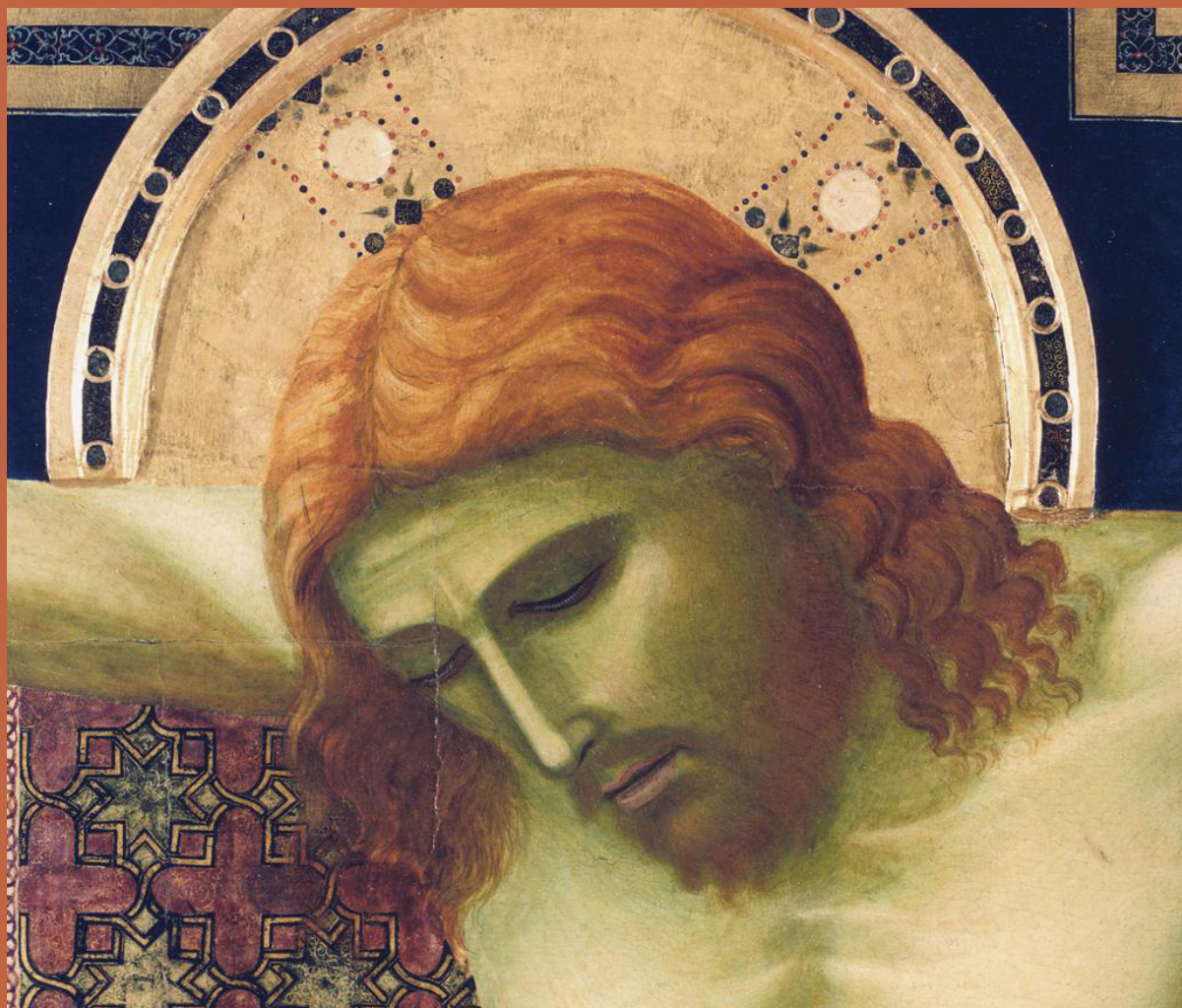


# AMICI DI ALBERTO E CARLA

n. 1  
MARCH 2017

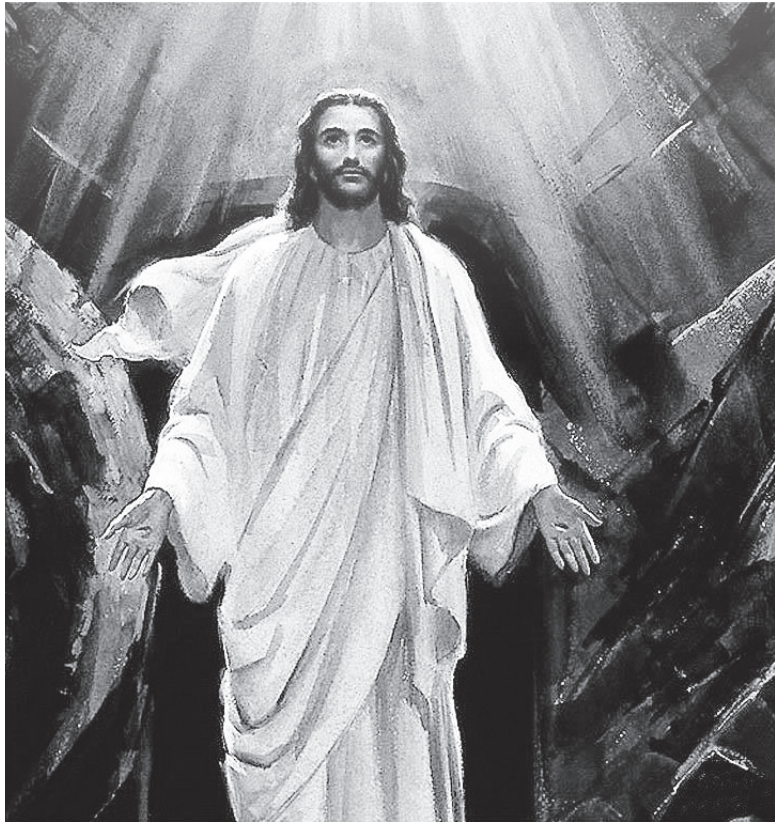
SIX-MONTHLY MAGAZINE WITH INFORMATION ABOUT LIFE, THOUGHT AND WORKS  
OF BLESSED ALBERTO MARVELLI AND CARLA VENERABLE RONCI



## THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

Easter approaches, and we would like to wish our readers happy holidays. We would also like to propose a series of reflections and let the Catholic Church lead us to Catechism (n. 1085). *Christ mainly realises his Paschal Mystery in the Church's liturgy. While on earth, Jesus used his teachings and actions to announce and anticipate the Paschal Mystery. When his Time came, he experienced the only event which is not affected by the passing of time: death. He then came back from the dead, and sat at the right hand of the Father "once and for all" (Rm 6,10; Eb 7,27; 9,12). His death and resurrection are actual, historical events. However, they are unique. All historical events take place once, and are then swallowed by time. Christ's Paschal Mystery, on the other hand, cannot be confined to the past, as by dying he destroyed death itself. Everything that Christ is, everything he did and went through for all men's sake echoes in divine eternity, and is therefore both timeless and present. Christ's crucifixion and resurrection survive time, and lead to life. Our two young Saints, namely Carla Ronci and Alberto Marvelli, experienced the Paschal Mystery intensely, and found Christ in liturgical actions. Their lives show us how important they deemed the Eucharist, which the Lord bestowed upon us on Holy Thursday, during the Last*

Supper. Carla Ronci's notebook is full of notes about liturgy, while Alberto Marvelli wrote much about the Paschal Mystery and the Eucharist, as he reflected upon them extensively. Partaking of the Eucharist was no mere religious practice for them: indeed, it was the pillar upon which their actions as Christians were based. The Eucharist was a means for contemplation, which then turned into action when facing evil. The following pages contain a large excerpt of Alberto Marvelli's reflections on Holy Thursday and the Eucharist, taken from his spiritual notebooks.



## HOLY THURSDAY, A LOVE POEM

*Alberto, whose contemplative nature showed even when he took action, considered liturgical prayer as the main source of inspiration for his personal prayers. He deemed liturgy as a means to experience God's Word first hand and to find the right reasons for helping others.*

“Shared liturgical prayer is infinitely better than private prayer”. Liturgy enables us to experience church life and Christ. Every year we witness the mysteries of Christ's hidden, public, painful and glorious life, and we reap its harvest”. *The notebooks contain very deep reflections on important Christian holidays and sacraments, such as the renewal of baptismal promises, Christmas, the Holy Week, the Resurrection, and Pentecost. Moreover, when speaking about the Eucharistic Mystery – one of the two “spiritual wings” which his Salesian upbringing provided him with, the other being his love for the Virgin Mary – Alberto uses extraordinarily powerful language, able to tie God's love to the love one*

*feels for their neighbour, as shown in the following excerpt. “Eucharist! Such beautiful word feeds your soul, comforts your spirit, and helps you attain eternal life. What a mystery does this word contain, what poetry, what love, what sacrifice does it conceal! Whenever I receive communion, myriad thoughts fill my mind: I am grateful, but I also feel unworthy of such great honour. I mostly think of the night of the Betrayal, when Jesus, knowing he was about to die, decided to establish the Eucharist so as to leave an eternal memory of his goodness. Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body. Do this in memory of me”. In*

### ALBERTO MARVELLI ON THE INTERNET

- [www.chiesa.rimini.it/albertomarvelli](http://www.chiesa.rimini.it/albertomarvelli): his life, pictures, writings, spirituality, and prayers, as well as magazines and publications.
- Facebook profile and page: [www.facebook.com/centro.marvelli](https://www.facebook.com/centro.marvelli) to follow events, activities, publications, and visits.
- Twitter (@centromarvelli): to receive a sentence by Alberto Marvelli every day.



the same way, after supper, he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. Do this, as often as you drink it, in memory of me".

Such are the words which consecrated it and should fill us with joy. Since then, billions of priests have been kneeling before the cup, billions of virgins have been keeping vigil before the tabernacle, legions of handmaids of the poor have been eating that daily bread, proof of their daily sacrifice, bearing Christ in their minds. "God's bread comes down from the sky, and gives life to the world. I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. Truly, truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of Man, you have

no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day". Such words, spoken by Jesus, confirm the power of the host, which shall work miracle after miracle. How much evil has been avoided thanks to it! How many wanton people and murderers have retrieved the pure heart they lost in their early days after coming into contact with the host, which turned them into children! The mystery of Holy Thursday radiates light through the entire world, but those outside of it do not understand. You need to partake of it, you need to be one with it, you need to be part of the vineyard and blend with its shoots. However, men are indifferent to the mystery that gives us life! This is what a young Catholic's activities are to focus on: leading souls to Jesus and his divine table,

and trying to transmit ardour and faith to the weaker. We are not to show suffering souls only shelters or lifelines: they are also to see rewards. We do need this table! Nothing is as good as the Eucharist to keep us vigilant against evil, as it is made up of love, and love never rests. Those who partake of the Eucharist dare build their house at the centre of life, and become almost divine. However, the great strength they draw from it keeps them free. As great as grace is, we are always free to abuse of it. The Eucharist requires our whole soul, as it is a pact of love, a covenant made deep within ourselves. Therefore, breaking such covenant would be immensely bad, as the covenant itself is immensely good. Christ

warns us that we will have to return what we have been given. What shall we return to him, if it is him whom we were given? Those who consider Christians as weak and vile cannot even picture the bravery of a repentant sinner awaiting to partake of the Eucharist among other believers. Blessed be those who become so small and humble as to be invisible. However, he who gives life to the Eucharist through his love enters a loving, fearful heart, thereby bringing peace, dissipating fear and keeping the promise he made on Holy Thursday. The soul finds comfort and solace even in the tiniest act of love."

**Cinzia Montevocchi**

Experiencing the altar means experiencing sacrifice, and partaking of the Eucharist means allowing the Spirit that resides within the host to fill one's life. Will we ever know how many people wished they were the host itself? The host itself! In the beginning, the host was but milled wheat: "Lord, take this poor wheat. It is yours. Let me be ground by my duties, providential suffering, and the voluntary penance obedience shall grant me. May I be ground for you, and may the fire of Love make immaculate bread out of me". The host itself! The host is a humble piece of bread which ceases to be such when consecrated: «Lord, I want to stop living a mortal life full of vanity, greed, and lust. I no longer want to live inside me". The host itself! The host is a piece of bread which became Jesus: "No longer being me, my Lord, is the downside of my bidding. I do not want to do it, unless I become you. You are the host; I shall be your host brought to life, I shall be You too!".

## CARLA RONCI: THIS IS THE PATH I HAVE TAKEN

Carla had a hard time figuring out her vocation. She wanted to follow God's will, and she knew for a fact that God wanted her to give her whole self to him. She had thought of joining the Ursulines, whom she knew due to their activity and presence in Torre Pedrera, but after a few months of novitiate, her father's reluctance and her Mother Superior's decisions led her to understand that was not her path, as "reaching God would have been too easy that way". 1961 saw her discover her true calling: leading a holy life, and joining the "Mater Misericordiae" altar girl Secular Institute.

Carla chose to live a holy secular life in the small village of Torre Pedrera. There, she worked hard to spread the word, even above her strength. There she felt she was following her calling. She wanted to combine her love for God with her fondness for the world, showing how earthly matters and human activities, albeit independent, can be consecrated and become an instrument of sanctification thanks to the action of the Spirit. Secular spirituality, which she had desperately, piously sought among the Ursulines, was what she needed all along. She had to look for the meaning of her existence in her small, provincial village, because that was where God had put her. Read what she

wrote in her diary: "No, my dear soul, it is not by chance that you lead such a healthy life in this house, in this place, surrounded by people. It is not by chance that you do this job, the monotony and difficulty of which sometimes leave you tired. Dear soul, complain not: you live where you are to, as God chose this place for you with his infinite wisdom. Here, in this place God has chosen for you, you have the possibility to sanctify yourself: you wouldn't be able to do it elsewhere. Dear soul, acceptance is not enough. You must be happy and make others happy wherever God may sow, plant, or transplant you. Dear soul, to blossom is to be happy with what is done for you; to be able to give thanks for the tiniest favours; to be happy with

having to help others without receiving anything in return; to tell those around you, with a sincere smile on your face and simplicity in your heart "I like being with you". She is joyful and peaceful now that she has found her path. Read what she wrote her friend Teresa Dotti, who had asked her about her life: "In 1960 I met a young woman who told me about a secular institute, namely the "Mater Misericordiae" charity (the Mother House of which is in Macerata, Marche). In January 1961, after attending a course on spiritual exercises at the Mother House, I applied to join such institute. In January 1962, I took my first monthly vows; in January 1963, I made my religious profession and took my vows of poverty, obedience, chastity and apostleship, and now I am a spouse of Jesus. "If you understood me, I believe I need not say how joyful, peaceful and

serene I am... I know I am a spouse of Crucified God, and nothing can scare or surprise me. He is on the cross, but where am I to be, as his spouse? With him, of course. So what? I have to suffer and rejoice with him, for him... "I live inside my family. Only those I hold dearest know about my situation. I work for Gioventù Femminile (the Female Youth of Catholic Action, t/n), and I do it for him, with him. «I wear two golden rings, and a crucified Christ under my dress. I wear the same clothes as my peers, with elegance and modesty, and I try to show souls that being an active Christian is a source of joy, not suffering. Isn't it true that suffering becomes joy through Jesus?».

**Fausto Lanfranchi**



## LETTERS AND NEWS FROM

### From Barretos (Brazil)

Good afternoon! Jesus' peace be unto you!

Dear friends, my name is p. Ireneu da Silva Apolinario, and I belong to the Congregation of the Priests of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. I have known and admired the life of your blessed Alberto Marvelli for a very long time. I was appointed to work in the novitiate of my congregation in the town of Barretos in Brazil, and I take care of liturgy here. As we are restoring our chapel, I would like to ask you for a relic of your blessed Alberto for us to put in the chapel, as I believe that people should know the beautiful life, thoughts and works of our young saints.



*Barretos - Cathedral*

### Good afternoon! The peace of Jesus!



I write this email to thank Alberto Marvelli (my dear friend in Heaven). I am very happy, and I wholeheartedly thank you for the Magazine. I shall pray for Alberto and Carla's canonisation.

**João Victor de Jesus**

### From Barcellona (Spain)

Good afternoon, I would like to tell you the story of a miracle God has worked thanks to the intercession of Blessed Alberto Marvelli.



I have been living in Barcelona, Spain, for 21 years. I have been unemployed for almost 2 years. One month ago, I found a piece of paper about the cause of canonisation of the Blessed, where a part of his heroic life was described along with a prayer to obtain a favour through his intercession. I read it before the Most Blessed Sacrament, in the church where I found it, and with the help of the Blessed I asked God to help me in that predicament. Once I left the church, I received a phone call about a job interview. I started working again 15 days ago. God be praised! I would like to receive a holy card of the Blessed along with a relic. I would also like to receive other relics for my friends and family, and I would like to know how to make a contribution to his cause of canonisation.

**Mauro Gentile**

## From Coria Caceres (Spain)

Hello, I am father Francisco Javier Chamorro Juarez, of the Spanish diocese of Coria Caceres. I write to you to ask for a relic of blessed Alberto. Indeed, we are working with a group of young people, whom



*Coria – Cathedral of Santa Maria de la Asunción*

I would like Alberto to protect, as I believe he can set a good example to them. Therefore, I would also like to ask you for publications so as to better know his life. I embrace you, may blessed Alberto pray to God for us.

**Francisco Javier Chamorro Juarez**

## The young people of the Canneto oratory (Pavia)

On Thursday 8th August 2016, a jolly group of young people of the Canneto oratory, who were spending a week in Rimini to get to know the Caritas experience.

## LETTERS AND NEWS FROM CARLA

### A letter from Caracas (Venezuela)

I am a religious person, and I am attending the last training year to become a priest. I have known Carla Ronci for quite a long time, and I have to tell you that her love for Christ set a great friendly example to me. Her whole life was dedicated to God... her young age makes her even more attractive, especially for young people. I am in charge



of a group of young people, and I have been trying to show them that you can love God regardless of your age and state of life: the only thing that matters is loving God when you are joyful; more than one young person chose Carla Ronci as their guardian in Heaven. I have a great wish to make: could you please send me holy cards for me to give to my young friends who chose Carla Ronci as their guardian?

Moreover, I would like to ask you for a first-class relic to display during our weekly meetings, so as to make Carla Ronci the guardian of the whole group. Moreover, I would like to ask you for material to hand out to everyone, so as to increase the number of people who know and pray to Carla. I hope your answer will be in the positive.

### A letter from Venice (Italy)

Hi Carla,

This is how I greet her when I speak to her, as I believe we are very good friends. I believe she understands my struggles, and when I look at her portrait I often speak to her and tell her what's going on. Speaking to her is a sincere, liberating experience. Unfortunately, her picture does not talk back, which makes me wish I could meet her as soon as possible. However, she is always smiling, and her look comforts and gives me strength, as she is so young. I always ask her for help, and I feel she understands me completely; I believe



my confidence does not go lost. Rather, I believe she welcomes it tenderly. I have many concerns, but this girl of my age led her life without belonging to this world, as you can infer from her letters, where she refused to talk about her physical health and preferred to describe her inner world, where she said she felt very comfortable. Carla Ronci is the living proof that letting Jesus love you leads to immense internal wellbeing. You set a great example, my dear Carla! That is why I speak to you, a pure-hearted young woman who always did good without taking the wrongs she suffered into consideration. Her only aim was to give joy to Jesus and the Most Blessed Virgin.

I hope I will meet you in Heaven one day! I am counting on it!

**P.M.**

## From Tianguà, Brazil

Franciscan missionary Josè Brito Veras has asked us for a case with a relic of venerable Carla Ronci in it. We sent it to him, and this was his reply "We have received

the precious relic today. Our Oratory is celebrating such gift, please accept our thanks for your kindness. Now we shall pray to Carla Ronci for her to intercede and bless our plan to build a chapel in our Oratory" .

## From Buenos Aires. Argentina

My name is Valeria Lamelas. I am attending the second year of Theology, and I am preparing to consecrated life. I would like to receive a relic of venerable Carla Ronci, for her to help and protect me in my daily activities, which can be fruitful only if I receive abundant graces from Heaven. Thank you for your attention, I will remember you in my daily prayers.

**We have renovated Carla Ronci's website, and posted her thoughts on Twitter and Facebook.**

[www.chiesa.rimini.ti/carlaronci](http://www.chiesa.rimini.ti/carlaronci)

Twitter: write Carla Ronci

Facebook: go to don Dino Paesani's profile.

Should you want to contact the Mater Misericordiae Institute:

Mother House: via dell'erta, 5 - 62100 Macerata - Tel. 0733 230661 - 236538 National

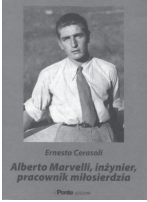
seat: via Marconi 2/4 - 60025 Loreto (An) -Tel. 338 5064796

email: [bertonimariarosa@gmail.com](mailto:bertonimariarosa@gmail.com)

# BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS IN LANGUAGE

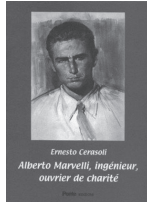
## Alberto

Ernesto Cerasoli



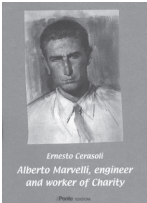
**Alberto Marvelli, inżynier,  
pracownik miłosierdzia**  
Ed. *ilPonte* - pp. 24

Ernesto Cerasoli



**Alberto Marvelli, ingénieur, ouvrier  
de charité**  
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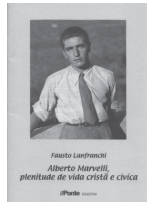
Ernesto Cerasoli



**Alberto Marvelli, engineer and  
worker of charity**  
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Fausto Lanfranchi

**Alberto Marvelli, plenitude de vida  
crista e civica**  
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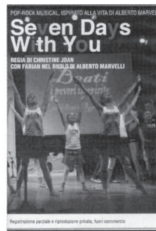


Fausto Lanfranchi



**Alberto Marvelli, plenitud de vida  
cristiana y civil**  
Ed. *ilPonte* - pp. 24

**Musical Alberto  
"Seven days with you"**



Docu-film



**Siamo fatti per il Cielo.  
Alberto Marvelli  
una vita tutta di corsa**

## Carla

Dépliant



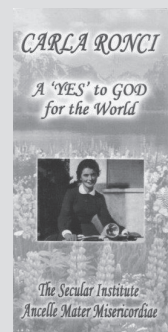
Portoghese



Spagnolo



Italiano



Inglese



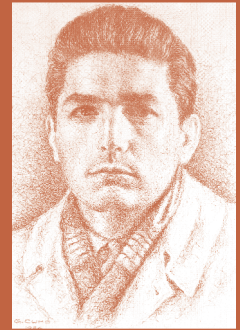
## Prayer to ask for Venerable Carla Ronci's intercession

Lord, we thank you for bestowing Carla Ronci upon us, and we thank the powerful action of Your Holy Spirit, which blessed her with many gifts. We praise you for her willingness to fully consecrate herself to Jesus Christ through chastity, poverty and obedience; for the great dedication she had to her educational task during her everyday ecclesial commitments; for her willingness to follow her priestly vocation and the sanctification of presbyteries; for her fervent prayers, which enabled her to endure suffering with strength and serenity; for her simple life the constant help she gave to her neighbours. Father, grant us, through Carla's intercession, the ability to follow our path as virtuously as she did. We also ask you for spiritual and material grace.

If your divine plan allows it, let Carla be beatified and known by the whole Church, for the sake of us and Your glory. Amen.

(Approved by the Church)

## Prayer for asking for the intercession of Blessed Alberto Marvelli



Oh God, Almighty Father, rich of mercy,  
We thank you for giving in  
Alberto Marvelli  
a sign of your love for us.

We contemplate the wonders that you  
have created  
in his life: his strong life of prayer,  
his generous social and political dedi-  
cation,  
his ardent love for the poor.

In any aspect of his life  
he practised heroically  
faith, hope and charity.

We ask you, Father, for the intercession  
of Alberto,  
allow us to imitate his virtues and to  
become like him  
witnesses of Your love in the world.  
We also ask you any spiritual and mate-  
rial grace.

We ask you peace and salvation for  
Your Church,  
that Alberto loved and served.

Make Alberto well-known all over the  
Church  
for Your name's glory and honour.

Amen

**With ecclesiastical approval**