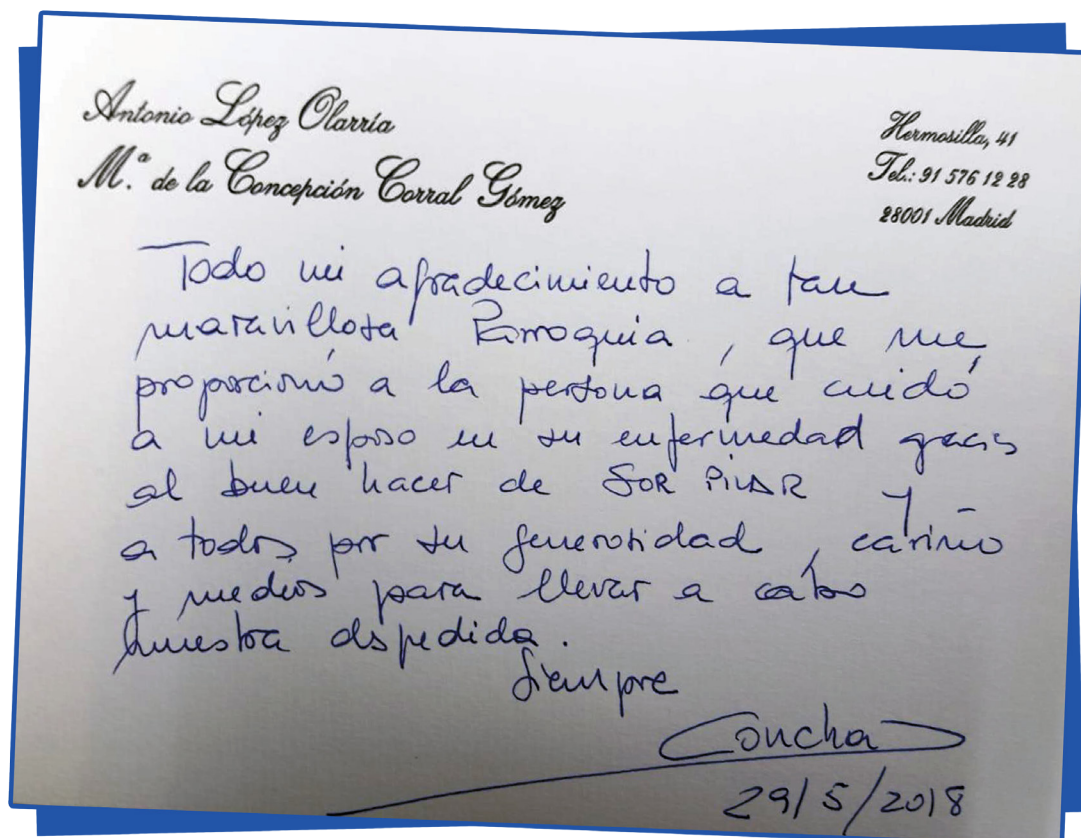
## General Administration Space

Spain, a nation mainly associated with little traditions like the bullfight, sangria and the Flamingo, is a land rich in art and history, in deep spirituality and intense mystical experiences. I enjoyed visiting the Prada Museum and admiring the works of the master Goya and the great painter Diego Velázquez. I experienced days of friendship, culture, art, beauty, but also of prayer. We concluded my stay with a pilgrimage to Avila, the land of Teresa of Jesus and John of the Cross. It was a very beautiful opportunity that signed my travel in Spain.

Saints always have something unique to pass on to us! Through the interior experience of Teresa of Jesus, I also felt challenged to not be "content with something ... but to desire Everything," to thrust myself to an ever-more

radical life totally offered to find myself in Him and find Him in me. He, as a tender and attentive Spouse, never fails to sustain us with His loving presence in the intimacy of our "diamond castle." Teresa of Jesus encouraged me to always set out toward the peripheries ... to go to encounter my Sisters with an open and hospitable heart, allowing myself to be enriched by each person's wisdom. We are all invited to set out each day, humbly and docilely relying on God's love. In this reliance, like the silkworm is transformed into a white butterfly, so our lives will also be transfigured into the life of Him whom we love ... together, andarieghe de Dios!

**Sr. Nadia Coppa, ASC**



## **The 15th anniversary of St. Maria De Mattis' Canonization in Manyoni**

The ASC Community in Manyoni celebrated the 15 years of Canonization of St. Maria De Mattias by introducing her to the people. Before the day of feast, the sister evaluated their entire life in the past year, how they lived the charism. They realized that there was a great need of promoting religious vocation, praying for the Congregation and for the sick.

Three days before the feast of St. Maria De Mattias they had novena with three goals; to pray for the Congregation, for the holy vocations and for the sick.

Before May 18, 2018, the sisters and Aspirants also went to visit

the Small Christian communities and one sub-parish which have given the name of our foundress. Many people attended and were very happy to get to know her life, her charism, her love to God and to the dear neighbor.

The sisters explained how St. Maria De Mattias discovered God's infinite love for every human being, the love that manifested itself in a unique way in the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and how she responded her call by dedicating herself and finally consecrating herself totally to Christ.

Maria De Mattias discovered in her that, God had a special plan on her life. On March

04, 1834, in Acuto (Italy) she instituted the Congregation of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ so that she and the sisters could fully participate in the work of Redemption of the world.

Holiness is a gift that God gives us. Each one has the opportunity to live holy every day through the call that God has given him/

her. When we celebrate Maria De Mattias' holiness, it is evident that each one is given the opportunity to be saint.

All those who received information from the sisters were very happy and be encouraged to imitate this woman.



The sisters gave them pictures of Saint Maria De Mattias to put them in their churches and their communities.

On the feast day, the sisters, aspirants and the other people had the Holy Mass together in the morning at the Parish Church. And at night they shared a meal with the Aspirants, CPPS Missionaries and the staff of the Dispensary of St. Maria De Mattias. They all enjoyed this celebration and thank God for the gift of our Holy One.

**Sr. RoseHawa Tantau, ASC**

## ***The Life of the Risen One***

Sr. Nadia Coppa's recent letter to all ASCs about the death of her dear mother inspired me to write this article about my brother, Msgr. Geraldo Menezes, a diocesan priest of the Belem diocese and friend of the ASCs. He died on March 30 of this year, Good Friday, in the Hospital of Our Lady of Guadalupe. He was 96 and had spent 73 of those years as a priest. Her letter says, "The life of the Risen One is the hope of the people who experience suffering."

My brother had this experience, carrying in his body the consequences of the violent assault by a criminal thirty years ago in the Holy Trinity parish house where he was pastor. Following the assault, after years of depression, my brother became blind and then developed Parkinson's disease and numerous other problems. He lived in our father's house with two of our sisters who were elderly as well and who preceded him into eternity. With a perfect brain and intellect, he listened to music and to world and Church news on the radio. When it was possible for him, he celebrated the Eucharist with a priest companion and heard confessions.

Geraldo, who had known various ASCs and directed retreats for them, loved the Adorers and was very grateful that they allowed me to serve in Belem in the Merlini House community so that I could be near him and help him whenever I could.

I always admired the example of my brother's prayer life. He was always asking me about our vocations, our charism and our missions. I would read some



parts of our newsletter to him, which he really liked. I will conclude by saying that Geraldo loved Sacred Scriptures so much that this past Lent he asked me to read the passage of Paul, "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ." (Col. 1:24) When I finished the reading he exclaimed, "Marília, nothing is lacking in the Merits of Christ. Let's do our part with greater ardor (by offering all our life with its joys and sufferings) on behalf of his Body, which is the Church. Let's do this!"

**Sr. Marília Menezes, ASC**

*Region of USA*

## ***Sister Leona Service Awards***

Two students and a teacher from St. Theresa School in Salem, Illinois, received the Sister Leona Luechtefeld Service Award last month.

The awards, announced at the school's closing of the school year Mass on May 22, were a complete surprise to Sister Mary Catherine Clark, who stepped to the microphone to

share with the congregation a little about Sister Leona and her outstanding witness of service.

The winners were seventh-grader Ryan Wuebbles, fifth-grader Greta Motch and religion teacher Ann Hilmes.

Each received a monetary gift to pay forward.





Mrs. Hilmes donated her gift to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Ryan donated his award to the youth group, Hungry Hearts, and Greta donated hers to Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. The Belleville Diocese Ministry to the Sick and Aged coordinated the "Sister Leona Luechtefeld Award."

A total of three students were honored in the Belleville diocese.

Students wrote essays about how they try to live lives of service as disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Sr. Mary Catherine Clark, ASC**

*Continental Area: Asia  
Region of India*

## ***Precious Blood... The Lifegiving Stream of My Life (Poetry)***

Drop by drop...  
Flowing out from sacred wounds  
Redeemed me with Jesus' Precious Blood !  
Till the last drop is over  
No fear of death and no more complaints made  
Shed His Blood to save me.

Oh! Dear saviour! Slaughtered Lamb  
Your innocent Blood is pouring down on the earth  
Your love is so deep, as deep as your warmth  
Selfless giving is your loving nature.

No precious drops kept aside for you  
Fully and totally, sprinkled upon me  
Step by step, you walked along the Calvary  
Pricked the stony path on your softy feet.

Covered your Sacred "Robe" with precious Blood  
Give me that Robe and may I kiss it  
And then be healed, strengthened by your Blood  
Oh...my Jesus forgive me that I'm a sinner  
Today and Everyday, every hour and forever  
Let me live in the warmth of your Blood  
Drop by drop...May I drink your pain of Chalice  
Shall I'll be anointed and liberated to serve your people.



**Sr. Gracy Vadakumcherry, ASC**

***The roots of education are bitter... but the fruits are sweet***



*“With your entire focus on your goal, you will reach levels of achievement that you never thought possible”  
Catherine Pulsifer*

We take immense pride in sharing our academic achievement for the year 2017-18...

**100% results in Class X (ICSE and SSLC).**

All the Class X students of Aradhana Academy crossed the academic milestone with flying colours. Each and every student who appeared for the Class 10 examination this year has put in tremendous amount of hard work to reach their goals, and persevered through one of the most rigorous academic years of their lives.

Of course, this would not have been possible without the support and dedication of our teaching staff as well! We are proud of our faculty who has been instrumental in establishing a high standard of academic excellence.

It is sheer testimony to the fact that Aradhana Academy continues to invest in the development of young minds, and the future of our nation. This serves to remind us that perseverance and effort are always rewarded. This will surely be a motivation for the upcoming students in the years to come. It is indeed a moment of pride and happiness for each Aradhanite.

**AND THE WINNER IS.....**

**Aradhana Academy was been Ranked No 2 in Karnataka and No. 10 in India**

**Category - ‘India’s Top 10 State Board’ in a survey conducted by Education Today.co.**

The schools were categorized under different parameters like, academic reputation, individual attention, infrastructure, innovative teaching, safety & hygiene, sports education, value for money, holistic development, leadership management quality and co-curricular activity etc. The awardees are chosen on the basis of Jury rating, Parent’s votes & Education Today Co’s Team analysis.

This award is a proof of our credibility and reputation. The management and staff of our school have put in several years of dedicated work and coached students to aim higher. Though this prestigious recognition was long awaited, we at Aradhana are humbled and excited about what the award means to us, and for every student who studies here with us.

We look at this as an opportunity for further growth and set ourselves higher goals so that we may better ourselves in educating, mentoring and the overall holistic development of every child.

**Aradhana Academy - Bangalore**

## **Behind the prison walls: the presentation of the book *Love Within***

### ***Through the eyes of a witness***

There are days in prison that can be called “Always the same,” but today, May 25, 2018, there was an organized event that magically stood out from our everyday boredom.

The theater hall of the Institute was filled; those who are “last,” as defined in the scale of those suffering, curiously and silently occupied their assigned seats. The front part of the stage was reserved for outside guests who generously bestowed smiles and understanding to everyone present.

The event in process was the presentation of a book written by prisoners who, coordinated by the tireless volunteer Sister Emma Zordan, succeeded in writing what became the title of the book, *Love Within*. Sr. Emma, an Adorer of the Blood of Christ, has been bringing solidarity and love to everyone for years.

For many, describing in a few lines this sentiment which they had forgotten with time, means to strip themselves and bare their souls. The power of Sr. Emma, however, has no limits. She knew what to do to see that each of them wrote by listening to what their hearts were saying. And who knows by what miracle all this was translated into a marvelous and touching anthology of sentiments. Heartfelt thanks to everyone for the sentiment of love that you showed. I finish by using the conclusion written at the end of the previous book review of the book *We Are All the Least* by Dr. Sefano Ricca, the director of the CR, who in inverting the theme stated that “We can all be those who are



first” – first in solidarity, in correctness, in honesty, in sincerity, in trusting ourselves and other human beings. We can be first in considering that we are not the “last”.

**Giuseppe Medile**

### ***Through the eyes of a journalist***

LOVE WITHIN is the title of the book presented at Rebibbia prison on May 25, 2018. EMMA ZORDAN, our sister and extraordinary force of nature who has been volunteering for years, is a constant presence and support for the prisoners. The book gathers the thoughts and feelings of the prisoners who freely chose to participate in Sr. Emma’s project. Love is always at the core of our life, a non-negotiable sentiment without which existence becomes sterile. Love in all its forms

and expressed in the simplicity and genuineness of the people who are constantly looking for love, perhaps without even knowing it, people who are victims and executioners at the same time and who are looking for reconciliation with the past. People who are often kept at a distance, as Msgr. Petrocchi, Bishop of Aquila said, present at the event, a man of great humanity and wisdom, who thanked the prisoners for the opportunity of this experience.

Msgr. Petrocchi pointed out how people are full of prejudices and schemes that prevent them from seeing beyond the walls, schemes that fossilize, and only the virtue of wisdom can give the ability to marvel in a form that we cannot imagine. Love within turns on the light and lets us see God's miracle and approach prisoners to accompany them in their journey. Paradoxically, it is right in prison that people find the time and place to find freedom because they are able to find the significance and meaning of life and things that truly count. Prisoners become free teachers because they have something to teach everyone who perhaps can flee from it when outside.

Sister Nadia Coppa, the general superior of the congregation to which Sr. Emma belongs, was also present. She specified that there is no life without encounter and an encounter with our brokenness is an enriching experience. The personal gift makes us free from any attachment to earthly things and offers the opportunity of an encounter



### ***Through the sentiment of young animators***

....Sister Emma with the prison Director organized a ceremony for the presentation of the book and wanted to give it a touch of vivacity by inviting a few young people. The lot fell upon our young women in initial formation and in the phase of vocational discernment and upon the youth of the "Seagull" Oratory of Rotondi.

The aspirants to consecrated life composed a song using traces from the letters and sang it with guitar accompaniment, while the young people from Rotondi, under the leadership of two young producers (Miriam Sadutto and Antonio Piccolo), prepared a half-hour presentation based on the letters and presented it at the end of the ceremony. It all occurred

with the divine.

Others also present were the Director, Dr. Stefano Ricca; the Vice-Director, Dr. Antonella Grella and the members of the Educational Area. As a sign of gratitude in the name of the entire ASC Congregation, Sr. Nadia gave a crucifix to the Director who always welcomes the most expressive cultural projects.

Francesco De Angelis, a former student of Sister Emma and today's director of "Tutto Settimanale," witnessed to Sr. Emma's closeness to him during the most difficult times.

Two prisoners, Carmine Caiazzo and Giuseppe Medile, two of the authors of some of the passages in the book, told how the title of the book was chosen. All the authors were then awarded for their writings.

At the end, there was a theatrical presentation on the topic of sex-offender crimes given by the youth group of the "Seagull" Oratory of Rotondi (AV).

Thanks to the Friends "Without Borders" Association that took care of the typographical aspect of the book, which was almost completely sponsored by the Adorers of the Blood of Christ. It was truly a day rich in significance, where more than the words, LOVE was shown and found in concrete form.

**Prof. Maria Teresa Caccavale**

in pantomime with musical background or singing of Italian songs regarding the meaning of life and broken hope of change given that the enterprise had caused destruction within and outside themselves.

The scenes, thus, were laid out as a struggle between Good and Evil who are trying to draw the prey to themselves. Evil, dressed in black, seemed to have the upper hand and laughs when a young person leading an easy life is arrested. But precisely in that situation of lacking freedom, he reacts with the most varied feelings that alternate in the heart of the prisoner: anger, fear, disgust, anxiety, but also the desire for joy, all represented by young people wearing white masks.

In this alternation of feelings, the chained young person begins to clarify his ideas, to desire freedom, to change his life, to already taste it in his dreams. Then it is that Good comes forward dressed in white who, in approaching the young man, collides with Evil who then backs up and collapses on the ground defeated, while Good releases the chains. The feelings throw off their masks and dance to the song **Live in color**.

The young man's hope has become reality. In him is seen the prisoners, moved for having been represented so well in their feelings and hearts, more hope goes forward! Good wins out over Evil! Prison can be an occasion for this travail of conversion and return to faith in a God who forgives and wants you to be truly happy in His way.

The young people who were allowed into the prison were very committed to their preparation, taking time from their responsibilities of study and work. They were fearful to pass through the forbidden and inaccessible door, experiencing near-fear in walking through that door because they were used to seeing arrests on TV. The ceremony begins and unfolded for two hours with the presentation and the distribution of the books to each prisoner and the theatrical presentation by our young people.

...There could not have been a more incisive experience! Calm, serenity, familiarity that were established during the break and buffet prepared by the prisoners and served in the courtyard all



left a deep and positive trace.

Our young people asked if they could write to the prisoners. During their return home they proposed returning also to other parts of the prison to take a breath of a different life. And not only that. They decided to communicate their experience to the town of Rotondi through the same theatrical presentation and offer the people the opportunity to reflect about openness of the spirit and accept the men who had decided to truly change their lives.

**Sr. Maria Paniccia, ASC**

*Region of Wrocław*

### **Ten years with St. Maria De Mattias in Bolesławiec**

Fifteen years ago in Rome Pope John Paul II canonized Maria De Mattias, the Foundress of the Congregation of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ. Ten years ago this saint was proclaimed the patroness of Bolesławiec. Sunday, May 13, a double jubilee was celebrated.

The celebration this year had an international dimension. Not only the faithful of Mother of God of Perpetual Help parish were invited to the ceremony, but also representatives from Acuto and Vallecorsa, the two Italian cities connected with the life and work of St. Maria

De Mattias. In addition to the mayors of these cities, young people, the chorus and a folklore group also came to Bolesławiec. Of course, there were Adorers, with the General Superior Sr. Nadia Coppa and Sr. Wiesława Przybyło, general councilor, coming from Italy and Sr. Ewa Kleps, Regional Superior from Wrocław. Sixty-two years ago after the end of WWII, the Polish Adorers arrive in Bolesławiec together with the Polish who had immigrated to today's Bosnia. In this way, Bolesławiec became the haven for the development of the Congregation in Poland.



At the beginning of the Mass, Sr. Ewa Kleps presented the beginning of the Sisters' activities in Bolesławiec and Piotr Roman, the city mayor, spoke of the great role the Sisters had had in the history of the post-war city. "Their presence and commitment in the spiritual and social development contributed to the decision of choosing St. Maria De Mattias as our Patroness." Sr. Nadia Coppa said, "Celebrating the jubilee of this anniversary is an invitation for all of us to put forth the effort to realize our holiness." She also thanked all the community of the city for the support the Adorers have been receiving for 62 years.

The bishop of Legnica, Zbigniew Kiernikowski, who presided at the Eucharist, emphasized that this ceremony, the cult of the saints including St. Maria De Mattias, and the presence of the people coming from various countries and languages indicate the we are all journeying in the same direction. He added, "Let us pray together so that the distance that separates us be as small as possible and what unites us be very strong."

In his homily, the bishop also spoke of the mystery of Jesus' Ascension. He encouraged everyone to undertake the work of evangelization. "What does evangelize mean? To be ready to shed your blood. It is not always

a matter of the literal sense of the word, but of conforming to God's will. You have to be ready to lose your life for those in need; you have to proclaim in order to build unity and struggle to be a perfect human according to the fullness of Christ," Bishop Zbigniew concluded.

At the end of the Mass, the pastor, Father Stanislaw Kusik, informed the faithful that, upon the request of the parish and inhabitants of the city, the Bishop of Legnica would honor the mayor of Bolesławiec, Piotr Roman, with the Meritorious Medal for the diocese of Legnica! This award is the recognition for the fruitful cooperation of the mayor and the city authorities with the parishes of Bolesławiec . After the prayer, the faithful were able to enjoy the presentation about St. Maria De Mattias prepared by the students of the elementary school and youth of Vallecorsa and Acuto. After the official part, a party was held in the Castle square with groups of Polish and Italians performing. This international meeting concluded with the singing of the boat song.



**Father Waldemar Wesołowski**

## Thanks for the sanctity of Maria De Mattias

On May 19, 2018, we celebrated the 15th anniversary of the canonization of St. Maria De Mattias in Częstochowa, celebrating together with the faithful of our parish and our friends. The remembrance of this event was joyous for all of us. This celebration was also the occasion for remembering the person of the Foundress and her journey toward holiness. We were encouraged in finding in Maria De Mattias a secure companion who intercedes for us in our daily life. The celebration started with the solemn Eucharist with With Father Adam Zyzik, paster of St. Andrea Bobla parish in Częstochowa presiding. Father Władysław Nowak, SDB, gave the homily. He emphasized the greatness of St. Maria De Mattias and the love with which she taught the young women and brought them close to Christ. The Sisters from the communities of Bolesławiec and Wrocław with the Regional Administration came for the celebration. The Missionaries of the Precious Blood with Father Wojciech Czernatowicz, CPPS, provincial, also



came for the occasion.

There were various events after the Eucharist: an artistic competition for children's drawings of Maria De Mattias, a musical theater presentation of the life and activities of St. Maria De Mattias, sports games for children and a concert by Mrs. Elżbieta Jarząbek. In greeting everyone, she said that we want to adore Jesus and then added, "We do not want to be stars, but musical notes, therefore I invite each person to be this musical note to sing together the praises of God."

During this joyous celebration, there was also some good food: grilled sausages, slices of bread with lard and cucumbers, hot dishes of kraut and various desserts.

Through our common prayer and celebration, we thanked God for the gift of the holiness of our Foundress.

**Sr. Aldona Kala, ASC**



**JPIC-VIVAT contact persons form congregational network**



*"We are called to have hearts attentive to the cry of the Blood..."*

GA Acts 2017

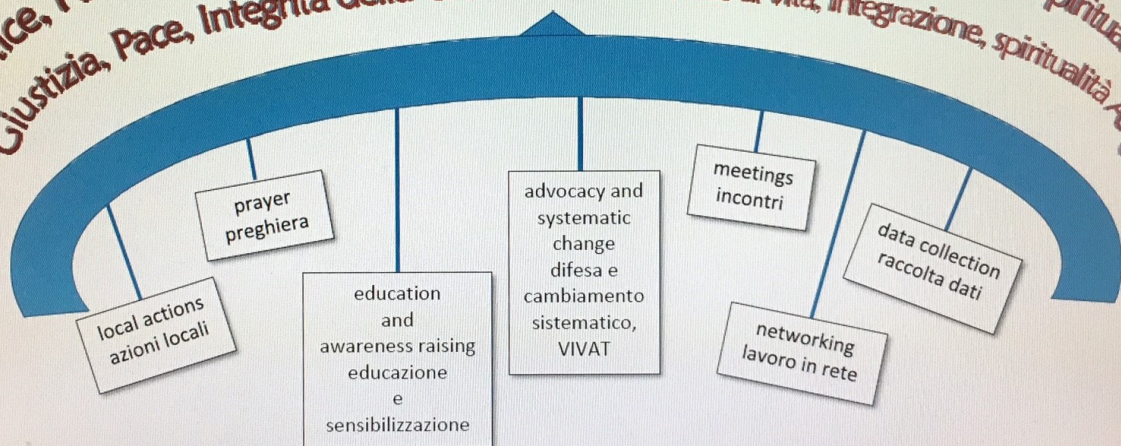
On June 7, a first step was taken in forming a network of ASC JPIC-VIVAT contact persons across the congregation. An online skype meeting was held connecting sisters from Rome to Schaan, India, Tanzania, along with Brazil, Croatia, USA, and on to Poland, Argentina, southern Italy, Spain...we spanned

the world, speaking in three languages, sharing information, ideas and laughter. The gathering opened with a inspiration greeting from Sr. Nadia and after a time of prayerful reflection, we had introductions from each of the 14 participants. Sr. Bridget and Sr. Dani then shared information on networking and the need for offering direct services as well as being mediators of systemic change. Referring to the calls of our 2017 GA Acts, we shared about the ASC vision of JPIC-VIVAT and the many components that are included under an integral framework. Ideas for planning in each of the Regions and Foundations was discussed and we concluded with a brief time of questions and expressions of gratitude for this encounter and the desire of furthering the connections to help us to continue to respond to the cry of the Blood wherever we Adorers are in mission.

**Sr. Dani Brought, ASC**

**Framework for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC):** to facilitate an integral approach to the JPIC dimension of Christian & ASC spirituality  
**Struttura per la Giustizia, la Pace e l'Integrità del Creazione (GPIC):** per facilitare un approccio integrale alla dimensione GPIC della spiritualità Cristiana e ASC

*Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation: values, way of life, integration, ASC spirituality*  
*Giustizia, Pace, Integrità della Creazione: valori, stile di vita, integrazione, spiritualità ASC*





## General Administration Calendar



**July 2-7** – meeting of MDM Hearts & Hands Fund commission

**July 9 -10** – meeting of the Revision of the Congregation's Proper Law commission

**July 12 -13** – the general administration is in Acuto for their annual evaluation

### Birthdays: Let us celebrate life



**Sr. Sheela Mary P.**

July 3, 1988 India 30th birthday

**Sr. Caritas Aloyce Kilawe**

July 10, 1978 Tanzania 40th birthday

**Sr. Arkandela Brkic**

July 16, 1948 Zagreb 70th birthday

**Sr. Mariannina Iannelli**

July 25, 1948 Italy 70th birthday

**Sr. Anna Maria Campanaro**

July 2, 1938 Italy 80th birthday

### First religious profession

July 29, 2018 - Sr. Jenny Sellaro - USA

### Perpetual Profession

July 22, 2018 - Sr. Nadzieja Raczyckaja - Wrocław

### Anniversaries of religious profession

**25th anniversary of religious profession – July 15, 2018**

Sr. Bernadetta Pajdzik Wrocław

**50th anniversary of religious profession - July 1, 2018**

Sr. Marieth Walfredo Machado Manaus

Sr. Marian Russo USA

**60th anniversary of religious profession – July 14, 2018**

Sr. Jean Marie Kumke USA

Sr. Joan Shalapin USA

Sr. Mary Alan Wurth USA

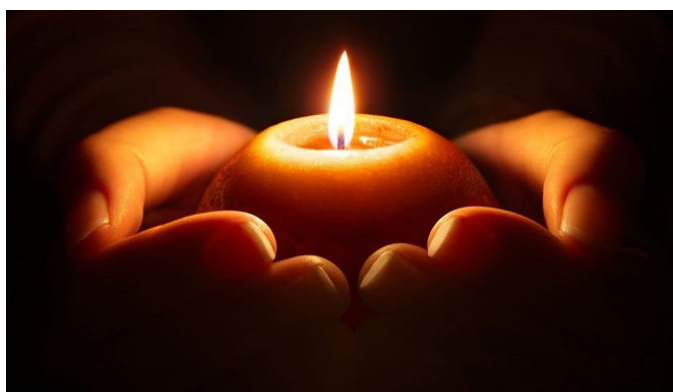
Sr. Mary Ellen Hubbard USA

Sr. Gabrielle Rowe USA



*With gratitude for the gift of your vocation*

### They have returned to their Heavenly Home



June 1, 2018 **Sr. Paolina Ivanković- Piplica** Zagreb

June 3, 2018 **Sr. Teresa Trono** Italy

June 18, 2018 **Sr. Rosa Corsetti** Italy

## International News

*Adorers of the Blood of Christ*

**Monthly Information**

through the:

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