

FOREWORD TO THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION

The “**SPIRITUAL WRITINGS OF VEN. MARIA BARTOLOMEA CAPITANIO**” collected by **Luigi Ignazio Mazza** sj, published in Italian in 1904 and in an anastatic copy in 1968, were translated in English various times along the years.

Very often, however, they were simply translations of extracts of the text to be used for the formation of the Sister of Charity according to Institute’s own charism - as Vatican II has constantly emphasized the necessity to return to the original sources, - and for the immediate needs bound to the ever more international spreading of the Institute.

For a long time, we longed to have at our disposal an integral translation, not only faithful to the contents but that it might, as much as possible, abide by the setting of the Mazza collection of the “Spiritual Writings”, following also the same layout in order to facilitate consultation and comparison between the Italian and the English text.

The fulfillment of this desire was officially taken up by the superior general, mother Piercarla Mauri, and is put into effect in the first mandate of the superior general, mother Annamaria Viganò, with the publication, for the time being, of the **III volume of the Spiritual Writings**. With determination mother Annamaria insisted upon having the printing of a trustful, entire and unique translation of the “Spiritual Writings” as a gift for the whole Institute. As a lovable coincidence, the conclusion of this work takes place in the year of the Jubilee of Mercy, the contemplation of which urged Bartolomea to found an Institute “the purpose of which is the Works of Mercy”.

The **translation is the work of Sr. Maximilla Saydon**, fruit of several years of commitment, of tenacious care for a correct understanding of the texts. To her the Institute expresses deep gratitude.

Subsequently, the work was revised by other persons, both in Italy (offices of the Generalate) and in India.

The present text, therefore, is the result of an assiduous and passionate collaboration which also implies patient accuracy required for the printing of the volume which “re-produces” the Italian collection by Mazza maintaining the same format.

April 2016

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N.B. The anastatic reprinting of 1968 comprises a Note upon the “HISTORICAL AND SPIRITUAL SOURCES OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF SAINTS BARTOLOMEA CAPITANIO AND VINCENZA GEROSA” useful for the knowledge of the original sources, collected by Mazza and for their authenticity, which for right reasons will be printed apart.

SPIRITUAL WRITINGS

of Venerable

MARIA BARTOLOMEA CAPITANIO

PRIME FOUNDRESS

OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY

IN LOVERE

drawn from manuscripts

with notes

by

LUIGI IGNAZIO MAZZA S.J.

Volume Three

Notes and Practices of life-of-Perfection

MODENA

TIP. PONTIFICIA ED ARCIVESCOVILE
DELL'IMMACOLATA CONCEZIONE

1904

Imprimatur,
si iis ad quos spectat ita videbitur.

Mantova, 4 January 1904.

J.B. Rossi S.J.
Praep. Prov. Ven.

Nihil obstat

ANGELUS Adv. MARIANI S.R.C. Assessor.

In obedience to the decrees emanated by His Holiness Urbano VIII and issued by the *S.R.U. Inquisizione*, the author affirms that he attributes no authority to what is said nor to the appreciation contained in this book other than what is given or what will be given by the Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church, to whom it is his honour to totally submit.

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NOTES AND PRACTICES

OF LIFE-OF-PERFECTION

TO DIRECT HER SPIRITUAL LIFE
