

Informativo 80

Mother Assunta



“God sees, God provides!” (Mother Assunta Marchetti)

THE VENERABLE MOTHER ASSUNTA MARCHETTI

Assunta Marchetti was born at Lombrici, near Camaiore in the Lucca area of Italy, on August 15, 1871, and died on July 1, 1948, in São Paulo, Brazil, among the orphan girls in the Christopher Columbus Orphanage, as she had always wished. Like Jesus, “she went about doing good ... to all”¹.

Cofounder of the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of St Charles Borromeo–Scalabrinians, she had intense love for her neighbor and especially for her fellow Sisters, devoting herself particularly to migrants, orphans, the sick, the afflicted and the neediest of the poor.

She drew strength from love of the Eucharistic Jesus and the Most Blessed Virgin to face the many difficult moments of her humble, harsh existence, during which she moved several times from the position of superior to working as a cook in orphanages, hospitals and rest homes, *always generous toward the poor and ready to help those in need.*²

¹ At, 10,38.

² Pr 31,20.

INVITATION FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF MOTHER ASSUNTA

Dear Devotees of Ven. the Mother Assunta Marchetti,

It is with great joy to inform you that I have received through our Mother General, the document from the Secretary of the State of the Vatican, dated December 17, 2013 signed by His Eminence Cardinal Angelo Becciu, who informed us that the Holy Father granted the rite of beatification of the Venerable Servant of God the Mother Assunta. It will be celebrated on October 25, 2014 at the Sé Cathedral, Sao Paulo-Brazil at 10:00 a.m.

We lift to God our hymns of praise and gratitude for this long-awaited news, with much assurance that we would have you all on October 25 or at the very least, we are certain that you are accompanying us wholeheartedly with your prayers and joy.

Sr Jaira Oneida M. Garcia, mscs
Vice Postulator for the Cause of Beatification.

THE CULT OF RELICS

The relic is a small portion of the human body or of things that belonged to a person who died in a state or repute of sanctity here on Earth and who had witness a Holy way of life as living members of the mystical body of Christ, temple of the Holy Spirit (cf. 1 Cor 3:16; 6:19; 2 Cor 6:16). Today, we venerate the relics because it has been so from the beginning of the Church as we have venerated the remains of martyrs of Christianity, those who gave the blood to bear witness to the faith in Christ. The cult of the dead expressed in particularly with the act to pray at the mount, with the light candles and flowers. Today, we note that Christians go on pilgrimage to the tombs of those who have given holy testimonies of life. Just remember an example, those all we know - namely that of the Venerable Pope John Paul II and those whom we find in all the corners of the world. In Brazil, we know “the romarie” at the grave of Fr. Cicero, Friar Galvão in India and those at the grave of Mother Teresa of Calcutta and others.

When a person of faith is in front of a relic, she/he feels attracted to touch it or she/he sensed that she/he vested with illness. This seems to be a way to express confidence to

that relic, belonged to a “saint”, and have a divine power. This is exactly where the Church believes in offering the veneration of relics.

The Biblical-Theological foundations of the relics

We find in the pages of Scripture in the Old Testament that relics or the remains of Patriarchs and prophets had been already venerated. The well-known are those of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac, Rebecca and Leah, who were buried in special places (cf. Gn 49: 29-32); also, there is the case of Joseph, that from Egypt his Brothers requested that his body be brought with them, (cf. Gn. 50:25) or the case of the Prophet Elisha, who had left his disciple his mantle was another form of relic.

In the New Testament, Jesus himself speaks of worship given to mortal remains (relics) that was to decorate the graves of the prophets (Mt 23: 29-30). The Gospel also tells us facts that demonstrate the people of faith by the simple fact of touching the garments of Jesus, certain that they worked miracles of healing, such as the case of woman who said: “If I touch the hem of his cloak, I will be healed.” (cf. Mt. 14:35; Mk. 6:56; Lk. 6:19; 8:42-45). Another example enlightening about faith on relics is in the Acts of the Apostles: “God meanwhile worked wonders for Paul’s uncommon work, to the point that he put the handkerchiefs over the sick or aprons that had been in contact with him and it ceased diseases and the evil spirits fled.” It is an explicit form of believing that the body of the “saint” (holy), the friend of God, has a power that also permeates his garments and objects which he used or touched. Early Christians laid on the bodies of the sick ones, something that had been in contact with the Apostle Paul, and they were healed. The belief in relics is, therefore, a confidence that comes from the early Church and that continues even today.

Relics and Liturgy

Among Christians in the year 155, St. Polycarp who was described: “*His bones are more precious than pearls precious and more valuable than gold.*” Therefore, his remain was put in a special urn to be venerated, on the day of his death (birth into heaven), they gathered around to pray, celebrated the Eucharist and ask his intercession with God. Even today, the Canon Law recommend that the fixed shrine or altar at the churches shall be placed a relic of a saint, martyr or blessed. This is not simply a form of valuing the relics, but it is also a way to give the faithful a special intercessor who is now with God in heaven. These holy people who have

gone through life doing good, lived heroically virtuous life, in unity with the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, invite us to follow the Lord with the same love with which they followed³.

The concept of this fact, is that the veneration of relics is a truth with a solid foundation. It is not only the Spirit or the 'soul of the people' which are holy, but also the body and even the clothes that are impregnated by the grace of God who lived in holiness. That is why it can transmit the miraculous power of God who intervenes, thanks to the intercession of the saints or blessed in favor of their children who beg them with devotion. Therefore, it is just right to believe in the power of the relics of our holy and blessed, because they are friends of God who lived in perfect union with the heavenly Bridegroom, as Mother Assunta. In fact, they may intercede with the spiritual, physical and material for the devotees who invoke them.

Relics of the Venerable Mother Assunta

“The act of veneration of a relic as presented is a proof and the hope of the resurrection of the flesh. (...) What remains of the body is a specie of eternal glory. In early Christianity, Christians approximated the mortal remains of the martyrs of the faith as treasure. The inestimable value attributed to the mortal remains was confirmed by the wonders that flourished around the same”.

The MSCS Sisters recognizing the witness of holiness lived by the Co-Foundress, Mother Assunta Marchetti, decided to put her remains in a small urn in the Chapel of Casa Madre Assunta, Vila Prudente, São Paulo, SP. Brazil. There, the Sisters and devotees will gather to worship and supplicate the intercession of this virtuous religious Scalabrinian who will be beatified on October 25, 2014, at the Sé Cathedral, São Paulo, SP. Brazil. The postulation for the Cause of Beatification, with zeal and devotion, is preparing her relics which will be distributed to the Sisters and the faithful devotees so that they can venerate her and ask for graces and miracles through her intercession with God, the giver of all gifts.

“Every particle of the body of the Friends of God, once they have been declared blessed by the Church, is a mystical reality, and so, must be revered, regardless of which part of the body that is in the shrine.”

*Sr. Leocadia Mezzomo, mscs,
Postulator for the Cause of Beatification*

³Cf. NUNES JUNIOR, ARIO B., in ““Relics and Ecclesiastical Law” – Doctoral Dissertation in Canon Law.

TESTIMONIES THAT WERE PROCLAIMED
THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF THE
VENERABLE
MOTHER ASSUNTA MARCHETTI

918. The grace that seemed impossible became reality

The couple, Isabel and José Luís Simões da Conceição, Portuguese, waited anxiously with deep longing for an important grace. One day, somebody's relatives suggested to invoke the desired grace through prayer to Venerable Madre Assunta. They did this with perseverance and confidence. They started making this request every day and without much delay, the grace that seemed impossible, has become a beautiful reality. The couple today is very happy and thanking God for the grace received through the intercession of the person who very soon will be called "blessed" Madre Assunta. - Jose Luis and Isabel of Portugal Conceicao Simões.

919. My mother and I have prayed with heart through Mother Assunta

It is with great joy that I give my testimony in reference to the grace received through the intercession of the Venerable Mother Assunta. I finished my studies in 2002 and begged her intercession to get a proper job. I presented my resume in several places. It seemed that everything was useless, then I decided to accede to the invitation of a friend to go to another country. But the fact of staying away from my family left me somewhat distressed, when it marked the day for my departure, my mother and I began to pray to Mother Assunta, asking her to help me in making the best choice. Miraculously, a few minutes after the prayer, we received a call telling that I was been selected to work in the nearest town.

Mother Assunta never tires and is always there to listen to our stories and prayers. We thank her also for the birth of my daughter, who is healthy and able to fill our lives with joy. As my mother would recount: *"I was actually a witness to the miracle wrought to my daughter; there were only two hours prior to her departure, but when she had finished from the phone, she told me that it was not necessary to leave because she had just found a job."*

Since then, it has been a few years now, so many things have changed, but the aforementioned miracle remains alive within me. My husband and I have four children and we all know Mother Assunta from the time when they were studying at the College of Santa Teresinha Anta Gorda (Alexandra Alba Blanger e Monica, Anna Alba Viena, Anta Gorda- RS/ Brazil).

920. Confident request to Mother Assunta

I am a priest from Rome and I feel indebted to communicate to the postulation that I had received the special grace through the intercession of Mother Assunta Marchetti. I already knew, that one day the miracle will lead to the beatification of Mother Assunta. While I was reading the account of favors, a thought ran about the call I have received that my brother was seriously ill. Words came out spontaneously: "Mother Assunta, my brother cannot do anything?" After these words, I felt shivering throughout my body which I could not explain. I only knew the next day that my brother was better. It is very obvious and I can only attribute this to Mother Assunta, the Co-foundress of the MSCS Congregation! Thank you Mother Assunta.

921. The Venerable Mother Assunta is prompt in answering

I am P.M.M. in Rome and I must say that when I learned about the Venerable Mother Assunta, I trust her all the worries and problems of my family because I understand that she is prompt in answering me. Even now I'm waiting for a third grace in favor of my family. Thank you, dear and Venerable Mother, mother of orphans, the poor, the migrants and of all those whose hearts are heavy with grief! We need to continue be close to her, because we have much need of her intercession and protection!

922. The grace received through the intercession of the Venerable Mother Assunta

We are four in my family: my mother, my two brothers and myself. Few years ago my brother died. We had a house in GIRARDOT (CUNDINAMARCA) and we decided to vend it because it was very big for three people. I began to pray to the Venerable Mother Assunta Marchetti, in order to help us find the right person, the honest and just one, because selling a property is not always easy and it is very risky. My mother, then spoke with a person of her intention to sell the home. After 8 days, appeared the first one who was willing to buy the house. The selling of the property was realized with fair price and with no problem. Thanks to the intercession of the Venerable Mother Assunta (Adriana Becerra Olivar, Bogotá-Colombia).

923. Mother Assunta was chosen as Protector of the social cooperative "Mille Fiori" at Camaioire

Near the town of Camaioire exists a Cooperative Mille Fiori which belongs to the Parish of Camaioire. Few years ago, it was built on the land donated to the parish priest. At the beginning of March, I went to visit with some friends and one of the le-

aders of the farm gave us the report of three facts narrated by the locals, facts judged the result of the power of intercession of (Blessed) Mother Assunta chosen by God.

1. On February 9, 2012, the Cooperative was making request to receive contributions. Five minutes before the expiration of the notice, they noted some irregularities. The volunteers, unable to communicate with those responsible for issuing payment, they invoked the aid of mother Assunta and, after a few minutes, everything was settled and obtained the necessary contributions, and which was such a need.
2. On September 2013, the volunteers were cleaning the plantation of olives. As customary, they had piled on off the branches and then burn them. When evening arrived it was set on fire, however, it was forgotten. The next morning, they saw that the fire had come very close to the area which is restricted and where the “seat” of the Cooperative. It was also noticed, however, that the flame was extinguished miraculously at the right time, before it reached the house, so that this had not suffered any damage.
3. Another important fact occurred in October 2013, when a homeless man, who had been accepted to sleep in the farm for a while. One evening he had turned on a stove. During power outage, there was an accident, but the stove, with the help of God, did not explode. The technician was called to check the power, he was amazed and said that it was a real luck (or a real miracle!) by the fact that there had been no explosion, because that saved him from harm really significant.

P.S. Interesting also are the following: while being filled in the forms and minutes for the establishment of the cooperative, the news came out that the Venerable Mother Assunta Marchetti had been deemed worthy of Beatification. By this time, the cooperative’s managers have felt very close to her who, between 6 months, can be called “Blessed” and so by designating their special patron.

924. I received a great grace

Having relied hopefully to the Venerable Mother Assunta’s intercession, I got a great grace: I was miraculously healed from an unexpected tumor. I am very grateful of this grace. (Sr. Pierina Caeran, mscs, Provincia Our Lady of Fatima, Melrose Park, USA.

THANKS FOR ALL THE REQUEST GRANTED
THROUGH THE INTERCESSION
OF VENERABLE MOTHER ASSUNTA

Maria Clara G. Pedroso e Felipe, the children who were welcomed at the Casa Madre Assunta, wrote: “Mother Assunta protect Sr. Leonardina! Please, Mother Assunta, help Sr. Leo! Intercede with God for the health of Sr. Leo, so that she can return to live here in the House of Mother Assunta, to continue to give life to the “Social Project for Living”, Vila Prudente, San Paolo-SP-Brazil.

Eni Silva asks the Venerable mother Assunta’s intercession for his brother’s health and for family union. Taquaritinga- SP-Brazil.

Ana Cristina has many difficulties and wrote asking Mother Assunta’s intercession in order to compose a very special music for her. Its title is: «Come è buono Dio!» (how good God is) - Casa Madre Assunta-Progetto Sociale Convivere - Vila Perudente, SaoPaolo-SP-Brazil.

Maria do Carmo asks the eternal peace for his deceased parents, his children, and his family and pray for the health and protection of Father Júlio Ladera (San Paolo-SP-Brazil)

Silvio Sena thanks for graces received and still asks the Venerable Mother Assunta’s intercession for her needs and for the health of her mother, infirm currently (Iaras-SP-Brazil).

OUR THANKS FOR THE PRAYERS AND
SACRIFICES OFFERED IN FAVOR
OF THE BEATIFICATION OF THE
VENERABLE MOTHER
ASSUNTA MARCHETTI

*1368-Missionary Sisters of St. Charles Borromeo, Scalabrinians,
"Sacra Famiglia" Community RS/Brazil*

1369 - Mrs. Odila Diletto, Melrose Park-USA

1370 - Sr. Pierina Caeran, Melrose Park-USA

1371 - Sr Lina Guzzo, mscs, St. Joseph Provinc, Piacenza-Italy

*1372 - Sr. Marilucia Bresolin, Imaculada Conceição Community,
Caxias do Sul, Brazil*

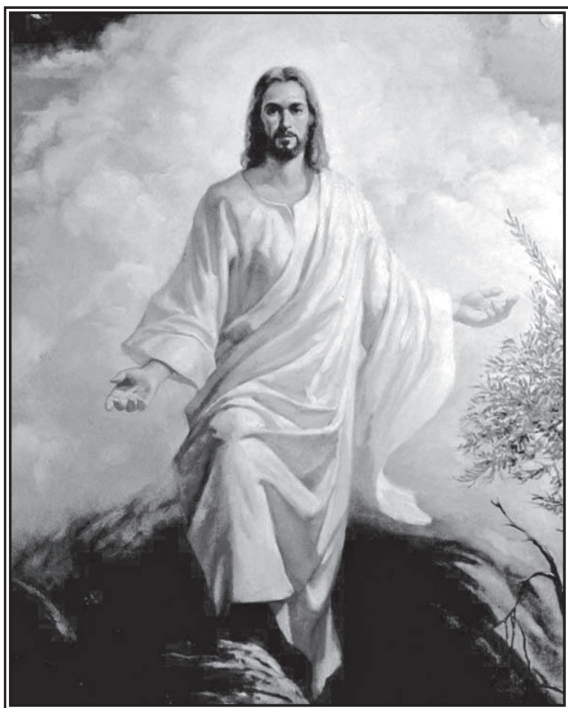
*1373 - Sr. Leocadia Mezzomo, Bom Samaritano Community,
Brazilia, DF-Brazil*

1374 - Sr. Angelina Lora and Community, Anta Gorda-RS-Brazil

1375 - Mario AP. Beinotti-Rio Claro-SP-Brazil

*Il nostro grazie anche per il dono
dei francobolli inviati!*

Blessed Easter 2014!



“Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Behold the place where they laid him. 7But go and tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.’” (Mk. 16: 6-7)

PRAYER TO VENERABLE MOTHER ASSUNTA MARCHETTI FOR HER BEATIFICATION



O JESUS WHO SAID, "COME UNTO ME ALL YOU WHO LABOR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST," I GIVE YOU THANKS FOR MAKING THE SERVANT OF GOD MOTHER ASSUNTA MARCHETTI THE COMFORT OF MIGRANTS, THE MOTHER OF ORPHANS, AND THE SOLACE OF THOSE IN NEED.

THROUGH YOUR INFINITE MERITS AND THE INTERCESSION OF MARY, OUR MOST HOLY MOTHER, GLORIFY YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT MOTHER ASSUNTA ON EARTH, AND LET HER OBTAIN FROM YOU THE GRACE I SO NEED. AMEN.

(OUR FATHER, HAIL MARY, GLORY BE)

(With ecclesiastical approval)

Spread this prayer!

- We gratefully accept donations and stamps to help cover printing and postal costs.
- After reading this leaflet, hand it on to other people.
- Always write and tell us when you receive some grace from Venerable Mother Assunta.
- If you move home, send us your new address.



**OUR ADDRESS AND
TELEPHONE NUMBER ARE:**

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