



Pierantonio Tremolada

By the grace of God and the Apostolic See

Bishop of Brescia

Prot. 749/24

Decree in relation to the devotion to Maria Rosa Mystica

Developed at the locality Fontanelle di Montichiari (BS)

In light of the *Norms for Proceeding in the Discernment of Alleged Supernatural Phenomena*, issued by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith on May 17, 2024;

well considered the letter addressed to me, dated July 5, 2024, by the Prefect of the above-mentioned Dicastery, H.E. Card. Victor Manuel Fernández, stating that, in the messages diffused by Pierina Gilli (1911-1991), which emphasize the beauty of Maria Rosa Mystica, there are no elements that directly contradict the teaching of the Catholic Church on faith and morals, and the presence of several positive aspects is highlighted in them;

taking into account the fact that the devotion that arose at Fontanelle (Montichiari) following the case of Pierina Gilli shows more and more that central and decisive focus of every authentic Marian devotion: that is, leading pilgrims (and also consecrated persons) by the hand, with gradualness and patience, toward the knowledge and love of the Son Jesus, rediscovering that they are beloved children in the Son, and the fact of the rapidity with which the cult to Maria Rosa Mystica has spread to the five continents;

having also well in mind, that, since 2012, the devotion has been led to recognize more also the baptismal aspect of Christian life, valuing in particular the presence of the water and the water basin and that in this holy place confessions have always been numerous, requiring the presence of more confessors on feast days;

also noting the constant request for prayers and images of Maria Rosa Mystica from religious congregations, seminaries and monasteries in every part of the world, a reassuring sign and consolation in reference to the devotional life present in Fontanelle;

not wishing to overlook the fact that one of the distinctive features of the devotion to Maria Rosa Mystica developed there is certainly the constant prayer of intercession for priests and consecrated persons, for vocations to the priestly and religious life, for the difficult or fatiguing situations that such souls often experience in the exercise of their ministry, thus promoting "a spirit of authentic ecclesial communion" (*Norms*, mi. 14, 1°);

fully aware, finally, of the numerous fruits, born of the devotion and worship of Maria Rosa Mystica, that are reported to us constantly, from all parts of the world, through written letters, e-mails, direct testimonies of people who come to the Shrine to tell of their experience of grace, and at the same time

aware of the continuous and spontaneous requests to place memorial stones, of conversions to the faith after long absence from spiritual paths, of the rediscovery of sacramental practice, of the request to initiate paths of catechumenate by adults, of spiritual and physical healings, of deliverances from situations related to esotericism, spiritualism, or various forms of addiction, or even of the receipt of the unexpected gift of motherhood and the birth of vocations to consecrated life and priesthood born and accompanied through the intercession of Maria Rosa Mystica as well as the founding of new diocesan women's religious congregations;

in the light of all this, which allows us to discern the action of the Holy Spirit in the midst of this spiritual experience in Montichiari, around Maria Rosa Mystica, for the good of all the faithful who freely wish to give their consent, after the necessary steps at the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith and in agreement with that curial institution

I DECREE

that *Nihil obstat* to "appreciate the pastoral value and [...] promote as well the spread of this spiritual proposal, also through possible pilgrimages" (*Norms*, n. 17);

that, in reference to the cult to Maria Rosa Mystica of Montichiari, the faithful "are authorized to give to it in a prudent form their adherence" (*Norms*, art. 22, §1: cf. Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, no. 14), although this does not imply a declaration of the supernatural character of the phenomenon in question (compare *Norms*, art. 22, §2), and recalling that the faithful are not obliged to believe in it;

that in the diffusion of Pierina Gilli's writings, the clarifications given in the above-mentioned letter addressed to me by the Prefect of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith be published, especially when the published texts refer to the topics explicitly mentioned therein.

Notwithstanding, given the wide spread of devotion to Maria Rosa Mystica throughout the world, the power of each diocesan bishop to decide on the matter in accordance with *article 7, §3 of the Norms for proceeding for the discernment of alleged supernatural phenomena*, I direct that this decree be made known today.

One copy of the decree is to be sent to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith and another to the Presidency of the Italian Bishops' Conference.

Finally, in a fatherly spirit, I urge all the faithful of the Diocese to participate in the Solemn Celebration at the Shrine on July 13, 2024 at 5 p.m.

Given at Brescia, July 1, 2024


Il cancelliere diocesano
don Daniele Mombelli



+ Pierantonio Tremolada

