

CONTENTS

- Editorial "Let's grow together with Him"
- 4 The humanity of Christmas Christmas, to rediscover ourselves humans
- 8 Dialogue with the monastery Living in the presence of the Lord
- 12 Saint Rita Foundation The volunteers of Saint Rita
- 14 Stories from the Sanctuary Luciana, mother after 15 years of waiting
- 16 Ritian Calendar 2021



Follow us on







@monasterosantarita www.santaritadacascia.org/en

SUPPORT FROM THE BEES TO THE ROSES

o continue spreading the hope of Rita's message, help us to support "From the Bees to the Roses", the voice of Saint Rita worldwide. Even just a small donation through:

• Bank:

IBAN IT14T0311139240000000001781 BIC/SWIFT: BLOPIT22

Post Office:

postal a/c 5058 - payable to the Monastery of Saint Rita of Cascia specifying "Subscription". Thank you for what are able to do!

FROM THE BEES TO THE ROSES

Bimonthly of the Augustinian Monastery of Saint Rita of Cascia No. 6 November-December 2020



Auth. Court of Spoleto No. 9 of 26.06.1954. ROC Registry No. 29665 Italian edition: year XCVII. English edition: year LIX. French edition: year LVIII. Spanish edition: year XLVIII. German edition: year XLVIII. Portuguese edition: year VII.

On the cover: Nativity. Photo by Giovanni Galardini.

Sr. M. Giacomina Stuani

Editorial Director

Pasquale Grossi

Editorial Committee

Monica Guarriello (editor-in-chief)

Fr. Luciano De Michieli, Alessia Nicoletti, Fr. Giuseppe Caruso, Roger Bergonzoli

Saint Rita Monastery, viale Santa Rita 13 - 06043 Cascia (PG) tel. + 39 0743 76221 - fax + 39 0743 76786

Headquarters

Via Francesco Massi 12/D - 00152 Rome tel. + 39 06 39674099 - fax + 39 06 39637399 www.santaritadacascia.org/dalleapiallerose

redazione@santaritadacascia.org

With thanks to

Sr. Maria Rosa Bernardinis osa, Sr. M. Natalina Todeschini osa, Suor M. Laura Quarto osa, Marta Ferraro

Giovanni Galardini, Massimo Chiappini, Stefano Dal Pozzolo, Stock.adobe.com © sunnyfrog

Graphic design and layout

Bruno Apostoli graphic designer - www.brunoapostoli.it



monastero@santaritadacascia.org www.santaritadacascia.org

If you wish to make an offer to the Monastery of Saint Rita in Cascia to ask for a subscription, prayers, Masses, for the charitable works of the monastery, for graces received and for devotion, you can do so through:

bank: IBAN IT14T0311139240000000001781 BIC/SWIFT: BLOPIT22

post office: a/c 5058 - payable to Monastery of Saint Rita of Cascia to make a postal transfer: IBAN IT85R0760103000000000005058

credit card: www.santaritadacascia.org/donazioni

FOR SWITZERLAND

Post office: a/c 69-8517-0 payable to: Augustinian Monastery of Saint Rita 06043 Cascia PG - Italy

IBAN CH8309000000690085170

FOR GERMANY

Post office: a/c 14421706 Payable to: Superior of the Monastery of Saint Rita 06043 Cascia PG - Italy IBAN DE11600100700014421706

Finished printing in October 2020 by Industria Grafica Umbra srl Via Umbria 148, 06059 Todi (PG).



The From the Bees to the Roses magazine is printed on paper certified with the FSC mark

"Let's grow together with Him"

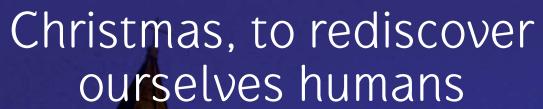
nce again this year, we are preparing to live together an important and precious period, the period that leads us to Holy Christmas and the new year. This period has always been synonymous with reflection, because, in addition to dates, rites and traditions, "Christmas is a privileged opportunity to meditate on the meaning and value of our existence". These words of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI make us understand the opportunity that the upcoming holidays give us, that is the possibility of rediscovering ourselves, looking inside and outside of us, in the light of the greatest of mysteries, God who becomes man to make us become His sons.

Together with him, we can all renew our birth and our lives at the same time, because Christmas means being born, but it does not stop there. "Behold, we have the Infant Christ; let us grow up in Him". Thus, in his "Sermons" (Sermon 196, 3), St. Augustine speaks to us of an essential dimension of Christmas: growth. A growth that must be understood not in terms of quantity but of quality, in order to renew and improve ourselves. The image, which comes from Augustine's reflections, is in fact that of the baby Jesus who invites us to take his hand and follow him step by step. Usually, when we talk about growth for a child, we think of the path that will make them become grown up, adult and mature. The growth that Jesus offers us goes far beyond these dimensions, because it makes us become more human beings.

This growth is challenging, but it is the blessing that the Lord gives to each of us. We just have to open our hearts to welcome it and allow his grace to generate fruits of peace, communion and reconciliation. We need this growth, especially at the end of this year of great suffering and on the eve of the one that is about to begin, full of hope. The pandemic has separated us, it has stopped us ... Christmas can bring us together and make us grow as human beings. God who becomes man, in fact, tells us that he came down among us to

find man and bring him back to his true essence. What is this essence? The one in which He made us, in His image and likeness, to take care of ourselves, of our neighbour and of creation. The one that He reminds us precisely through Jesus, who is the New Man, the man who is an example and a way to follow. God became man for us who, by accepting the gift of becoming His sons, grow in our humanity. This is the beauty of Christmas, a feast that is not a date but a "place" where we can find ourselves, be reborn and grow, together with the Child Jesus. The new Rector of the Basilica of Saint Rita, Fr. Luciano De Michieli, speaks of this in the following pages, to whom we nuns wish success in his work. Also in our prayers is Fr. Bernardino Pinciaroli, whom we greet with gratitude for the service carried out in recent years.

For a Holy Christmas
of growth in the Lord
and a new year
of serenity!
Best wishes from the
Augustinian family
of Gascia, from the Beehive
of Sainta Rita, from the
Saint Rita of Gascia
Foundation and from
the editorial team of
From the Bees to the Roses.



Interview with the new Rector of the Basilica of Saint Rita, Father Luciano De Michieli





FATHER DE MICHIELI, NEW RECTOR OF CASCIA

Since his birth on 1 February 1959 in Milan, the saint of the impossible has accompanied Fr. Luciano and led him to her on three occasions. When he was 10, his family moved to near the Sanctuary of Saint Rita in Milan, an event which marked his life. There, he grew up in the oratory, met the Augustinians and began his path of faith. Friendships are born, he falls in love and a passion for the mountains develops. He begins the Faculty of Agricultural

Sciences, but before the thesis, at the age of 24, the choice of religious life takes shape in him. He graduates and immediately enters the Order of St. Augustine. For seven years, he studies Philosophy, Theology and Biblical Theology in Rome to fully understand the Word of God that he loves so much. In 1994 he is ordained a priest in Pavia and his first designation arrives with his return to Saint Rita, this time in his home in Cascia, where he remains for eight years. In 2005, he moves to Tolentino as general councillor of the Order, gaining international experiences. In 2012, he is elected Prior Provincial of Italy, a role in which he is confirmed in 2016 for another four years. Finally, in September 2020, he returns to Cascia, called to be the new Rector of the Basilica of Saint Rita.

hat Christmas is this in a year marked by the pandemic? "Pope Francis said: 'Worse than this crisis there is only the drama of wasting it'. The reflection that must be made is that it cannot be a Christmas like any other. This period has been an exception because, on the one hand, a necessary distancing was created and, on the other, there was the novelty of following the rosary or celebrations on TV or on social networks. There was an abundance of the Word of God, with many daily and well thought out messages. All this has changed the presence of Christ in our life, bringing out in us a thirst, a need, even a joy in living this presence. Jesus is born every day in our life, in our days. How is

There was an abundance of the Word of God

Christ born today? The question applies to each of us, to the Church and to society, because only by finding a common answer can we truly walk together".

How does Christmas teach us to be humans? "The mystery of God who becomes flesh must be translated for us as a great need to become more human. The crisis has shown us how urgent it is to find more humanity. In Genesis everything is created together with man who, unlike other animals, receives from God the responsibility of one towards the other and the custody of creation. By becoming flesh, then, God once again communicates to us the great dignity of humanity and also shows us the way to be human, because Jesus is the New Man and the way for us to follow".

At Christmas we also celebrate the closeness of God, who becomes one of us ... "Yes, with Christmas God tells us 'it is in man and through man that you meet me'. To know the divine, we must know the human and grow as men. He reminds us that when he created man he did so in a design of love, in his im-

age and likeness. Therefore, the more man is man, the more he is similar to God. And for this to happen there is a need for humility. I believe that this is the path that Christmas offers us: to make us understand that there is no other way than that of humility to encounter man and God. It means that we must not be afraid of affection and of the

Therefore, the more man is man, the more he is similar to God

other. For this reason, by choosing to become man, God chooses the smallest among us, a child in a family, because a child must be welcomed, cared for, defended ... this is the genius of God who thus breaks the barriers that we all have, he makes us come into contact with him and saves us".

In the nativity, the shepherds are the first to meet the baby Jesus. Who are the shepherds in the 2020 crib? "One thing is certain: the shepherds were the luckiest: they see the light and simply go to see. We are much more complicated: we are focused too much on ourselves and not on what happens outside us. The shepherd is the one who needs the other, because God has gone and goes to those in need today too. This is the announcement of the shepherds. The mystery of Christ comes only to those who are open to do it, because what Jesus asks of man is to welcome him. There are no conditions that we must respect to receive God,

The shepherd is the one who needs the other

the only thing is to understand that we are not enough for ourselves".

During this year we have often talked about rebirth. But are we ready for this rebirth? "Not only are we ready, but we really need it. Crises can be favourable occasions to show us our fragility and purify our life of

TESTIMONIES OF GRACE

Your testimonies presented by Maurizia Di Curzio, assistant to the listening service for the Monastery of Saint Rita



Here we are! We have reached the end of the year, a year that has left its mark, which will remain for many of us as a watershed, between the before and the after. A before of habits and customs and an after of awareness, reflection and much more. In the time of "anchoring" we have understood what matters and what doesn't, we have understood which words have the strength to stand the test of life and which ones don't. Let's not go back now to being stunned by the frequency with which the world speaks, creating only confusion in us, but let's keep what is Essential, let's stay tuned to the frequency of Silence, that's where He speaks to us. With an air of freshness, Antonella lets us live her pilgrimage in her story, filling our hearts with wonder. There are moments when we feel an internal void that we want to fill and with prayer we understand that the void will no longer be such if we meet someone, the one with whom we could be ourselves; our experience of life will always be the same but it will no longer be ballast for us. "The Encounter" is the title I would give to her testimony. Happy Encounter and journey to everyone in this new year.

I came to you. I came alone, but I found a lot of company. I didn't do anything special for you, but as soon as I heard about the pilgrimage I decided: this time I won't miss it ... I needed to come to you! I don't know why, but I know you were waiting for me! September 14th was a wonderful day: the sun was hot and the air was clear. The road was already a prelude to what I would find: a pristine nature not spoiled by the presence of man and then ... one bend after the other to reach you! Your home is a hidden corner of the world, set in a green and rocky landscape; it gives a sense of cleanliness and solidity, as you were clean in your life and solid in your decisions. I immediately entered the church and I would never have thought I would be moved in front of your body: you are alive, you make yourself heard and there you can really pray. Everyone brings their own needs and I too brought you mine. One in particular that I had entrusted to you the previous year and had been granted in those days: my daughter fulfilled her desire to be a mother! You were there for me because you too were a bride, mother, woman. I felt you true and strong: true in your femininity and strong in your faith. I saw you as an exceptional woman, from whom we must take an example, who did not speak in the squares but in the intimacy of her family and then of the monastery, where you showed great courage! I don't say special prayers for you, but the ring I bought is not a souvenir, but your presence in my life: I always carry it with me and I often turn it round on my finger! You remained in my heart, we became friends. I'll come back to see you and I know you'll always keep a hand on my shoulder! (Antonella, Santa Maria a Monte PI - Italy)

useless things. We must focus on what we have discovered this year: the hunger for the Word of God, for a new Wisdom to accompany us throughout the day, the need for relationships, the fact that we cannot save ourselves alone, the need to work together in the respect for the other and be united to rebuild the life of all, the care of the most

fragile, the great urgency to protect nature and creation. These are the lessons to be learned in order to be reborn. True rebirth, in fact, starts from the man who changes and recognises the Truth that dwells in him, the God most intimate to himself. Christmas tells us this: let's start again from man and we will meet God".

PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY

Jesus, Mary and Joseph to you, Holy Family of Nazareth, today, we turn our gaze with admiration and trust; in you we contemplate the splendour of communion in true love; we recommend all our families to you, so that the wonders of grace are renewed in them.

Holy Family of Nazareth, authentic school of the Gospel: teach us to imitate your virtues with wise spiritual discipline, give us a clear gaze that knows how to recognise the work of Providence in the daily realities of life.

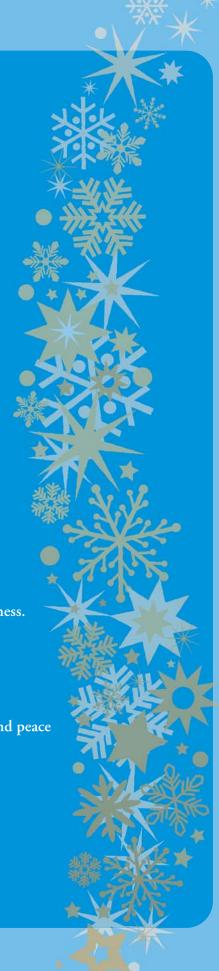
Holy Family of Nazareth, faithful guardian of the mystery of salvation: revive in us the esteem of silence, make our families circles of prayer and transform them into small domestic Churches, renew the desire for holiness, support the noble toil of work, of education, of listening, of mutual understanding and of forgiveness.

Holy Family of Nazareth, reawaken in our society the awareness of the sacred and inviolable character of the family, an inestimable and irreplaceable good.

Let every family be a welcoming place of goodness and peace for children and the elderly, for the sick and lonely, for the poor and needy.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph we pray with trust to you, we entrust ourselves to you with joy.

Pope Francis



Living in the presence of the Lord

Yesterday and today: 25 years of religious profession

by Sister M. Laura Quarto OSA

esterday ... Vicopelago, Lucca, 15 August 1995. The sun shines in an extraordinarily blue sky. The last preparations are being made, the Mother President of our Federation, Sister Angela Tamanti, is preparing to decorate the flowers, white and pink roses, I take care of the altar: a large table that has been raised for the occasion. A lot of people are expected and the monastery church is too small. We open the internal cloister for the occasion. The mass of my first profession will be celebrated outdoors. "I will take my vows to the Lord before all his people". A splendid silence. We all work with great inner concentration. Sister Maria, Vicar Mother and my teacher, occasionally looks out of the kitchen and watches me with her dazzling smile. I am filled with an immense joy, even if the thought that these are not yet the final vows disturbs me a little. My only desire is to belong entirely to God forever. "One thing I asked the Lord, this only I am seeking: to live in the house of the Lord every day of my life, to taste the

sweetness of the Lord and admire his sanctuary ... Your face Lord I seek, do not hide your face from me". These words of Psalm 26, which I chose for the holy picture, resounded within me and belonged to me more and more. Your words, Lord, had become my words. The night before a prayer vigil, through the reading of some passages chosen from the Confessions of St. Augustine, had told my story of conversion. Everything is indelibly engraved in

the heart, moments of indescribable happiness, and at the same time the precise perception that what was happening was too great and wonderful ... impossible for me to fully understand its meaning.

Life is a breath, we cannot throw it away



The Augustinian Family of Cascia together with her loved ones joined in the joy of Sister M. Laura.

Today ... Cascia, Perugia, 15 August 2020. Covid-19 prevents me from celebrating with all my relatives and

who did not want to miss our annual appointment. Memories come flooding back. Among them, my beloved fa-



friends, but distance turns into a living presence in the heart and thanks to technology we find ourselves connected in live streaming and we can pray together ... then as if by magic, my two sisters with their husbands appear, followed by Ombretta and Franco, our dear friends

ther Salvatore who has been dead for 20 years now. A

Thank you Lord for every encounter with you

God has always been faithful over the years

smile arises spontaneously when I think back to the words he said to me when he saw me dressed in black: "You look really good dressed like this, you look like a real nun", and I answered laughing: "But dad, I am a real nun". With him, my uncles and aunts, the sisters, the brothers, priests who helped me on the journey, watched and prayed from heaven ...

In 25 years, many things have happened! Joy and pain, deaths and births, defeats and successes, efforts and misunderstandings, ups and downs ... have followed one another. Life is not simple and it is really a breath, we cannot throw it away ... how many mistakes ... how many sins ... how much amazement ... but the desire to answer you in full has never left me ... thank you,

THINE IN CHRIST

To you, Lord, we humbly recommend these our dead because, as in their mortal life they have always been loved by You of immense love, so now, freed from all evil, may they enter by Your grace into eternal rest. Amen.

Adriana Danieli (Siena - Italy)
Adriana Velatta (Borgosesia VC - Italy)
Carla Beretta (Barzanò LC - Italy)
Elena Zampieri (Piazzola sul Brenta PD - Italy)
Eleonora Di Grande (Pontedera PI - Italy)
Gianni Grifra and Ercolina Rinaldi (Vignole Borbera AL - Italy)
Gianni Stocco (Verona - Italy)

Ginetta Lucidi (Arcinazzo RM - Italy)
Giuseppina Mucci (Monte San Giusto MC - Italy)
Luisa Castellani (Spotorno SV - Italy)
Maria D'Arma (Gela CL - Italy)
Maria Pessina (Casorate Sempione VA - Italy)
Maria Assunta Pengue (Jesi AN - Italy)
Mario Fiordelmondo (Cascia PG - Italy)
Oronzo Defilippis (Rutigliano BA - Italy)
Renzo Tarani (Contigliano RI - Italy)
Ruggero Carlini (Spoleto PG - Italy)
Teresa Murgia (Cagliari - Italy)
Timoteo Fanelli (Teramo - Italy)
Tonio Antonelli (Rutigliano BA - Italy)
Vito Sabatelli (San Vito dei Normanni BR - Italy)



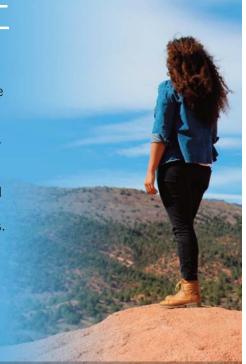
In this painting of the ancient choir of the monastery, we see Saint Rita during the religious dressing. Like her, the desire to raise her love to Christ grew strongly in Sister M. Laura.

Lord, for this time which already has the flavour of eternity. Today I find myself savouring that distant and unforgettable day as if it were present and breathing in that mystery that overwhelms me, with an even deeper joy, with the clear certainty that God has always been faithful all these years. Always ready to hold out his hand to me when the waves of the sea frightened me and, wavering in faith, I felt myself sinking. How many times he rebuked me, making me understand that I am a woman of little faith! How much patience God has with us! How much

CHOOSE LIFE

Choose life. This is the invitation of God containing a promise that opens the future: choose life, so that you and your children may live (Deut 30, 19).

Choose life. It is the profound engine of our every gesture, of each of our actions: everything we dobasically - is moved by the desire for happiness, by the desire to have life. Sensing the way is to rediscover the struggle of the heart, between good and evil, between what is fruitful and what is not, in the adventure of life, between vices and virtues. Choose life. It is the discovery of one's vocation. "Your vocation inspires you to bring out the best in yourself for the glory of God and the good of others" (Pope Francis, Christus vivit, 257). Choose, then! "Give yourselves over to the best of life!" (ChV143).



For information: Saint Rita Monastery - Viale Santa Rita, 13 - 06043 Cascia PG tel: 0743.76221 - e-mail: monastero@santaritadacascia.org

love, how much mercy! Accepting one's misery and defeats has not been easy. but they are precisely what make you understand that without him we can do nothing. God is not optional, he is the foundation and goal of our existence. Today, with Mary, I sing my Magnificat, for these 25 years of life

lived in her presence, because for me "one day in her halls is more than a thousand elsewhere". Thank you, Lord for every encounter with you in the liturgy. "It is beautiful to sing to our God, it is sweet to praise him"; for the inestimable gift of your Word which as an inexhaustible source bathes our dryness and makes it fruitful.

My soul rejoices in God my Saviour because he deigned to lay his gaze on me and made me glimpse his infinite beauty. Lord Jesus, sweet ineffable love, my joy is in you. You made us for yourself and our heart has no peace until it rests in you.



Ingredients for 4 people

600 g boned pheasant 100 g roveja flour for polenta 60 g Cascia black truffle 150 g lard with fine herbs 50 g blueberries 10 g sugar

Salt to taste

Water

50 g extra virgin olive oil

Rosemary

Sage

Thyme

Garlic

Pepper

Kitchen string

1 glass red wine

Put the lard lined up on a work top: it will be used to wrap the pheasant inside. Place the pheasant on top of the lard skin side down, salt, pepper and grate the truffle on top. Create a roll making sure the meat does not spill out of the lard. Tie with kitchen string and bake in a preheated oven at 170°C for 45 minutes. Deglaze with the wine 3/4 of the way through cooking, adding the aromatic herbs and garlic. Separately, put the blueberries in a saucepan with the sugar, let them sweat and cool. Cook the roveia flour in 500 ml of salted water after adding oil for about 25 minutes. Place the polenta thus obtained on the plates and cut the pheasant into four medallions. Place the medallions on the polenta and garnish with the cooking juices and the previously prepared blueberry sauce.





he volunteer is someone who undertakes to do something of their own will. This definition is correct. but it does not explain why someone wants to be or become a volunteer: why say yes? I asked some of the volunteers of the Roses of Saint Rita, the initiative of the Saint Rita of Cascia Foundation which has been taking the flower symbol of the saint of the impossible into squares all over Italy since May 2017. On Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd May 2021, the Foundation will return to the squares thanks to the many volunteers who for years have made their enthusiasm and time available in setting up the rose stalls in the name of Saint Rita. The goal is to raise funds for the Beehive: for over 80 years in this structure, the Augustinian nuns of Cascia have been welcoming and raising children – lovingly called Little Bees – from families in economic and social difficulty. But here we come to the question: why be or become a volunteer for the Roses of Saint Rita?

Antonella Boni from Brescia, who has taken part with her group since the first edition, tells me: "I was thrilled to be able to lend a hand to the Little Bees and what convinced me was also the clarity and transparency of the event. The certainty

All children have the right to a peaceful life

that the contribution arrives is important for those who want to donate and help others". Antonella also explains to me the great and current need she sees in the initiative: "The more we grow as volunteers, the more we can help the Little Bees of today and tomorrow. All children have the right to a peaceful life and unfortunately there are more and more families in difficulty in Italy". The scent of the roses has guided 78-year-old Vittorio Coratti from Monte San Giovanni Campano (Frosinone), since his first meeting with Saint Rita, when in 1983 he and his family needed her help, due le RUSE to the bone marrow transplant a: SANTA RITA of one of the children. "We have also passed on the devotion to the sons and daughters and other young people of the parish, who are alongside me in the rose initiative every year. The world needs charity and for us it is like giving a hand to Mother Fasce (founder of the Beehive, ed), who, despite having nothing and in times of war, welcomed girls in difficulty. We must follow her example which is still valid, especially today". Angela Concistrè from Sibari (Cosenza), present with the rose stall also in Terranova da Sibari, has been a volunteer since the first year and will be with us in the next edition. She works in a travel agency and is part of the family in Cascia. "I have been organising a pilgrimage for 16 years in which people from all over Cal-

abria and even Sicily participate. For us, it is not only prayer and faith, but also concrete action in favour of the works of charity of the monastery and the Beehive. As long as I have strength, I will commit myself to this initiative, also to give testimony

to those who approach the stall. The rose means giving joy and love to

many little girls and young women who are less fortunate, but also bringing the peace of Saint Rita to many desperate families and people. Whoever takes the rose is recharged with faith and hope because Saint Rita is great". Doing good means teaching good. Giulio Gallina from Tricesi-

mo (Udine), enamoured with Saint Rita, reminds me of this. Since 2017 he has embraced the initiative of the Roses with his family, his wife Lucia and their children Francesco aged 12 and Marta aged 17. "You should see their happiness among the roses. It is an activity that children and teenagers should also do, because it is a great feast, which is educational for them in understanding that reaching out to others is fun". Together with Giulio and his family, what makes the difference is the enthusiasm of Fr. Giuliano, Rector of the Sanctuary of Madonna Missionaria.



Luciana, mother after 15 years of waiting

"Saint Rita read my heart"

any times, perhaps in most of our pravers, we make a list with a series of requests to the Lord and every now and then we also set a deadline, a date. More rarely, however, in praying we say with a sincere heart "Thy will be done", truly convinced that what He has in store for us is much better than what we can imagine. This is the case of Luciana Monteleone who, after 15 years of marriage and by then no hope of being able to hold a child in her arms, anxiously awaited the end of the long lockdown to be able to go to Cascia and thank the saint of the thorn and roses for the little seed that is forming inside her. "I met Saint Rita in L'Aquila, during the 2006 earthquake that destroyed my home" is how Luciana Monteleone begins the story of her pilgrimage of thanks to Cascia. "There was a boy upstairs who was at university, he didn't make it. Returning among the rubble, I found an image, I turned it and it was of Saint Rita. Over the years

I have always wondered what meaning such an encounter could have in such a dramatic moment. Anyway, I took it, I still keep it and it helps me to feel her close in all the vi-

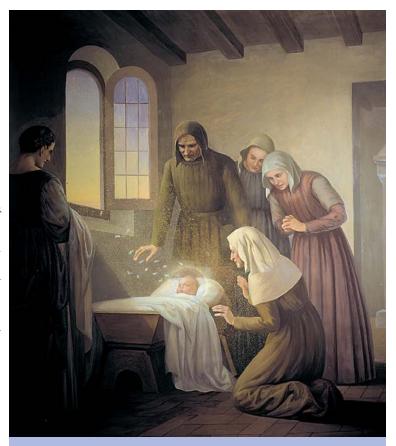
I met Saint Rita during the 2006 earthquake



cissitudes of my life, which have not been few". After the earthquake. Luciana and her husband decided to return to live in their town of origin, Torre Maggiore in the province of Foggia. And they dedicated themselves to the care of others, especially their sick family members. They have always had a deep spiritual life and, regarding the children who did not arrive, Luciana recalled: "I got married at 26, but I had no children. Many told me that I could try treatments, go to hospitals, but I have always had faith in God's plan. Within me there was the desire to have a child, of course, but the desire to trust the project that God had designed for me was stronger. I prayed. I prayed to Saint Rita. But I never prayed for myself. I prayed for those I saw suffering around me; my mother suffered from a tumour and I looked after her until the end. I am now 41 and preg-

This pregnancy is a sign. I placed my trust in the Lord and he answered me. I found

I placed my trust in the Lord and he answered me. I found out I was pregnant on May 22



Saint Rita was also an unexpected gift from the Lord for her parents. A "miraculous" gift for them and for us, who look to her as an example and strength.

out I was pregnant on May 22, the day of Saint Rita. When they told me I was six weeks pregnant, I knelt down and saw a baby girl. Shortly after I learned that she is a girl". On learning the happy and by now unexpected

news, the desire to go to Cascia to thank Saint Rita took root in Luciana's heart, since she always turned to her in the most delicate moments of her life, receiving much consolation and courage. "It was the first time I had gone to Cascia and that time with Saint Rita was an emotional encounter! I entered the Basilica as it was closing, I knelt down just like I had when they told me I would become a mother and I could not help but thank her and entrust my baby to her. A child is a gift from God. It is not something we can do on our own. We receive signs and we must know how to grasp them. Saint Rita read my heart and while my husband and I were busy helping those around us in need, she read that nothing would make us happier than becoming parents and for this I will never stop thanking her. To her, we have entrusted our little girl who will be called Michela, like her maternal grandmother and paternal grandfather, both of whom died recently from an incurable disease". A moved Luciana greets me, and we send her our congratulations for the arrival of the little girl. (MF)

TELL US ABOUT YOUR PILGRIMAGE

If you have also visited the Sanctuary of Saint Rita of Cascia on pilgrimage and wish to tell Marta Ferraro your story, write to us at **redazione@santaritadacascia.org** and we will contact you to share your experience with the readers of "From the Bees to the Roses".



JANUARY 2021

1 M St. Severus	2 T Presentation of the Lord in the Te	3 W Bl. Stephen Bellesini OSA	4 T 1st Thursday of St. Rita - Bl. Ange	5 F St. Agatha	G S Sts Paulo Miki and Comp	ר נ	S	8 M Sts. Jerome E. and Bakhita	9 T St. Apollonia	10 W St. Scholastica	11 T 2 nd Thursday of St. Rita - Our Lac	12 F Sts. Martyrs of Abitinae	13 S BL Christine of Spoleto OSA	ט ט	7 2	≥ ۱	16 BL. SIMON FIDALI OF CASCIA USA	17 W Ash Wednesday	18 T 3rd Thursday of St. Rita - St. John	19 F BI. Alvaro	20 St. Jacinta Marto	21 S 1st Sunday of Lent - St. Peter Dan	22 M Chair of St. Peter	-	- 3	>	⊢	26 F St. Paula	27 S St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows	28 S 2 nd Sunday of Lent - St. Romanos
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	Sts. Basil and Gregory	2 nd Sunday after Christmas - Holy Name of Jesus	BI. Christine of the Holy Cross OSA	BI. Pietro Bonilli	Epiphany of Our Lord	St. Raymond of Penyafort	Bl. Ugolino of Gualdo Cattaneo OSA	St. Adrian	Baptism of Our Lord	St. Hyginus	St. Aelred of Rievaulx	BI. Veronica of Binasco OSA	St. Felix of Nola	St. Maurus Ab.	Comm. Deceased Relatives of Members of the Augustinian Order	2™Ord. Time – St. Anthony Ab.	BI. Christina of Aquila OSA	Sts. Marius and Martha	Sts. Fabian and Sebastian	St. Agnes	St. Vincent	Bl. Josephine M. of Beniganim OSA	3 ^d Ord. Time - St. Francis de Sales	Conversion of Paul the Apostle	Sts. Timothy and Titus	St. Angela Merici	St. Thomas Aquinas	Bl. Anthony of Amandola OSA	St. Martina	4 th Ord. Time - St. John Bosco
ш	S	S	Σı	⊢ :	≥	—	ш	S	S	Σ	\vdash	≥	—	ட	S	S	\leq	<u></u>	\geq	\vdash	ட	S	S	≤	—	\geq	<u> </u>	ட	S	S
	7	2	4	2	9 1	_	∞	0	10	=	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2021

Our planet

might be

what he

desired

മ
Temple
the
.⊑
Lord
the
of
entation

Temple
the
.⊑
Lord
the
ot
Presentation
Δ.
<u>—</u>

	- Bl. Angelo da Furci OSA
BI. Stepnen Bellesini USA	1st Thursday of St. Rita - Bl. An
≥	<u></u>

o OSA

created it.

Pope Francis,

Laudato si' encyclical

when he

dy of Lourdes

odius

Francis Regis

lian





www.santaritadacascia.org/en @monasterosantarita

Post Office: CC 5058 • Bank: IBAN:IT14T031113924000000001781 - BIC/SWIFT BLOPIT22



MARCH 2021

APRIL 2021

—	Σ	St. David	_		Maundy Ihursday
7	—	St. Agnes of Prague	2 F	11	Good Friday
2	≥	St. Teresa Eustochio Verzeri	2	(0	Holy Saturday
4	\vdash	5" Thursday of St. Rita - St. Casimir	4	(0	Easter Sunday
2	ட	St. Lucius I	5	5	Easter Monday
9	S	St. Victorinus	9		Bl. Catherine of Pallanza
/	S	3 [™] Sunday of Lent - Sts. Perpetua and Felicitas	^	>	St. John Baptist de La Salle
∞	٤	St. John of God	. 00	،	10th Thursday of St. Rita - St. Amantius
0	\vdash	St. Frances of Rome	0.00	. 11	St. Demetrius
10	≥	St. Macarius) (2	0	St. Palladius
\equiv	\vdash	6" Thursday of St. Rita - S. Constantine	= =		2nd Sunday of Easter - St. Stanislaus
12	ட	BI. Jerome of Recanati OSA		, <i>></i>	C+ Damian
13	S	St. Sabinus	7 7		Ot. Damian
7	S	4th Sunday of Lent - St. Matilda	2	_ >	Ot. Maltill 1
15	٤	St. Zachary	<u>+</u> +	> ∟	ot. Lallidelt
16	—	St. Julian	υ <i>i</i>		11. Hursday of St. Kita - St. Maron
17	3	St. Patrick	5 i	. ,	ot. Bernadette soubirous
18	—	7th Thursday of St. Rita - St. Cyril of Jerusalem	_ ;	Λ ′	St. Innocent
19	ட	St. Joseph	<u>x</u> (^ 3	3" Sunday of Easter - Bl. Andrew of Monte
20	S	St. John of Nepomuk	<u>v</u> (= L	St. Leo IA
71	S	5th Sunday of Lent - St. Nicholas of Flüe	7		BI. SIMON OT 10d1 USA
22	٤	BI. Ugolino Zefirini OSA	21 \	> 1	St. Anselm
23	<u>—</u>	St. Turibius of Mogrovejo	22		12th Thursday of St. Rita - St. Leonidas
24	≥	St. Catherine of Sweden	25 F		St. George
25	—	8th Thursday of St. Rita - Annunciation of the Lord	24 9	()	Conversion of St. Augustine
9	ட	St. Theodore	25 9	(0	4th Sunday of Easter - St. Mark ev.
7	S	St. Rupert	26 /	>	Our Lady of Good Counsel
82	S	Palm Sunday	27 T		St. Zita of Lucca
5	٤	St. Eustace	28 /	>	St. Louis Marie Grignion ofMontfort
20	—	9th Thursday of St. Rita - St. Leonardo Murialdo	29 T	_	13th Thursday of St. Rita - St. Catherine of
31	≥	St. Benjamin martyr	30 F	11	St. Pius V

Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God.

Pope Francis, Laudato si' encyclical

reale OSA



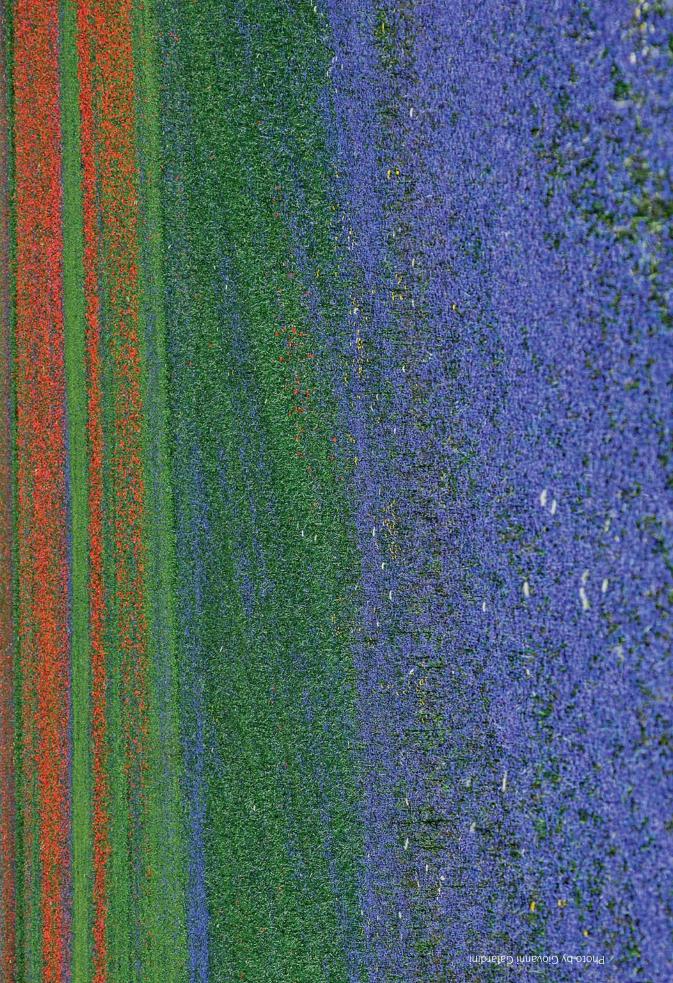


Siena

monasterosantarita

@monasterosantarita www.santaritadacascia.org/en

Post Office: CC 5058 • Bank: IBAN:IT14T031113924000000001781 - BIC/SWIFT BLOPIT22



MAY 2021

JUNE 2021

	S	St. Joseph the Worker 5th Sunday of Faster - BI William Tirry OSA		⊢ ≥	St. Justin Sts. Marcellinus and Peter
N	, ≤	Sts. Philip and James Ap.	1 10	` -	Sts. Charles Lwanga and Comp.
4	—	St. Florian	4	ட	St. Francis Caracciolo
2	3	BI. Martyrs of Spain OSA	2	S	BI. James of Viterbo OSA
9	<u></u>	14th Thursday of St. Rita - St. Peter Nolasco	9	S	Corpus Christi
_	ட	St. Flavia Domitilla	_	\leq	St. Robert
∞	S	Our Lady of Grace OSA	00		St. Fortunatus
6	S	6th Sunday of Easter - St. Pachomius	0	. ≥	St. Ephrem
\bigcirc	Σ	St. John of Ávila	0	: —	Bl. Edward Poppe
\equiv	<u>—</u>	BI. Gregory Celli OSA	=	- ц	Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
12	3	St. Pancras	1		Immaculate Heart of Mary
2	<u> </u>	15th Thursday of St. Rita - Our Lady of Fatima	<u> </u>) <i>(</i>	11th Ord Time - St Anthony of Padua
7	ட	St. Matthew Ap.	2 \	> <	C+ Flisha
2	S	St. Isidore	<u>+ 1</u>	٤ +	Ot. Elisia Ot Vitus
9	S	Ascension of Our Lord	U 7	_ 3	St. Vitus
7	٤	St. Paschal Baylon	<u> </u>	≥ ⊦	St. Aufelialius
∞	\vdash	BI. William of Toulouse OSA	_ ;	— L	St. Kainerius
0	3	BI. Clement of O. and BI. Augustine of T. OSA	<u> </u>	⊥ (St. Calogerus
0	\vdash	St. Bernardino of Siena	<u>න</u>	∕ (St. Komuald
7	ட	Sts. Cristopher Magallanes and Comp.	707	ທ:	12" Ord. Ilme - Bl. Philip of Placenza Os
\sim	S	ST. RITA OF CASCIA OSA	21	\leq	St. Aloysius Gonzaga
5	S	Pentecost	22	—	St. Paulinus of Nola
4	٤	B.V. Mary, Mother of the Church	23	≥	St. Joseph Cafasso
5	\vdash	St. Bede	24	—	Nativity of St. John the Baptist
9	3	St. Philip Neri	25	ட	BI. Peter James of Pesaro OSA
	\vdash	St. Augustine of Canterbury	26	S	Sts. John and Paul
∞	ட	St. Germanus	27	S	13th Ord. Time - St. Cyril of Alexandria
6	S	St. Paul VI	28	Z	St. Irenaeus of Lyons
0	S	Most Holy Trinity - St. Joan of Arc	29	—	Sts. Peter and Paul Ap.
21	Σ	Visitation of the B. V. Mary	30	≥	Sts. First Martyrs of the Church of Rome

filled with Nature is words of love.

Pope Francis, Laudato si' encyclical







@monasterosantarita

www.santaritadacascia.org/en



JULY 2021

St. Esther Bi. John and Peter Becchetti OSA St. Thomas Ap. 14" Ord. Time - St. Elizabeth of Portugal St. Anthony M. Zaccaria St. Anthony M. Zaccaria St. Maria Goretti St. Odo Sts. Priscilla and Aquila St. Victoria St. Victoria St. Victoria St. Victoria St. Fortunatus St. Sanaventure Our Lady of Mount Carmel Bi. Maddalena Albrici OSA 16" Ord. Time - St. Frederick St. Banaventure St. Banaventure St. Bonaventure St. Macrina St. Macrina St. Marcina St. Marcina St. Bridget of Sweden Bi. Antonio OSA I7" Ord. Time - St. James Ap. Sts. Joachim and Anne Bi. Lucy Bufalari OSA Sts. Nazarius and Celsus Sts. Martha of Bethany St. Peter Chrysologus

AUGUST 2021

We use our

environment as a way of expressing identity. onr

Pope Francis, Laudato si' encyclical





Baptist



www.santaritadacascia.org/en @monasterosantarita

Post Office: CC 5058 • Bank: IBAN: IT14T031113924000000001781 - BIC/SWIFT BLOPIT22



SEPTEMBER 2021

St. Therese of the Child Jesus	Holy Guardian Angels	27th Ord. Time - BI. Angelo of San Sepol	St. Francis of Assisi	BI. Sante of Cori OSA	St. Bruno	Our Lady of the Rosary	St. Ugo	Bl. Antonio Patrizi OSA	28th Ord. Time - St. Thomas OSA	BI. Elias OSA and St. John XXIII	B.M. TERESA FASCE OSA - BI. Carlo A	Comm. Deceased Benefactors of the Au	Bl. Gonzalo of Lagos OSA	St. Teresa of Jesus	St. Hedwig	29th Ord. Time - St. Ignatius of Antioch	St. Luke Evg.	St. Paul of the Cross	St. Magdalene OSA	St. Severino	St. John Paul II	St. William OSA	30th Ord. Time - St. Anthony M. Claret	St. John Stone OSA	Sts. Lucian and Marciano	St. Evaristus	Sts. Simon and Jude Ap.	Bl. Peter of Gubbio OSA	St. Germanus	31st Ord. Time - Bl. James of Cerqueto C
_	S	S	Σ	\vdash	\geq	\vdash	ш	S	S	Σ	⊢ .	\geq	—	ш	S	S	\leq	—	\geq	—	щ	S	S	Σ	\vdash	\geq	\vdash	щ	S	S
_	7	2	4	2	9	_	∞	0	10	\equiv	12	13	14	15	16	17	∞	9	20	7	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
St. Giles	St. Elpidius	St. Gregory the Great	Our Lady of Consolation	23 rd Ord. Time - St. Teresa of Calcutta	N BI. Angelo da Foligno OSA	St. Regina	Birth of the Virgin Mary	St. Peter Claver	St. Nicholas of Tolentino OSA	Sts. Protus and Hyacinth	24th Ord. Time - Most Holy Name of B.V. Mary	St. John Chrysostom	Triumph of the Cross	Our Lady of Sorrows	St Cornelius	St. Rohert Bellarmine	St. Insent of Chertino	25th Ord Time - Ct. Alphoneus OCA	Cts Andrew Kim Teagen and Comp	Ct. Matham An Eve	St. Matthew Ap. Evg.	St. Silvanus	Sts. Pio of Pietrelcina and Thecla	Our Lady of Mercy	St. Sergius of Radonezh	26th Ord. Time - Sts. Cosmas and Damian	St. Vincent de Paul	Bl. Japanese Martyrs OSA	Sts. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Archangels	St. Jerome
≥	\vdash	ш	S	S	Σ	\vdash	\geq	—	ш	S	S	\leq	—	. ≥	-	- ц	<i>- (</i>	o U	ე ≥	٤ +	_ 3	≥	—	ш	S	S	≤	\vdash	≥	—
_	7	2	4	2	9	_	∞	6	10	=	12	13	14	15	7	2 [Ω	<u>o</u>		5 6	7 8	77	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER 2021 Each St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

creature reflects something of God.

cro OSA

Pope Francis, Laudato si' encyclical

gustinian Order





@monasterosantarita

www.santaritadacascia.org/en



NOVEMBER 2021

romeo Ia Mata Aparicio OSA ed Members of the Augustinian Order -BI. Gratia of Kotor OSA Iriguez OSA Iriguez OSA ateran Basilica at ours E Augustinian Order - St. Theodotus If Hungary he Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul f Hackeborn f Alexandria e Miraculous Medal dvent - St. James of the Marches f Regensburg OSA	W St. Florence	T St. Bibiana	F St. Francis Xavier	S St. Barbara	S 2 nd Sunday of Advent - St. Crispina	M St. Nicholas of Bari	T St. Ambrose	W Immaculate Conception of the B. V. Mary	T St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin	F Our Lady of Loreto	S St. Damasus I	S 3rd Sunday of Advent - Our Lady of Guada	M St. Lucia	T St. John of the Cross	W St. Virginia Centurione Bracelli	T BI. Cherubim of Avigliana OSA	F St. Modestus	S St. Gatianus of Tours	C Att Clinday of Advent - Ct Anastasius	M St Vincent Romano	T St Peter Canisins	M/ St Frances Xavier Cahrini	T St. Ivo of Chartres	F St. Delphinus	S Nativity of Jesus	S Holy Family - St. Stephen	M St. John Ap. Evg.	T Sts. Innocent Martyrs	W St. Thomas Becket	T St. Felix I	F St. Sylvester I
Σ + 3 + π ω ω ξ + 3 + π ω ω ξ + 3 + π ω ω ξ +	_	7	2	4	2	9	_	∞	0	10	=	12	13	14	15	16	17	2	0 0	2	2 5	7	73	24	75	96	27	28	29	30	31
$\frac{1}{2}$	1 All Saints	All Souls	/ St. Sylvia	St. Charles Borromeo	Bl. Mariano de la Mata Aparicio OSA	Comm. Deceased Members of the Augustinian Order	32st Ord. Time - BI. Gratia of Kotor OSA	A BI. Avelino Rodriguez OSA	Dedication of Lateran Basilica	/ St. Leo the Great	St. Martin of Tours	St. Josaphat	All Saints of the Augustinian Order	33th Ord Time - St Theodotus	A Albertus Magnus	1 of Albertus Magnus	ot. definition	St. Elizabeth of Hungary	Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul	St. Mechtilde of Hackeborn	St. Octavius	Solemnity of Christ the King	1 St. Cecilia	St. Clement I	St. Andrew Dung-Lac	St. Catherine of Alexandria	St. Conrad	B.V. Mary of the Miraculous Medal	1st Sunday of Advent - St. James of the Marches	A BI. Frederick of Regensburg OSA	St. Andrew Ap.
$\frac{1}{2}$	8	\vdash	\geq	\vdash	ш	S	S	\leq	<u></u>	. ≥	—	· Ц	S	V) >	≥ ⊦	- 3	≥	—	ш	S	S	Σ	\vdash	\geq	\vdash	ш	S	S	Σ	\vdash
	_	7	2	4	2	9	7	∞	6	9	<u></u>	12	13	17	17	C 7	0 [_	∞	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2021

We journey

through		this land	•	seeking	- (Cod.
	ı					

Pope Francis, Laudato si' encyclical





Follow us on LT @ @monasterosantarita

www.santaritadacascia.org/en

Post Office: CC 5058 • Bank: IBAN:IT14T031113924000000001781 - BIC/SWIFT BLOPIT22



THE BEEHIVE OF SAINT RITA IS A FAMILY WHERE HOPES ALSO FEED ON LOVE. Founded by Blessed Mother Fasce in 1938, the Beehive of Saint Rita has become home, school and assistance for many young girls. A real family that includes all our supporters who, with their help, continue to give a future to thousands of young people in difficulty. Stay close to us, your love is the most solid foundation on which to build new hopes. alveare@santaritadacascia.org • www.santaritadacascia.org/alveare

SUPPORT THE BEEHIVE

BANK IBAN: IT4010311103246000000000483 • BIC/SWIFT: BLOPIT22
POST OFFICE: c/a 1010759072 made out to: Fondazione Santa Rita da Cascia onlus In both methods specify "Alveare" (Beehive) as the reason



