



MARIANUM

NOTIZIE-NEWS

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THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Presentation of the 2013 General Chapter Marian Document

“Be it done unto me according to your Word” (Lk 1, 38).

*Servites and Mary, the very image of those who live
by listening and witnessing to the Word.*

This is a synthesis of the genesis, evolution and content of the Servite Marian Document approved by the General Chapter of Elections celebrated at our priory and sanctuary in Pietralba (Bolzano) September 13 – October 2, 2013. The document will soon be published in all the languages in which the Servite Order and Family to assist them in their service of witness and evangelization.

The Prior General and his Council asked the Presidential Council to prepare a Marian document. The Presidential Council established a committee to perform out this task. The committee was made up of the following professors from the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty: Silvano M. Maggiani, Salvatore M. Perrella (chief editor) Fabrizio M. Bosin, Ricardo M. Pérez Marques and Gian Matteo Roggio (a La Salette religious). Father Roggio is the assistant to Professor Perrella and the secretary of the Dogma and Mariology Department (Cf. *Lettera del Preside* prot. 32/09). Eventually Professors Cettina Militello and Maria Mascheretti joined this group. A working paper [*Instrumentum Laboris*] was prepared for the 213th General Chapter of Friar Servants of Mary entitled *Behold the Handmaid of the Lord: Be it done unto me according to your word (Lk 1, 38)*. This working aid was intended “to promote discussion among the friars but especially the Chapter members of those matters that are important in our life.”¹ The *Instrumentum laboris* was an inspiration for our own Marian Document. From the time we first appeared in the history of the Church and mankind Mary has been our inspira-

¹ ORDINE DEI FRATI SERVI DI MARIA, “Ecco, la serva del Signore: avvenga per me secondo la Tua parola: (Lc 1, 38) *Instrumentum laboris*, March 19, 2013, no. 2 in *Acta Ordinis Servorum B. Mariae Virginis* 14 (2013), p. 355; for the whole document Cf. *ibidem*, pp. 355-363.

tion and guide as disciples of the Son of God and the Son of Man. In the fruitful silence of her mind and heart she heard, accepted, meditated on the Word of God and the values it implied. She lived these values and gave exemplary witness to them. Being Servites we are “linked to all those who have made this journey in the past; we are linked to the Order’s present and to its unknown future – the time of the Kingdom that will come and life in all its forms will flourish.”² Servants of Mary have been inspired by the original image of Mary at the Annunciation and have been guided by the Word of Faith (Cf. *Rom* 10,8), and her contemplation of the mystery of Christ. In their spiritual journey Servites have also turned to Mary at the foot of the Cross (Cf. *Jn* 19, 25-27), the *Mater Dolorosa* who “shares the mission of the suffering Servant of Yahweh and is joined to his glory.”³ Servite Marian devotion has embraced the image of Our Lady of Sorrows, the *Pietà*, with a variety of popular practices: the Seven Dolor Rosary, the celebration of the *Compassio Virginis*, and the *Via Matris*. This last devotion started outside the Order but the enthusiasm and love with which we have embraced and popularized it among the faithful certainly makes it a devotion of the Servite Order and Family.⁴ The mystery that links Mary at the Annunciation to Our Lady of Sorrows provides the original charism of the Servite vocation. It is the destiny to which the Church repeatedly calls the Order through renewal and *aggiornamento*. The link between these two images of Mary must be a total and constant characteristic of our consecrated life and our mission of evangelization as we spread the Kingdom in today’s world. The Church urges Servants of Mary to be men and women in today’s world who can “help see more clearly the link between Mary of Nazareth and the faith-filled hearing of God’s word. I would encourage scholars as well to study the relationship between Mariology and the theology of the word. This could prove most beneficial both for the spiritual life and for theological and biblical studies. Indeed, what the understanding of the faith has enabled us to know about Mary stands at the heart of Christian truth. The incarnation of the word cannot be conceived apart from the freedom of this young woman who by her assent decisively cooperated with the entrance of the eternal into time. Mary is the image of the Church in attentive hearing of the word of God, which took flesh in her. Mary also symbolizes openness to God and others; an active listening which interiorizes and assimilates, one in which the word becomes a way of life.” (BENEDICT XVI, *Verbum Domini*, no. 27). Without a close link between Mariology and theology of the word the Order cannot exist. We must make the “Mary of Scripture” better known. We can do this by promoting *Lectio Divina* – a practice already existing in many of the Order’s communities. We must make it a familiar form of prayer for all the people of God. Through *Lectio* we are like Mary, who meditated on the saving mysteries of God in Jesus Christ. During the 2008 Synod the Bishops wrote the Mother of the Incarnate Word “is a symbol for us of

² GIOVANNI MARIA VANNUCCI, *Esercizi spirituali*, Mondadori, Milano 2000, p. 18.

³ *Constitutions OSM*, art. 27.

⁴ Cf. SILVANO MAGGIANI, *Addolorata*, in STEFANO DE FIORES – SALVATORE MEO (edit.) *Nuovo Dizionario di Mariologia*, San Paolo, Cinisello Balsamo 1985, pp. 3-16; MARIA MAURA MURARO-MARIA MARCELLIINA PEDICO, *Addolorata*, in STEFANO DE FIORES – VALERIA FERRARI SCHIEFER – SALVATORE MARIA PERRELLA (edit.) *Mariologia. I Dizionari*, San Paolo, Cinisello Balsamo 2009, pp. 6-16.

the faith of the simple and of the teachers of the Church who seek, discuss and define how to proclaim the Gospel” (*The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church. Instrumentum laboris*, no. 25).

Like the documents prepared for previous Chapters, *Do whatever he tells you* (1983) and *Servants of the Magnificat* (1995) this new Marian Document is addressed to all our brothers and sisters in the Servite Order and Family. It is also addressed to the local churches where the Servite Family carries out its service of special witness with bishops, priests, deacons and lay people. The document is similarly addressed to all those male and female religious whose consecration to the God of Christ is inspired by his Mother. It is also intended for all men and women who venerate with affection and admiration Mary, she who is blessed because she believed (Cf. *Lk* 1,45). The document is entitled *Be it done unto me according to your word* - the motto of the 213th General Chapter. The editor and the committee have added an meaningful subtitle: *Servites and Mary who is the image of those who live listening and witnessing to the Word*.

The Order is a living cell of the Church and the prologue is careful to place the chapter document in the specific theological and historical moment in which we find ourselves. It sees the Order and the Servite Family as part of a larger whole. Our development depends on the bonds we share with the Church and the human family. We made an effort to avoid self-absorption. Our bonds can and should be under the sign of the Word. If the Church is to be faithful to the promise of the Second Vatican Council it cannot ignore the spiritual life of believers and religious. It must be based and focused upon prayerful attention to the “living”, “effective”, and “incisive” Word (Cf. *Heb* 4, 12-13) as experienced in the tension and from the perspective of witness and service in the image of the Lord’s handmaid.

Part One (nos. 15-38) is entitled “*Hear O Israel.*” *Word and Identity*. It examines the *human* and *theological* links between Israel and Mary of Nazareth. Both receive the Word and cannot be understood apart from the inexhaustible dynamism of *Revelation* and *Faith*. The Order of Servants of Mary can be seen as an *ecclesial form* of the link between Israel and Mary – a *charismatic form* of the event of *revelation* and *faith*: the original image of *Mary at the Annunciation*. To return to the essential, foundational link between the Word and Our Lady means returning to salvation history and Israel’s faith witness. Mary is a daughter of the people of Israel, “and from them, according to the flesh, is the Messiah. God who is over all be blessed forever. Amen.” (*Rom* 9,5). The poet, Davide M. Turollo (+ 1992) writes this: “The Virgin Mother is a synthesis of creation, a sign of the fullness of grace; a synthesis of the history of Israel: the true Daughter of Zion; she is both the image and perfection of the new Israel: the Church. She is beauty that becomes the quest for and dispensation of grace through a life or prayer and invocation. Her life is worship, an act of love.”⁵

Part Two (nos. 39-75) is entitled “*Mary got up and went ...*”. *Word and Action*. It explores the Gospel account (primarily Luke) of Mary’s pilgrimage of faith (*Peregrinatio fidei*) initiated and caused by the incarnation of the Word. The Second Vatican Council Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum* tells us that Revelation represents a substantial not

⁵ DAVIDE MARIA TUROLLO, *Laudario alla Vergine*: “Via pulchritudinis”, EDB, Bologna 1980, p. 15.

accidental link between event and word. In the light of this Mary's *peregrinatio fidei* is seen as the quest for, acceptance and understanding of the events and words caused first by the presence of her son, Jesus and later by his actions. Consequently the Order and the Servite Family show their vitality by following the same path: quest for, acceptance and understanding of the *signa Christi* to be found in the life of the Church and mankind. Accepting the other as a sign of the God who speaks allowed Mary to sing the *Magnificat* (Cf. *Lk* 1, 46-55). The canticle is the fruit of communion, the encounter of believers who can pool the gifts they have received and exchange their personal histories of faith (Cf. *Rom* 12, 3-21). The *Magnificat* of the Mother of the Word shows us that sharing our faith histories is a Gospel *responsibility and educational and formative challenge* for the whole Church.

Part Three (nos. 76-100) is entitled "*They stood near Jesus' Cross ...*". *Word and Silence*. This section focuses on the culmination of the *peregrinatio fidei* of the woman from Nazareth: her presence at the foot of the Cross as describe by John. This made her the *Mater Dolorosa* (Cf. *Jn* 19,25-27). Her presence, however, in the newly born post-Easter community in Jerusalem made her the *Mater Ecclesiae* (Cf. *Acts* 1,14). The Order and the Servite Family must find in this paradoxical and scandalous *Gospel Silence* the source of its fruitfulness in the Spirit. Through this fruitfulness the One who was both humiliated and exalted joins us to the work of the Church. This is the sacrament of the Kingdom in history and beyond history. Its ultimate and longed for destination is the Triune bosom of God. For natural men (Cf. *1 Cor* 2, 11-14) word and silence are opposites and mutually exclusive. The former is a synonym for life and action, the later for death and inaction. For those who are led by the Spirit of God the word flows into silence and silence becomes a form of word. Silence is no longer the synonym of death and inactivity it is rather the source of life, action, redemption and salvation. The Trinity itself is living and working silence. It is a silence that saves and reveals itself in parable to those who pay attention and listen (Cf. *Lk* 8, 18). Among those present is the Mother of Jesus (Cf. *Lk* 8, 19-21; 11, 27-28). The Church too is present as are the disciples and her Servants in her, with her and through her. Servants of Mary are called "to manifest the gift of compassion to the world. They do this not just as an aspect of their ministerial and sacramental service but as a result of their Marian inspiration [...] Compassion and mercy are recognized characteristics of Servites who continue in their own lives the example and presence of the Mother of God (Cf. *Constitutions OSM* 52). The various stages of Mary's vocation celebrated in the liturgy and in popular devotion inspire us to accept the Word of God in the very different circumstances of our own pilgrimage especially in times of suffering – the days of the Cross."⁶

The **Epilogue** (nos. 101-115) is a résumé of the three preceding sections. It focuses on two Marian images that represent the Church: the Mother of the Living (*Mater viventium*) in Genesis (Cf. *Gen* 3, 15) and the Woman clothed with the sun in the Apocalypse (Cf. *Apoc* 12, 1). Servite liturgical tradition celebrates the solemnity of Our Lady of Sorrows; it considers and addresses her as principal Patron of the Order. This tradition

⁶ ORDINE DEI FRATI SERVI DI MARIA, "*Ecco la serva del Signore: avvenga per me second la tua parola (Lc 1, 38). Instrumentum laboris*, no. 16, in *Acta Ordinis Servorum B. Mariae Virginis Nova Series* 14 (2013), no. 19, p. 360.

envisions the “great sign in heaven” (Cf. *Apoc* 12,1) as a manifestation that recapitulates the fruitful mystery of Christ’s hour and that of his Kingdom (Cf. *Jn* 2, 1-12; 19, 25-27). In that hour Mary of Nazareth, the Mother of the one destined not to become dust (Cf. *Gen* 3,19) nor be eaten by the dragon (Cf. *Apoc* 12, 4) but to ascend to God and his throne (Cf. *Apoc* 12, 5) became our mother until “until all families of people, whether they are honored with the title of Christian or whether they still do not know the Savior, may be happily gathered together in peace and harmony into one people of God, for the glory of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity.” (Second Vatican Council, *Lumen Gentium*, no. 69).

This “great sign” calls on the Order and the Servite Family to become a community of *hope* that lives humanly and theologically by *listening, deciding* and *acting*.

The Epilogue concludes with a trust and hope fostered by the Word of God. Our Lady of the *Fiat* was always an example of this trust.

We are convinced that this new Marian Document, “*Let it be done unto me according to your Word*” (*Lk* 1, 38). *Servites and Mary, the image of those who live listening and giving witness to the Word*” will contribute to a theological, religious and spiritual re-birth for the whole Servite Family. In our efforts to follow the One Necessary we have as our guide Our Lady of the *Fiat* and as our style Mary’s example as a believer in the God of Jesus Christ. This is the fervent wish Pope Francis expressed in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*.

Salvatore M. Perrella, *osm*
Preside

New Grand Chancellor of «Marianum»

The General Chapter of the Friar Servants of Mary, celebrated at Pietralba (BZ) from 13 September to 1 October 2013, has elected the new Prior General Fr. Gottfried M. Wolff, who becomes also the Grand Chancellor of our Pontifical Theological Faculty. It has also elected the General Councillors: Fr. Paolo M. Orlandini, Fr. Rhett Sarabia, Fr. Jorge Luis M. Jiménez, Fr. Souriraj Arulanda Samy. We wish all the best to them!

REPETITE FONTES

On Thursday afternoon, September 19, 2013, “*Repetite Fontes*” was held at the Marianum for the eleventh time. Fra Paolo M. Zannini, the Vice-president of the Faculty presided and Fra Silvano M. Danieli, the Marianum Librarian, acted as moderator. Contrary to what was written in the program

neither Fra Salvatore M. Perrella, the President of the Faculty, nor Fra Paolo M. Orlandini, the President of *CLIOS* (Servite International Liturgical Committee) were present. Both were taking part in the Order’s General Chapter at Pietralba/Weissenstein (Bolzano). As programmed Odir Jacques Dias presented the

Legenda de origine Ordinis fratrum Servorum Virginis Mariae, a Facsimile, Transcription and Italian Translation edited by Ermanno M. Toniolo, Rome, 2013. Later Professor Toniolo presented his own most recent publication, *I contributi dei Servi di Maria al Concilio Vaticano II*, Rome 2013. He emphasized the purpose and characteristics of this edition of the *Legenda de origine*. The manuscript dates to the fourteenth century and is preserved in the General Archives of the Order at Rome. In the introduction Professor Toniolo writes: “The principal reason for this present edition [...] is to preserve the manuscript (a precious and unique treasure for the Order and the primary source of our history and spirituality) from any unforeseen disaster and to provide translators with the original text for inspiration and comparison. For this reason I included a Latin transcription immediately after the facsimile. The transcription is arranged in the same way (columns and pages) as the original. In the discussion that followed the presentation there was talk of a possible new critical edition of the *Legenda*. Professor Toniolo had mentioned this possibility in the *nota previa* to his “improved” edition of the Latin text with an Italian translation published in 1982. This praiseworthy publication was translated into various languages and gave access to the whole Servite Family to the most ancient and precious account of the Order’s origins. The *Legenda de origine* was edited for the first time in 1897 by Fra Agostino M. Morini. In 1951 Fra Alessio M. Rossi prepared another edition (in two languages) to which he gave the significant title *Codice Mariano* (Marian Text). In presenting his second work (*I contributi dei Servi ...*) Professor Ermanno Toniolo explained the genesis and method of his

painstaking work. He went through all the *Acta Synodalia* and cited, occasionally reproducing, all the interventions of the Council Fathers who were Servants of Mary. He covered all the material from the preparatory phase to the final documents approved by the Council. Unfortunately – as the author noted – economic limitations made it impossible to print more than a few copies of this work. The full text is available however at www.testimariani.net under *Servi di Maria – Servi di Maria al Concilio Vaticano II*. There could be no better place to present Professor Toniolo’s impassioned account (both in the book and in his presentation) than the Marianum Faculty (Pontifical since 1971). The Faculty was the forge and workshop where almost all the texts Servites (bishops and prelates) presented were prepared. Some of these texts were a determining influence in Council discussions; others, unfortunately, were ignored. Some of the prepared interventions were read in the assembly and others were presented to the Presidential Board. Almost all the Servites present at the Council were convinced and enthusiastic spokesmen for these texts. These are the friars who attended the Council: Priors General Alfonso M. Montà and Joseph M. Loftus; the Bishop of Manzini (Swaziland) Attilio M. Barneschi; the Vicars Apostolic of Aysén (Chile) Cesare M. Vielmo and Bernardo M. Cazzaro; the Bishop Prelate of Acre and Purus (Brazil) Giocondo M. Grotti; the Apostolic Prefect of Ingwavuma (South Africa) Edwin M. Kinch, the Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal, Adrien M. Cimichella. Except for this last prelate they were all the shepherds of young churches in mission territory.

Odir Jacques Dias
Archivist

In memoriam Father Luigi Gambero

On the afternoon of November 22 the Faculty held a memorial for Father Luigi M. Gambero. Father Luigi was our professor of Patristic Mariology. He passed away on June 2, 2013. Our gathering had as its theme: “The Contribution of Luigi Gambero (1930-2013) to Patristic Mariology. In Gratitude.” The President of the Faculty, Father Salvatore M. Perrella, greeted the many guests present and then the following speakers took the floor: Cardinal Angelo Amati, as President; Father Paolo M. Zannini OSM (“*Father Luigi’s Patristic Mariology*”); Father Jean-Luis Barré, SM (“*The Marianist Aspect of His Mariology*”); Father Vincenzo Battaglia OFM, President of PAMI (“*His Contribution as a Mariologist and Patristics Scholar to the Pontifical International Marian Academy.*”) The very moving closing speech was delivered by Father Luigi Magni SM, the Provincial Superior.

In the program distributed for the occasion, the President described Father Luigi’s rich personality in the following terms:

“It was with great dismay but Christian hope that we learned of the death of our very dear Father Luigi Gambero, a respected teacher at the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty until June 30, 2012. His academic service was both scrupulous and successful. It lasted almost thirty-two years! Father Luigi Gambero was awarded a doctorate in theology with a specialization in Mariology here at the Marianum in 1980. He received the highest possible marks. It was a continuation of the doctorate in ancient Christian Literature he already possessed. His thesis moderator for that doctorate was the illustrious Patristics scholar, Michele Pellegrino, later the Cardinal Archbishop of Turin. Father Luigi was invited to take the chair of Patristic Mariology here at the Marianum during the 1982-1983 academic year. At the XVII International Mariological Symposium (SIM) on October 9, 2009 the then President of the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty bestowed the XI “*René Laurentin – Pro Ancilla Domini*” award on Father Luigi at the suggestion of the committee judges in recognition of the high quality of his studies and publications. On this occasion the renowned French theologian and Mariologist, René Laurentin, personally paid him homage and recognized his international contribution to the study of Mary’s place in the History of Salvation as understood and described by the Fathers of the Church and ecclesiastical writers over the centuries. Father Gambero spent most of the eighty-three years of his life teaching and doing research. Everyone he met was struck by the delicacy and elegance of a Marian style that found expression in his religious consecration as a Marianist. In the Church of Christ his priestly ministry to the vast and diverse human community was constant and devoted. His ministry was simple, affable, dignified and marked with Christian charity. Father Gambero learned his love of God’s Holy Mother especially from the Eastern and Western Fathers – the great teachers and masters of the Faith. He taught generations of students to know and love these Fathers. We are all grateful.”

Allow me to add something personal. I knew Father Luigi from the very first day he came to work with us at the Faculty. We believe that his presence in our midst was a gift to each and everyone of us. His scholarly background as well as his wide knowledge of both classical and modern languages was noteworthy. His many publications of high

quality and originality are ample evidence of his tireless devotion to research. As a priest and religious he was exemplary. He genuinely loved the Church and his own religious family (the Marianists). In working with us he was in every way a gentleman. His ability to adjust to the many unforeseen shifts in the Faculty's operation was impressive. Students, especially foreigners, will long remember the many hours he devoted to their theses. To all of this was added his ever present smile – a sure sign of his communion with the Lord Jesus and his love for Our Lady.

Aristide Serra

Women and Christianity Department

For the 2013-2014 academic year the “Women and Christianity” Department has turned its attention to the many images of Our Lady in the popular devotion of the People of God. We have included cinema in this effort and will examine three films: Catherine Hardwicke's *Nativity* and Guido Chiesa's two films: *Per amore solo per amore di Pasquale* *Fiesta Campanile* and *Io sono con te*. We began this exercise with a technical introduction by Professor Cristina Carnicella (Professor of Social Communications Theology at our Faculty). We then projected the film. There were two commentaries by different experts. At the end there was a discussion open to all present.

The first of three sessions was held on November 8 and was entitled “*I molti volti di Maria nel Cinema*” [The Many Faces of Mary in Cinema]. Both students and outsiders attended. The Department Director greeted all those present and then Professor Carnicella began the session with an overview of cinema production; she spoke of the elements that must be borne in mind to determine the distance between a production and the proper interpretation of its message. This is especially the case when the production concerns religion. The speaker then de-

scribed technical elements: script, setting, place and ambient of production, Hardwicke's intentions, the Protestant religion, Jewish ancestors – as a non believer she hoped to explore the ideas and stories told to her in childhood. The projection began with a description of background: Second Temple Judaism, the Roman occupation of Palestine and an almost slavish imitation of the infancy narratives. The director avoided a description of the nativity with more “stable” elements than biblical. The influence of Hollywood was clear: a product devised and produced following commercial standards of approval and entertainment. There were two speakers: Rosetta Stella, a publicist and writer, and Fabrizio Bosin OSM, professor of Christology at the Marianum. Stella's interpretation was marked by a feminine perspective (*pensiero della differenza*). She described with great harshness the ambiguities of the film's portrayal of Mary – in the end she succumbs to the traditional submission to a man. She noted how Joseph goes from being a marginal character to playing a dominant role. Bosin lamented the poverty of the commercial product influenced by ideology – in the final analysis it does not do justice to Mary although it is objectively difficult

to discover the “Mary of history.” The Aula Magna was full and the public took an active part in the discussion. Some agreed with and others disagreed with the interpretations presented.

The session concluded at 7:15 PM. The Department Director bade farewell to all attending and announced that the next session would be held on March 8, 2014.

Cettina Militello

Gathering of Former Students and Friends of the «Marianum»

On October 2, 2013, the general assembly of the Association of Former Students and Friends of the Marianum was held at the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty. The assembly took place during the XIX International Mariological Symposium (SIM). The main items on the agenda were the status of the Association and the election of a Board of Directors.

The President greeted those present and remarked that compared to previous years attendance was down. In September 2000 the assembly was held at the *Divino Amore* shrine during the International Mariological-Marian Congress and so many more attended. We subsequently decided to hold the assembly on April 25. This is a civil holiday in Italy not a religious holiday. Better attendance would be possible since former students involved in pastoral activities would have no liturgical obligations on that day. In spite of the holiday few people attended the April 25 assemblies. With the consent of the Faculty the Board of Directors decided to hold the annual meeting while the International Marian Symposium was in progress. In those years when there was no Symposium the meeting would be held during the PAMI International Mariological-Marian Congress. The meeting held during SIM (2011) had a respectable number of participants but almost no one was present at the meeting during the PAMI Congress (2012). The task of the assembly is to devise and propose methods that will increase membership in the Association and promote a more active participation in its activities. We must find new ideas to reach this goal and new solutions that will be successful.

Father Maggiani shared the President’s disappointment at the poor attendance and expressed the opinion that if it were held during the Symposium (SIM) more people would attend – especially former students. He also suggested that we increase the number of those with a right to take part in the Association. For example we might welcome those who have finished their studies and are working on a doctorate in Rome. Often they are involved in teaching. A different approach for “Friends of the Faculty” would also be appropriate. Members of the Faculty should let their own friends know about the Association and invite them to join. Everyone present at the assembly agreed with these ideas. They believe it is important to improve communications among former students and possible friends. Because of poor communications the Association is little known and few people attend our assemblies. This situation can be improved with the modern methods of communication. To do this, though, knowledgeable individuals who can devote time to this project must be found.

Father Maggiani spoke about his own experiences in other similar organizations. They too had difficulty holding annual plenary meetings and decided on greater intervals be-

tween meetings. Since we are experiencing similar problems with our annual meetings Father Maggiani suggests that the meetings be held every two years during the International Mariological Symposium.

With regard to the election of a Board of Directors, Father Maggiani with the consent of the President made the following suggestion: since so few were present we could hold the election but limit the terms of those elected to two years, i.e. until the 2015 General Assembly. The Assembly approved this suggestion and proceeded to elect the new Board of Directors who will remain in office until the 2015 General Meeting. Those elected were: President – Don Jean-Pierre Sieme Lasoul; Councilors – Maria Serena Peri, Bruno Pinsuti Berrino, Christian Pristipino. These individuals will form the Board of Directors along with Father Paolo Zannini, the Councilor appointed by the Faculty in accordance with the by-laws. Finally the Treasurer explained the Balance Sheet for 2012. A significant expenditure went to scholarships for Faculty students. The Assembly approved.

Antonio Mazzella
Secretary

THE LIBRARY

Father Salvatore Perrella's report to the General Chapter on the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty provides important and significant details on the Library's activity, collaboration and acquisitions over the last six years. However another considerable effort must be added to the activities described in the report: preparation of the Marian and Servite bibliographies, both of which were published in 2013: the Servite bibliography in *Studi Storici OSM* 63 (2013) and the Marian bibliography (for 2009 to 2011) as volume 64 of *Scripta Pontificiae Facultatis Theologicae "Marianum"*. I would urge greater collaboration with our work on the Servite bibliography. Please inform, communicate and send to the library information about what individual friars, communities or provinces are publishing. Our Servite bibliography would be more complete and would more accurately reflect the Order's cultural life. By now everyone knows that work on build-

ing the new library began at the end of August. Work is proceeding in an expedited fashion and keeping close to the very specific time table. At the same time the library's work (adding new acquisitions and cataloging material already in our possession) continues at its usual pace. Thanks to the tireless and committed efforts of several of our students we continue to prepare photographs, prints, engravings and other minor material for conservation. So much rich material about the Order and belonging to the Order should not be allowed to perish.

Over the last two years collaboration between the libraries of the Pontifical Athenaeums in Rome through the *Associazione Urbe* has continued at a somewhat slower pace. There is a lull in our activity. There are a variety of reasons for this situation. We trust that the upcoming Plenary Assembly (scheduled for January/February 2014) will provide Rectors and Presidents a chance to plan new areas

of collaboration and approve shared projects already under way.

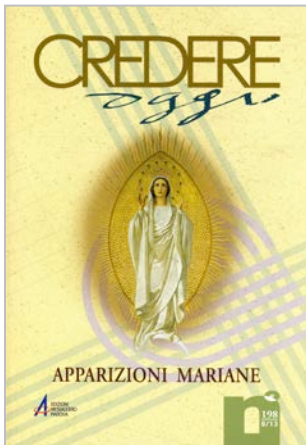
The primary function of the library is to be at the heart of the Faculty and to provide a place for research, consultation and study. In spite of our limited space and economic resources our library strives to accommodate its users and meet their needs. The library is a precious treasure that should be equally available to all its users. If our users

showed greater care for the library's possessions it would help the our personnel to carry out their responsibilities with calm and control. In the last analysis this would benefit all the library's users. Decent behavior and respect for the common good are more valuable than rules and regulations.

Silvano Danieli osm
Librarian

PUBLICATIONS/BOOKS

«Apparizioni mariane» in *Credere oggi* 33 (2013), n. 6, pp. 3-114. This current issue of the Review contains the theological contributions of various professors of «Marianum»: S. M. Perrella (2), S. Maggiani, G. Bruni, G. M. Roggio, G. A. Faccioli.



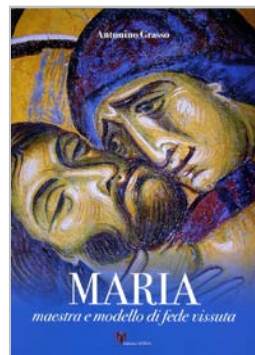
Why does Mary appear? And what should we believe regarding the number of Marian apparitions occurring in various parts of the world? This current issue of *Credere Oggi* does not claim to give an exhaustive answer to these questions, nor does it enter into the details of the Marian apparitions that are not yet officially approved by the Church. But it offers some criteria of evaluation regarding their credibility. It makes us understand the role and the function of Marian apparitions: they are «footprints of God in the history» and at the same time «challenge for our reason». They are free gifts of God's grace, special charisma given to us through the Church. By these apparitions,

the Church can be renewed and encouraged to be faithful to the Gospel, in the journey of continuous conversion.

ANTONINO GRASSO, *Maria maestra e modello di fede vissuta*, Editrice "Istina", Siracusa 2013, 191 p.

In the preface to this book Salvatore Maria Perrella writes: “Like the Virgin Mary we believers feel not just the need to profess our faith in the God of Jesus Christ but to go further with the gift and performative action of the Holy Spirit.

We are and ve- committed to living ecclesiality with the same faith; to our best ability we must proclaim the care and concern Jesus has for all those he loves and seeks to save. Antonino Grasso is a respected teacher of Mariology and prolific writer on Marian subjects. We are grateful to him for bringing this work to the attention of not just of scholars and teachers but especially to all ‘devotees of Our Lady.’ This book provides motivation and content on the theological importance of the Woman who can truly be welcomed, listened to, imitated and venerated as both the teacher and the model of a life of faith *sub umbra Trinitas* (in the shadow of the Trinity).”



MARIA MARCELLINA PEDICO, *La più amata dai cristiani. La pietà mariana secondo il magistero*, Edizioni Messaggero, Padova 2013, 182 p.



Devotion to Mary has always profoundly influenced the life of the faithful and the journey of the people of God. Even today popular devotion to the Mother of Christ is manifest in so many diverse and sincere ways. Mary is the woman most loved by Christians. She is the mother who can lead the faithful to her son Jesus. Devotion to Our Lady pervades the whole Church. It is important to understand that devotion to Mary is not a naive religious phenomenon; it is a superior example of the insight of faith. It is supported by the noble tradition of the Church

and bears specific theological implications.

In this book the author provides the most appropriate means to link Marian devotion to our heritage of academic theology. Marian devotion is replete with popular culture’s insights into life – insights that make faith a reality. A theological appreciation of popular devotion is one of the special signs of today’s Church.

“This book is an up-to-date and documented synthesis of Marian devotion among the people of God. Its originality is found in the ongoing dialogue between two important protagonists of the post-conciliar rebirth of Mariology. On the one hand we have the conciliar and post-conciliar Magisterium – the authentic and certain guide to Marian devotion – and on the other, those theologians who are careful and far-seeing spokesmen for the Marian implications of Scripture, tradition and liturgy. We have a *summa mariologica* (Summary of Mariology) that should be read and assimilated. This book is an outstanding handbook, a

vademecum, to give theological substance to preaching, liturgy and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary – she who is most loved by the people of God.” (From Cardinal Angelo Amato’s preface to the book.)

PIERO PUGLISI, *Maria di Nazareth sorella dei poveri*, Rubbettino, Soveria Mannelli 2013, 233 p.

The author demonstrates why Mary of Nazareth can be called the Sister of the Poor. The poor are looking for real answers that make sense and are authentic and coherent. The poor are not just a sociological category; they are a *locus theologicus*. They make us understand the genuine religious attitude and commitment needed for conversion. The needs of the poor remind us that working for a world of greater justice is an unavoidable duty for all the disciples of Jesus. Our Lady would have us consider poverty seriously (both sociologically and theologically). She shows us the parameters of an integrated culture of liberation: love for our brothers and for God. She is our Sister in solidarity. Mary of Nazareth shared all the difficulties of the human condition. She points us to a new heaven and a new earth – both of which come from God. This work is born of the urgent need to strengthen the link between *heaven and earth*. Mary is the “Sister of the Poor.” She contributes to the religious experience of today’s believers: that experience must be purified, guided and constantly nourished with the Word. This can be a credible and effective solution to the crisis of people who are poor and who do not even know it.

Piero M. Puglisi was born in Messina in 1961. He studied in Rome and was awarded a doctorate in dogmatic theology with a specialization in Mariology. He has always been with the poor and shared their community life. Since 1993 he lived his mission in Catanzaro-Squillace; he was the director of Diocesan *Caritas* (1993-1999), the President of the *Fondazione Città Solidale* since 1999, Director of the *Ufficio Migrantes* since 2011, and pastor of a parish on the outskirts of Squillace Lido since 2000. He is also involved in education and preaching in Calabria and elsewhere. He is a founding member and spiritual director of the *Associazione Spazio Aperto* and the “Squillace Lido” Sports Club.



PUBBLICAZIONI/ARTICOLI

PERRELLA SALVATORE M.

Maestra di cristianesimo. Nel giorno dell'Assunzione Maria ci richiama a rendere forte la fede e sicura la speranza, in *L'Osservatore Romano*, Wednesday August 14, 2013, p. 5.

Il nome di Maria. La Chiesa ne fa memoria il 12 settembre, in *L'Osservatore Romano*, Friday September 13, 2013, p. 7.

Ai piedi della Croce. Il 15 settembre la memoria dell'Addolorata, in *L'Osservatore Romano*, Sunday September 15, 2013, p. 4.

La fede di Maria paradigma di quella della Chiesa dei discepoli. Prefazione, in A. GRASSO, *Maria maestra e modello di fede vissuta*, Ed. Istina, Siracusa 2013, pp. 9-20.

Educare alla fede alla luce del Concilio Vaticano II. L'apporto della pietà e della devozione mariana, in *Marianum* 75 (2013), pp. 291-332.

Il Concilio Vaticano II e la sua proposta mariologica. Riflessioni e approfondimenti a cinquant'anni dalla «Lumen gentium», in *Theotokos* 21 (2013), pp. 519-569.

Maria patrimonio, guida e riscatto della terra di Calabria. Prefazione, in P.M. PUGLISI, *Maria di Nazareth sorella dei poveri. Nella realtà socio-religiosa della Calabria, oggi e nella prospettiva del magistero ecclesiale*, Rubbettino, Soveria Mannelli 2013, pp. 5-10.

I doni di Maria. Riflessioni sulla solennità dell'Immacolata Concezione, in *L'Osservatore Romano*, Sunday December 8, p. 6.

LUCA DI GIROLAMO

L'influsso di Maria nella storia e nella società italiana prima e dopo il raggiungimento della sua unità nazionale in *Ephemerides Mariologicae* 63 (2013), pp. 361-396.

THE SECRETARIAT

The 2012-2013 Academic Year officially concluded with a meeting of the Faculty Council on Thursday, June 27, 2012. The Presidential Council initiated the work of the new Academic Year (2013-2014) on Tuesday, October 22, 2013.

The Academic Councils' Activity, October – December 2013

Among the decisions taken by the Councils in this part of 2013 and published in the *Es-tratti dei Verbali* [Extracts from the Minutes] on the Faculty's website www.marianum.it of particular interest are:

- The choice of a theme for the XX International Mariological Symposium (October 2015): *Maria e i luoghi del sacro* [Mary and Sacred Sites] and the appointment of a committee to study the content and outline of this theme;
- The choice of a subject for the opening address and the date of October 22, 2014 for the official beginning of the 2014-2015 Academic Year.

Plenary Assembly

As prescribed by the bylaws the annual Plenary Assembly of the Faculty was held on Thursday, November 14. Taking part were teachers of all Orders and levels, officials and those responsible for the groups enrolled in courses at the Faculty. During the meeting we explained what was discussed at the Servite General Chapter (Pietralba, September 13 – October 2, 2013) about the «Marianum». The Chapter evaluated the Faculty's long-standing collaboration with various academic and religious institutions for the Three-Year Institutional Theology course.

Representatives at the 2013-2014 Academic Councils

Teachers with a one-year term:

- Professor CETTINA MILITELLO, the Presidential Council
- Professor GIOVANNI GROSSO O.Carm, the Faculty Council.

Students from Cycle I-II-III

- Fra FRANCESCO M. SCORRANO OSM, II Cycle student, the Presidential Council
- Fra CHARLES FERNANDO M. GOMES OSM, I Cycle student, the Faculty Council.

Other Appointments

On August 30, 2013, Professor Silvano M. Maggiani was appointed to a five-year term as Consultor for Pontifical Liturgical Celebrations; he was also appointed a member of the *Consiglio didattico e scientifico del Master di II livello in Progettazione di edifici per il culto*, organized by the *Dipartimento di Architettura e Progetto dell'Università la Sapienza di Roma*.

Miscellany

The Faculty presented a second version of the critical edition of H. Sherer's *Atlas Marianus* (1702) to the Vatican and Roman press on December 16, 2013. This new edition includes a Presentation by the Director of the *Marianum* periodical and an Introduction written by Professor Stefano De Fiores not long before his death. The commercial price of the Atlas is €3,000. It can be had through the *Marianum* at a considerable discount.

Christmas Concert

In collaboration with the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty and with the sponsorship of the Banco Desio Lazio, the Accademia Musicale Romana organized the traditional *Christmas Concert* at St. Juliana Falconieri Church (Piazza Cucchi 2). The concert was held on Sunday, December 22, 2013 at 5 PM.

Christmas Greetings

At 11 AM on Friday, December 20, teachers and students gathered in the Faculty's Aula Magna to celebrate and exchange traditional Christmas Greetings.

Educating the youth for Peace

Fifty years after the John XIII's Encyclical letter *Pacem in terris*, Jacques Maritain International Institute, in collaboration with the Universities and Theological Faculties of Rome, is offering a University level Course on the theme of Peace. This course, already started on 13 October 2013, has 13 weekly sessions at the Pontifical Urban University. On the 18th of December 2013, Prof. Salvatore M. Perrella, President of «Marianum», spoke to the participants of the course on the following topic: «Mary and Peace in the teachings of the Popes (From John XXXII to Benedict XVI) and in the Second Vatican Council».

ACTIVITY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF «WOMEN
AND CHRISTIANITY»

8 March 2014, at 16.00

**2ND SEMINAR ON
THE FACE OF MARY: FILM ADAPTATIONS**

FILM TO BE SCREENED:
For love, only for love
Discussion