



**30th Anniversary  
of the Beatification of Bl. Clare Bosatta  
1991 APRIL 2021**

Dearest Sisters, Confreres, and Guanellian Cooperators,  
in the joy of celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beatification of Bl. Clare Bosatta, despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, as members of the General Councils of the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence and the Servants of Charity, we thought we would share a message of sincere gratitude, living hope and renewed commitment.

***Sincere gratitude***

We thank God for making blossom within the Church, Sr. Clare Bosatta, this “first flower of the Religious Family that St. Luigi Guanella founded”, as the Apostolic Brief of the Beatification reads, which “must be considered as one of the lights that sheds the light of God on the Christian people”.

Sr. Clare has reached “that high measure” of the Christian life in the shadow of an existence that has not shone for the brilliance of its action, but the incandescence of love, aided by faith and humility.

Don Guanella testified that “thanks to the prayer and sacrifice of the Servant of God” she was able “with the visible help of Providence to follow the intention of seeing the foundation of the House of Divine Providence built and consolidated”, and for this she is considered “a foundation stone” of his Work.

We will never fully understand the marvels that the Holy Spirit worked in the heart and life of this Sister. We can only praise God for her and revive in ourselves the grateful knowledge of being part of a Family validated by the seal of her sanctity.

The memory of the beatification of Sr. Clare, is an invitation to “avail ourselves of her mediation with the Lord”, as don Guanella exhorted and to dip into the strength of her example and of the intercession of the many members of the Guanellian Family who have preceded us to the House of the Father, to proceed with a generous and creative impulse towards that sanctity that He wants of us.

### *Living Hope*

In the Message for Lent this year, Pope Francis admitted that “In these times of trouble, when everything seems fragile and uncertain, it may appear challenging to speak of hope”.

We might think the same thing about celebrating the beatification of Sr. Clare, having happened 30 years ago, immersed in this situation characterized by so many trials, difficulties, preoccupations, in and outside the Guanellian Families: how can we guard true hope and not feed into passing and disappointing illusions?

Even in this Sr, Clare is a light which illuminates.

Mother Marcellina testifies: “I never saw her lose her serenity of soul among her pains; in her needs and those of the house she was never disturbed, but she prayed and hoped always calmly and smiling even in her pain” and don Guanella confirmed: “Hope was a consoling angel for Sr. Clare”.

For this, wrote our Founder, “she was the good angel of the House who, when she sensed a sign of bad humor... listened with love and responded with few words... whoever left her, felt, without even knowing why, joy in their heart”.

She had and could give hope because everything in her was anchored in God, in the most intimate and joyful communion with the living Christ, in confident abandonment to the love of the Father.

On the eve before the exam for her teaching diploma, Sr. Clare wrote to Mother Marcellina: “And this hope will it be answered or deluded? Let us put everything into the hands of Divine Providence, and in the meantime let us pray and pray with insistence”.

This is the invitation she leaves us too.

Pope Francis could comment: “Through recollection and silent prayer, hope is given to us as inspiration and interior light, illuminating the challenges and choices we face in our mission. Hence the need to pray and, in secret, to encounter the Father of tender love”.

### *Renewed Commitment*

During the homily for her beatification, St. John Paul II noted that “in her meekness and fragility, in the simplicity of her manner and in the delicacy of her ways, Clare hid the indescribable strength of a truly evangelical charity”.

Her presence at the beginnings of the Guanellian Family and the witness of her life, illuminates the prophetic dimension of our mission.

Timid by character and raised in the small world of the shores of Lake Como, Clare, with humble and persevering correspondence to grace, “applied herself with courage to good and to the works of the institute, she was able to be strong for the needy... always constant in her zeal and concern”, as Mother Marcellina witnesses.

And don Guanella recalls with pleasure, her courage, which inflamed even him, when, during the cholera epidemic, Sr. Clare exhorted: “Let us go to Naples, offering ourselves in aid of the cholera victims... either we will die or we will be able to do a bit more good in the midst of that great city”.

It was not recklessness, but faith fully aware of being at the service of the provident design of the love of the Father. Sr. Clare said: “We are nothing, yet God still might be able to make use of us!”

Let us repeat it today, while we continue, with renewed commitment, to discern the ways which Providence calls us to serve, to participate in the mission of the Church who takes on the load of the integral salvation of every person and surrounds with affectionate care whoever is afflicted by human fragility (cf. LG 8).

Let us ask Sr. Clare, our Blessed Sister, to sustain our path as a Guanellian Family, to help us revive that particular link that unites us and to make real the charism of our Holy founder, so that all the people of God can enjoy this gift of the Holy Spirit.

To all a fraternal and cordial greeting and the wish to continue to walk in communion in the footsteps of St. Luigi Guanella, Blessed Clare Bosatta and of many other members of our Family.

United in prayers we give thanks to God!

*Father Umberto Brugnoli*

*Sr Neuza Maria Giordani*

*Father Nico Rutigliano*

*Sr Carla Folini*

*Father S. Rathinam Antony Samy*

*Brother Franco Lain*

*Sr Esther Marie Leroux*

*Father Gustavo De Bonis*

*Sr Maria Antonietta Ripamonti*