

Parish of S.Maria Maggiore

Archdiocese of Potenza - Muro Lucano - Marsiconuovo

Via Dante 23/25 - 85010 Pignola (PZ) – Italy

== YEAR 2014 ==



MAIN CHURCH



S.ANTONIO



S.ROCCO



PANTANO SHRINE

Mass timetable

HOLIDAYS

WORKDAYS

Main Church	11:30	
S.Antonio	09:30	09:00 - 6:30pm**
S.Rocco	6:30pm*	
Pantano	12:00 7:00pm	7:00pm
Rifreddo	11:30	
Tora	10:00	

** at Main Church from 3rd Sun. of May up to 3rd Sat. of Sept.*

*** at Main Church from 3rd Mon. of May up to 3rd Sat. of Sept.*

Yearly Mass

Madonna delle Grazie: Jul. 2 9,30 - 11:30 - 6:30 pm

S.Michele: May 8 and Sep. 29 Settembre 11:00 - 4:00 pm

S.Lucia: Dec. 10/11/12 6:30 pm
 Dec. 13 11:00 - 6:00 pm

Monthly celebrations

- **3rd Sat.** : (Oct. to May) Pilgrimage to the Sanctuary at 4:00pm
- **1st Thu.** : Worship (5:30pm Pignola - 6:30pm Pantano)
- **1st Fri.** : penitential liturgy (5:00pm Pignola - 6:00pm Pantano)
- **3rd Fri.** : 100 requiem rosary at the cemetery (4:00pm)
- **day 23** : S.Pio da Pietrelcina prayers group in S. Rocco at 6:00pm

Contacts

PRESBYTERY:

Don Antonio LAURITA – Parish priest

Don Antonio MELIANTE – Parish Vicar

Giuseppe CALACE – permanent deacon



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Parrocchia S.Maria Maggiore – Pignola

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News from the Parish - Welcome

February 2014

Dear readers,

I decided to use this tool to communicate in real time with all of you, informing about the life of our parish community.

I feel that such a communication instrument is in step with the times, and it will replace the periodical “Maria SS. degli Angeli”, curated by don Rocco Piro during the last fifty years to inform all Pignola residents and emigrants about interesting events of our town.

Let me ask younger generations to be of some help to less experienced people in using this tool, maybe printing for them the pages concerning news and event of the parish, to keep them informed on what the parish is promoting in terms of faith and aggregation.

The Second Vatican Council wants that “all of the faithful have to be trained to a complete, conscious and active participation to liturgical celebrations”, and this participation “internal and external, has to be implemented according to their age, state, lifestyle, and religious culture”.

To do this, the Church made the Liturgy more flexible, simple, and various. Although this implementation would not be easy to achieve, I would invite whoever wants to cooperate with the parish activities (choir, catechists, ministers, readers, etc.) to take care of these statements.

I would like to express in advance my very sincere thanks to all those who will cooperate in making our parish a joy-filled life experience, welcoming towards everybody, ready to encourage every member using its witness to the faith.

I entrust all of us and this project to the maternal protection of the Virgin Mary, that with great fidelity has accompanied Jesus from the crib in Bethlehem to Mount Calvary; has prayed with the Apostles when the Church was originated by the breath of the Holy Spirit; reconciles Eve with the Creator; brings joy to the sterile Sarah and wipes away Rachel's tears; She is the Woman clothed in the sun with the moon under her feet, surrounded by stars, who fights the dragon defeating it forever. Her sweet face, her tender gaze, her pure mouth whose kisses heal the wounds, her hands full of mercy, her unfathomable heart telling us the love of the Redeemer, help us to switch our despairs in joy, giving us the certainty that the good Gospel life exists also for us.

Hoping that everything will happen following the heart of Christ, I bless you !



The parish priest
Antonio Laurita

P.S.: Let's apologize in advance for the translation errors that you'll surely find; we do our best efforts, but surely it is not enough ! Sorry...

The real meaning of Christmas in Pignola

When December comes, everybody is waiting for Christmas; but which is its real sense ?

Maybe the gifts under the Christmas tree , lights at the windows, dinners within families, exchanging Christmas wishes ?

Rather, Christmas represents the basis of our faith and is the event that changed the story.

Christmas should represent a moment of healing and renewed strength: it takes us into a common ritual reviving lights and hopes on the hearth. Every year, while we're putting up the Nativity scene or decorating a Christmas tree we go back in our memory, founding we're doing something we know since we were little girls or boys, handed down from father to son. This is true mainly for parishes, as underlined in his homily by our parish priest don Antonio Laurita during the midnight Christmas mass; at the end, an ancient little statue of the Holy Child, just renovated, has been taken in procession to S. Antonio church. On Christmas day, don Rocco Piro celebrated the mass at the Main Church, and in the evening it took place in S.Rocco church. The decision to use all churches of the town has been taken to allow everybody to attend.

This year we had the 6th edition of "*The Crib into the Crib*", an event that wants to improve the sense of belonging to Pignola's community setting up several Cribs, thus sharing the Christmas spirit; and also the parish community was involved, so the various groups prepared a Crib in each church.

On S.Stefano day, in S.Rocco church the parish children did a performance about the Nativity, with songs and dialogues in English, driven by Catholic Action, whose members should be really appreciated for their efforts in helping our kids to grow in a Christian way.

Finally we had the "live nativity scene", held in the suggestive scenery of the Priscinia cave, where people met to celebrate the Mystery of Bethlehem; looking at the Holy Child in the cave our spiritual life should restart, reanimated by the "true" Christmas presents.

Angela Maria Guma

NATIVITY – December 2014

On Dec. 28th evening, in San Rocco Church, after the Mass there has been a short but nice performance celebrating the Nativity, played by the Catholic Action children.

This year the innovation was the language: children were speaking in English, and the same happened when they were singing the traditional Christmas songs Silent Night e Jingle Bells.

This would not have been so extraordinary; but we must consider that they had to learn both roles and songs texts really in a few time: just one hour per each one of the five or six Saturday between the 2014 A.C. activity start date and the day of the recital.

That's why we had to be surprised by the good result !

We have to give them credit for what they did; they certainly continued reviewing the roles and the text also being at home; and everybody did this, also those “a bit more lively”, that during the preparation were quite impossibile to keep quite...

So at the end they were those really happy, but let's acknowledge the efforts made by the educators. Thus, let's say “bravo” to everybody, waiting for the next meetings.



In memory of Giulia Olita

December 2014

My dear Giulia,

an unspeakable suffering has shocked my soul, knowing of your decease, because our friendship was really sincere and deep since we were two little girls.

Later, you had to change town because of the marriage, but every time you came back in Pignola our relationships were always identical; better, the distance was enforcing our tender feelings.

When your dear Gerardo died, I shared your suffering; I still remember when, walking together, you told me that you felt to have a higher responsibility, being mother and father at the same time.

Unfortunately you couldn't accomplish this for a long time, because of your long illness: the roles inverted, and your daughters had to take care of you, showing a high self-sacrifice.

I'm sure God will reward Emilia, Tina, and your sister Anna for what they did for you.

You'll stay in the memory of all you knew as a very nice and polite person, a faithful friend, without the arrogance that sometime appears in the attitude of who left the town. I regret to have lost a so dear friend which always well understood my words; now I'm sure that God, that you were always used to pry piously, will welcome you between His elects.

An intense and sweet memory of you will remain forever into myself.

Ninetta Perone

In memory of Maria Carmela Romano, widow of Sabia

Dear Maria,

last Sunday, leaving the Church Donatella sadly told me about the passing of your mother.

I know how great is your suffering: the mother is a precious and irreplaceable gift, that nobody would ever want to lose.

As well, I know how much you were linked with her, and although I never met her, your descriptions gave me the feeling to know her well.

Since long time your Sundays were always dedicated to her, so you'll miss her so much; but I'm sure you'll be comforted by your strong faith.

Know that I'm close to you, and I pray to God to receive your dear mother into His loving arms, allowing her to continue watching over children and grandchildren

With affection,

Ninetta Perone

Feast of Santa Lucia

Dec. 13 , 2014

Since a couple of years in Pignola there is a group of volunteers that organises the celebrations in honour of Santa Lucia, which is greatly revered in our town.

This year the team (Filomena Chirieleison, Nina Coiro, Gina Fusco, Vincenza Lauria, Angela Montagna, Adriana Pietrafesa, Carolina Vista) , has undertaken some initiatives to enhance a tradition that was declining. Therefore they started involving young people (school groups) in realizing the traditional **“Lace”**, something that seemed to have been forgotten in our technological era.

Then, the Santa Lucia day began with the sound of pipers from Viggiano that have been going through the streets, together with a Santa Claus giving sweets to children. Our parish priest don Antonio celebrated the Mass in the typical little church, with a great attendance, including several pupils and teachers.

In the afternoon, in the presence of the Mayor Gerardo Ferretti and the Councillor for Culture Cristiano Lauria, the **“Laces”** have been measured, and the class “2nd A” was awarded first prize, having realized a 112 meters lace ! All participants received anyway the medal with the effigy of the Saint.

After the second Mass of the day the procession took place; when the Saint reached her church, many white and luminous balloons flew to the sky. Then, **“U' Catuozz’**, the traditional bonfire prepared by Marino Napolitano, was ignited while at the same time fireworks were illuminating the clear sky.

At the end Angela Montagna, a soprano from Pignola which is also a committee member, sang some Christmas carols, arousing great emotion among people.

Later, people tasted the **“Cuccia”**, a traditional soup of wheat, corn and chickpea; some roast chestnut followed, accompanied by a glass of wine. This year a novelty has been introduced: a cookie named **“D'uocchiè d' Sanda Luciè”** (“The eyes of S.Lucia”). It's an eye-shaped cookie, created by Gina Fusco (another committee member) using the **“Cuccia”** basic ingredients: they seem to have been really appreciated. The recipe follows, and we hope it can become another traditional component of this feast.

Let me thank whoever has contributed : the carriers of the statue (Vincenzo Calace, Paolo Rosa e Pasquale Marino, Marco Montagna e Gerardina Belarte), don Antonio, our Mayor, but especially the inhabitants, who gave economic and moral support to the committee. A greeting also to don Rocco, who was not physically present, but we're sure his heart was with us.

In Pignola, Santa Lucia means the beginning of Christmas period; therefore the committee wants to wish all citizens and all readers a

Merry Christmas and a Happy 2015 !

Gina Fusco

(Santa Lucia 2014 Committee)

D'uocchië d' Sanda Lucië

Recipe by Gina Fusco

Ingredients:

- 250g whole-wheat flour
- 150g chickpea flour
- 125g maize starch
- 150g peeled and toasted almonds
- 225g sugar
- 225g melted butter
- 3 whole eggs
- 1 packet of yeast
- grated orange rind
- 1 tablespoon of cinnamon
- bitter cocoa

Preparation:

- put on the pastry board the flours, sugar, almonds, yeast, cinnamon, grated orange rind and mix all together , leaving in the middle a cavity where to put eggs and melted butter
- after a few minutes of knead, wrap the mixture in a food film and allow the dough to rest approximately one hour in the refrigerator.
- knead it again for a few minutes and then slice it in 4 parts (3 + 1 smaller)
- mix the smaller with 3 spoons of bitter cocoa (this portion will be used later)
- roll out with a rolling pin one of the 3 remaining (be careful to do not make it too much thin !) and, using an eye-shaped mould, obtain several cookies
- turn on the oven, setting it to about 160°-170°
- lay a sheet of baking paper in a baking dish, and put there the cookies (leave some space in between)
- roll out the “small” mixture (the one with cocoa) and obtain several little circe (again, not too much thin); each one will represent the pupil, so will be put in the center of each cookie
- place in the oven and cook for about 20 minutes (until they became slightly browned)
- repeat the above for all the dough portions



Feast of Catholic Action subscriptions for 2014-2015 Dec. 8, 2014

“Take heart, it’s me; have no fear” is the slogan for the subscriptions of this year.

We also use it to approach the Gospel with humility and trust, to discover and rediscover the real identity of Jesus, which is not a ghost because He is always and everywhere with us, mainly in the most critical moments of our life.

“Take heart, it’s me; have no fear” is the Jesus’ exhortation to the apostles that reaches directly our heart, challenging to look inside ourselves at our fears, hesitations, little faith. To discover –or better to rediscovery- the true identity of Jesus means to rediscover the typical traits of the Lords’ disciples: *“common”* women and men that, being attracted to Him, are involved and try to be His witnesses in the day by day life.

To join A.C. is a personal, simple sign, but of a great value; to join A.C. is the way to say **“I’m here”**

In the A.C. we met several people, just members or educators, that have accompanied us in faith, showing their passion to A.C. Today, through this subscription we commit to consolidate and share the Baptism. The subscription is also passion to life and Gospel; it’s a choice that wants we act to make beautiful, homely and lively our community. Thus, it is a walk in the faith that becomes life, founding in it the truth. Obviously worries, doubts, difficulties will remain: but we will have the force to hardly row in the open sea, trusting in the Word of the Lord.

I want to thank don Antonio, who sustains our Association and takes care of it like parents do with a child, giving love and care, but at the same time leaving him free to grow.

Thanks also to the educators, that provide a precious activity for the smallest, so that they can grow up inside a community which makes them feel important and beloved.

Many tank to you, members: you represent the *“salt”* of the Association. I say this because salt is very important, being the one that gives the *“right taste”* .

Finally, I warmly greet you reporting hereafter the greetings from the Diocesan President:

“We are all happy to begin another year together in the A.C. : I wish you a fruitful way towards holiness, to which all are called, with the lifestyle that today we solemnly renew. May Mary be with us, sustaining us with Her maternal protection”

The chairwoman

Mara Azzarino

In memory of Gina Stigliani

November 2014

Dear Franca and Pasquale,

It is with great sadness that I've learnt of the Gina's death, and I want to express to you my sincere condolences.

In these days some memories came back to my mind, regarding the past moments when I had the chance to meet her.

I remember a very beautiful woman, with the face framed by a flowing black mane, sitting on a motorbike behind the diver: a beautiful, brunet and tall young man. A nice couple, pleasing to see.

The daily occupations and also the distance cause to lose contacts, and I'm really sorry for having ceased to meet them; then, a sad day, you read a poster that tells you the harsh reality,

We'll never be able to really understand this transition from life to death, that finds us always unprepared and unwilling to accept it. The only consolation is the memory that will stay in our heart forever.

Be sure that God will take her into His embrace, allowing to watch with love over Paolo and all children and grandchildren

With love,

Ninetta Perone

In memory of Michele Laurita

November 2014

Dear don Antonio,

it is with great sadness that I have learnt of the death of your father.

To be honest I did not have a closer knowledge of him, and very rarely I've heard his voice... I always felt he was a silent man, almost solitary, but at the same time he was a significant presence in our town.

He was able, with the help of dear mum Antonietta, to create a remarkable family with so many successful children.

He was conscious of his greatness, but demure as well; always dressed with dignity, distinguished by his height and courteousness, greeting everybody respectfully.

He had a quiet life, respected by everybody in the town.

I remember him well present during the various events, ensuring the safety of S.Rocco church.

The poet Foscolo said "*who leaves a so big legacy of affection never dies*"; and that's true for our dear Michele. I'm sure he is in the arms of God, rewarding a just man whose life was entirely dedicated to family and work: an exemplary man.

Let me express my affection to your mother, sisters, brother and nephews, particularly to Davide.

Ninetta Perone

Feast of st. Michael

Today is September 29, and children's voices accompany us along the route toward the church of St. Michael.

His name is very common in Pignola, and a large crowd of believers is present in the church, which is the furthest from the town.

Before the liturgy begins, children compete going through the 25 steps down, as an act of courage; some brought a ball, and will combine the liturgical act with a recreational country outing with their peers.

But when the mass begins, the little church (renovated in '80s) becomes like a shelter, and the liturgy takes place under an atmosphere of silence.

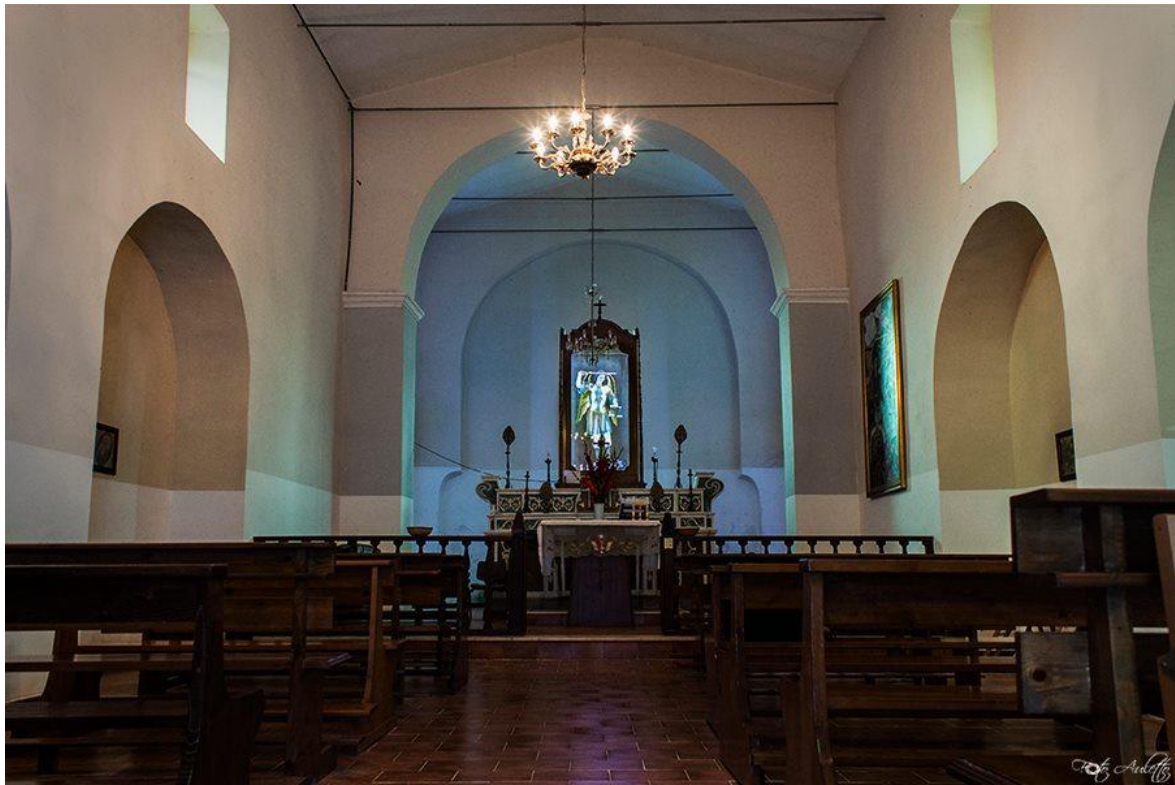
The eyes of the youngest are full of astonishment when the statue of St. Michael is carefully loaded up on a donkey for the traditional route; the crowd in effect goes from the church to the site where the legend says that another monkey carrying the statue, followed by the friars, many years ago refused to leave the convent.

On the way back, the pace is slower: the rise and the desire to prolong the day influence also the vivacious kids, and some sad faces are visible.

A mom consoles her son : "Listen, EVERY YEAR on September 29 is St. Michael..." and the child, hearing something which seems to be a promise, rewards her smiling.

Emanuele Cavallo





Original statue dated '400
Stolen in 1996

In memory of Fatima

Sept. 18, 2014

My dear Nascia,

I'm on my balcony, a few steps away from your house, unable to sleep thinking of your pain, a terrible suffering that can be understood only by who had the tragedy of losing a child.

There are no words of comfort for losing a child so beautiful, so worthy, full of hopes and dreams for a life just begun.

In the latest days different news were coming; I prayed a lot for her awake so yesterday, hearing the bad break about the painful ending, I was really dismayed.

I can see Fatima in all her splendor like a few days ago when, in a morning of sun, I met her: from afar, I didn't identify her, but I was impressed by such a beautiful and near regal figure, with a small dog on leash. When we approached, I recognized her so I answered her kind and affectionate greeting, but this splendid appearance remained with me for several days.

Therefore I feel that God picked this beautiful flower to adorn the Paradise; this idea relieves a bit my suffering, and let me hope the same will happen someday to you.

I cannot forget the affection you shown when also my son passed to the sky, every time you came home, and her ability to hear and let you understand my words.

Nobody could predict such an unexpected passing; the only consolation to such distress may be the light of faith: regardless if in your or in my God, it should allow you to face such a tragic, harsh path and to overcome the anguish of having been separated from your beloved Fatima.

Looking at the sky, imagine she is the brightest star which will light your life that, inevitably, will continue to go on.

Remember that your support to your husband and the other child is essential;
with love,

Ninetta Perone

FESTIVITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY and FESTIVITY OF SAN ROCCO

September 2014

August: hot temperature, liveliness, cheerfulness, rest... some terms suggested by a basic brainstorming: simple concepts that make us relive a time of year when people needs to stop, to exclude a fast-paced life giving room to the hot climate that warms the hearth and allows to cultivate relationships with others, sometime living far away; they open heart, spirit and mind to the encounter with God !

It is no coincidence that August is the month where the faith and the popular devotion reach their top with two important festivities: the Assumption of Mary and the festivity of San Rocco (Co-Patron of Pignola).

Benedetto XVI, in his Angelus on Aug. 15, 2011 has clearly explained how the Church celebrates this day as the Paschal Mystery fulfillment:

"Today we celebrate a great mystery, it is mainly a mystery of hope and happiness for all of us; in Mary we see the objective towards which proceed all those which are capable to link their life to Jesus and to follow Him as Mary did.

Thus this festivity is related to our future, telling us that we will be beside Jesus in the joy of God and invites us to have courage, to believe that the power of Christ's resurrection can make us men and women that day by day try to live as resurrected, bringing the light of good in the evil darkness present in the world."

In fact, the tradition does not mention the death of Mary; rather, the word "dormition" is used, to underline how the Father wants to associate this to Jesus resurrection.

Near the humility of Mary (*"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word"*)

we have the example from San Rocco, disciple of Jesus, whose life reflect the words "I came to serve, not to be served"; in fact, he is one of the most revered saints all over the world. San Rocco, a reflection of God's holiness, is often invoked because of his miraculous virtues, and has an important place in the heart of Pignolesi.

A lot of believers have crowded the torchlight procession in honor of Mary on August the 15th, and the same happened for the procession in honor of San Rocco the day after, because of the strong devotion and the deep faith which moved so many people to trust in their intercession to become witnesses and missionaries of God's Word.

Gaetana Lanotte

YEAR-END EVENT

August 2014

"No games without YOU" is the ACR motto for 2013/2014, and from that item I want to tell you what Catholic Action did on August the 10th at Risorgimento square here in Pignola.

A young educators group led by Maria Azzarino, the parish president, held a year-end event based on games, amusement, and prayer in our main square; the day was split into several steps: team games, group dancing, obstacle race.

Recalling the sentence that San Filippo Neri was used to tell children: "*Be quite... if you can*", in the afternoon there were some water games, where participants had fun throwing buckets of water each other !

About fifty children were present, despite the mid-August holidays and the various summer events held by the municipality.

Another ACR year has finished; thanks to children, boys, and educators that participated with enthusiasm to this day and to similar events during the year. We want to thank also the new entry Valentino, Gianluigi, Saverio e Leonardo, and the "lost sheep" Carol e Anna Lucia , now back to the flock.

Finally, we have to thank the municipality, police forces and our parish Don Antonio Laurita for their support; but our gratitude must be addressed to our Lord, who has allowed everybody to spend such a wonderful day.

See you in September!

Davide Lauria



In memory of Donato

August 2014

Dear Donato,

I'm giving a look at the book "The blowing of wind" , that we presented to the "Portale" in 1998.

Reading your poems, some lines really strike me: "Reeds shake when the wind blows", "A smile has been my life", "Remains for me the deaf pain for your passing".

A low whisper became an impetuous wind that overwhelmed your existence. You were always smiley, able to alleviate difficulties and to help in solving them.

We all deeply feel the pain for your departure, as you did for your friend, and we would like this hard reality to be just a bad dream.

Forgive me for being unable to inform Bruno; it would really be a huge blow, looking at his current status; you've always been the true friend to count on, being frank and wise, clear and pragmatic, so your agreement was perfect.

You've been close to us in the most tragic moment of our life; your closeness and your words have really been precious. And when he fell sick, I discovered how much you were sincerely suffering.

Many times you came to visit him, procuring happiness: it was really great to remember and share experiences, trips, and big events where also your dear Rosalba was present.

Your devotion to work and family and the strong link to Pignola are well known.

We will see each other up above with the angels: we're sure your smile will positively infect also Heaven.

Ninetta Perone

In memory of Anna

August 2014

My dear Anna,

I remember your kindness, affection, discreet attention , and our closeness. As well, I remember you very young in Poerio street, where your Rocco was living, and later on as a happy wife in Risorgimento street; each time we met, it was a pleasure to speak with you.

Our last meeting was on May, when you gave me a lift to come back at home from the Pantano church where, as every year, you were attending the Novena of Virgin.

Yes, you were really devote to the Virgin Mary, as revealed by the dedication and capacity shown as member of the committee in Her honour; and I'll never forget you in the main square giving a continuous attention, ensuring that everything was done correctly for the event.

As well, I see you at the Cemetery collecting the offerings for the Fraternity, or working in the church, and anyway ready to help whoever in needs: you gave us the example of a strong woman, able to solve problems.

When we knew the news of your serious illness, we could not believe it.

Our prayers were supporting you, but your disease grew, although your heart was full of serenity, resignation and big faith. We were anyway hoping in a relief, but the harsh reality disenchanted us.

You passed away on Sunday, the Lord's day, falling asleep in the womb of the Virgin and flying with Her to heaven. The mystery of the death seen through the light of faith could help us in understanding God's choices, sustaining us in our sadness.

Dear Rocco, Antonella, Pasquale, Maria Teresa , mummy and all relatives: our thoughts are with you. Her words and wise advices should be the trust companion to help your hearth petrified with pain. Her link with you will never break; be sure that she will always be present despite the block of death. Let's thank God for her life among us: her presence has been short but important.

Who leaves so deep ties of friendships does not really die.

Ninetta Perone

In memory of Candido

6/6/2014

Dear Candido,
although I knew the severity of your illness, that was anyway unable to break your spirit, I was not expecting you'll leave us forever. I'm dismayed because of your death, and also the whole town regrets for that.

You had not been born in Pignola, but you've been able to perfectly integrate in our community, becoming important for us: you've created our local television service, whose power was envied by nearby towns.

All main events were present in your "Teleuno", representing our reference point to be informed on local news, including whatever was concerning our Church, like processions and the daily Holy Rosary.

There were as well social debates, sport, folkloristic events, public notices, etc, respecting always the public decency; even the advertising was addressing social purposes.

Yes, Candido: in our hearts you're still alive, and we're sure you'll continue transmitting from heaven what God wants to tell us.

We really thank you for what you did for us, and I hope that who is in power will implement something to honour your memory.

Farewell, Candido

Ninetta Perone

During these two years towards Confirmation, I discovered many things about Christian life and on how to act in our life to follow the example of Christ. Our catechists continued to follow us with commitment and patience, helping us in understanding the true values of Christian life: love God above all else. He is always beside us, and is the only one that really understands and sustains us.

After the Baptism the Holy Spirit manifested his gifts, and will drive me for the good of others, as Jesus did. With my companions we have a big responsibility, but we'll build a world driven by good works with the help of our community: as wanted by Jesus, we'll help who lives in critical situations contributing to the life of our community also through small, simple gestures, beginning just with a constant presence at the Mass.

Marta

...

For the first time in my life, through this Christian journey I understood how I'm doing something for myself: to confirm my christian faith that will accompany myself throughout my whole existence.

First of all I've to thank my parents, who entrusted their newborn to God; and today He will accompany me along the nave of the church.

Now on, He will be my alpha and omega, the safe harbour for my soul: we'll be one as He was with his mother in that heart-breaking embrace at the foot of the cross.

John Paul II said: "you've to become the "morning watchmen" of a new millennium"; well, I want to be one of these sentinels, ready to go against the flow if this will be needed to follow Jesus.

Antonella Pietrafesa



At the end of a long run, finally we reached the First Communion day: laughing, joking, arguing, and sometime getting our catechists angry.

We're entering the church; the organ sounds end photographers are all around. We're now ready to receive the Body and Blood of Christ: really excited, we receive the Eucharist for the first time, with a peaceful mind.

...

On June the 1st we celebrated our First Communion. Everybody was really excited; our catechists were telling us to rest easy, but without success...

Maria Carmen

...

On June the 1st we, students of fifth classes, received the First Communion in the S.Maria Maggiore church in Pignola.

We've been prepared to this event thanks to the diligence and affection of our catechists, which became a sort of second mother.

Everybody was quite excited for this special and unique day. We went first to the sacristy, where we received the lilies and the booklet to follow the mass; then we entered the church in procession. Finally we received for the first time the Body and Blood of Christ, and immediately after everybody had a moment of personal prayer. At the end we did a photo with our priest. Nobody was expecting to live this moment so intensely...

Patrizia, Luisa, Sabrina, MariaTeresa, Giusy

...

... when we entered the church I was worried, thinking I would have forgotten something, but this did not happen. When I had to read, I was moved to tears and to avoid this I focused on the text. Also don Antonio gave some help and after receiving the Eucharist I felt cheerful and delighted, saying to myself "Yes, that's Christ !"

Carmelo

...

Along the challenging path to finally come to the Communion, we've been supported by our dear catechists Maria Vittoria, always kind and attentive and Adriana, patient and discreet. We learned many things, and they were an example for us.

Also our religious education teacher, Anna Candela, loved us and gave a big help to serenely live this unique event.

We learned how to live this unforgettable event; this day was really great: the church decorated with flowers, the bread, the flour, the ears of wheat, the grapes...

A big thank you to our catechists. It was really great to receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time.



Azione Cattolica Italiana

“...those you’ll meet, call them...”

Pignola - May 29, 2014

Dear brothers and sisters,
as always, also this year we began the meetings with the adult's group, where we meditated upon a gospel passage proposed each time (depending on the period) by the responsible lady, and followed by a catechesis by don Antonio to better understand the meaning.

In May we dedicated the last meeting to Our Lady, our mother and patron, and we had some moments of debate which were of some help to make the group grow.

To be a member of Catholic Action is a choice to make the christian vocation mature, and the sentences of our statute indicate us the right direction.

Let me thanks those who attended these meetings: the effort to meet each other meets the example of the house built on the bedrock, not on sand, as told by Jesus; and I really hope that our walk will become more and more beneficial during next years.

Let me also thank don Antonio and Anna Citarelli for their efforts. I apologize for the initial problems, of which I'll take care to improve in the future.

Waiting to see you next year, I would like to remember three sentences from Pope Francis (May the 3rd):

- Stay with Jesus and enjoy His company
- Go and run the word of God
- Be persons which sing the life and the faith

In addition, there are also three from John Paul II:

- Contemplation, to walk on the way of sanctity
- Communion, to promote the spirituality of the unity
- Mission, to be gospel leaven everywhere

Let these indications drive the steps in your life.

The chairwoman

Mara Azzarino

Committee for the feast of Maria SS. degli Angeli - May 2014

One year ago a group of young people decided to begin the adventure of creating the "Committee for the feast of Maria SS. degli Angeli 2013/2014": forty boys and girls, armed with sense of initiative and ready to keep their own responsibilities, joined their resources to guarantee a good organization of the long-awaited feast.

I still remember the first day we were going around in the town, carrying with us the picture of Our Lady, when -knocking on every door- we could hear "what a good initiative, we have the committee!" and, sometime, the classic question "Who are your parents?" (in our dialect "e tu a chi si figl?")

Nowadays, people had quite forgotten the habit of hearing the bell ringing every Sunday morning, announcing the visit of the committee; well, Sunday after Sunday we've been surprised to notice that people awaiting for us to make an offering was continuously increasing!

Thanks to these walks and related meetings I had the chance to make new friends, sharing with them moments of joy: we became a real group of friends that -despite inevitable disagreements- was based on respect and harmony.

Obviously there were different opinions, but a final decision had to be kept, because the date of the feast was approaching; once done, we still had a lot of doubts, anxieties and concerns, asking ourselves "will the feast be as good as expected by everyone?"

When the feast began, I felt really excited to participate as a committee member, mainly when I saw the Madonna's statue being put on the altar; and now that the feast has passed, although there has been criticism I would say that the committee is proud of what we did.

Filomena Spagnuolo



Albano Maria Teresa
 Dapoto Selena
 De Stefano Valentino
 Lepore Leonardo
 Mancino Erica
 Montagna Michele
 Pacilio Marilena
 Pisani Carmen
 Sabatella Nicola
 Santarsiero Paolo
 Signorelli Giuseppe
 Torino Marianna
 Vignola Saverio(1993)
 Vista Federica(1990)

Biancone Giovanni
 Datena Gianluigi
 Lanotte Giuseppe
 Logiodice Danilo
 Marino Antonio
 Moscarelli Mario
 Palermo Luciana
 Postiglione Paola
 Sabatella Rocco
 Santarsiero Pasquale
 Smaldone Filomena
 Valentino Saverio
 Vignola Nicola

Corleto Elena
 De Carlo Carmen
 Lauria Domenico
 Mancino Maria Antonietta
 Miele Davide
 Olita Alessandra
 Pietrafesa Gerardo
 Roma Danilo
 Sabatella Rossella
 Signorelli Abramo
 Spagnuolo Filomena
 Vignola Saverio(1991)
 Vista Federica(1989)

HOLY WEEK 2014



Once more this year the Catholic Action in Pignola has been working to prepare the most important moments of the Holy Week. On Palm Sunday a procession from S. Antonio church to the Main Church has enabled the community to relive the Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem, surrounded by palm leaves. After the blessing of olive branches in the Main Church, the "Sermon on the mount" has been staged.

Another moment of meditation has been represented by the mass "*in coena domini*" on Holy Thursday, where the twelve apostles were played by some of the boys attending the Catechesis in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Like every year, the faithful brought the "Easter sepulchres" to adorn the altar where the Blessed Sacrament was present; we had an evening of adoration (from 8pm to 12pm), and one hour was dedicated to the little Francesco.

On Holy Friday, after the Liturgy of the Word related to the Passion of Christ, the "Via Crucis" has been represented through the streets of the historic center, despite the bad weather conditions, with the participation of several people, not only members of Catholic Action.

The night of Easter, after the Glory and the Gospel reading, the resurrection of Christ has been staged, with Mary Magdalene and the other women.

To prepare the above activities, related to a week dedicated to prayer and reflection, quite two months were needed, but their success came from spirit of service, cooperation and, above all, faith.

We want to thank the Sipario, particularly Vincenzo Signorelli for his helpfulness and creativity, the Varroccia, the Fidapa, the "Officina

della creativita", the Public Authorities, the "Schola Cantorum", Teodora and Paolo who, despite their current private problems gave the maximum availability, our parish priest don Antonio Laurita, the dear don Rocco Piro, and all those who gave their contribution.

Fraternally, the chairwoman

Mara Azzarino

HOLY THURSDAY MIRACLE



"do this in remembrance of me"

April 2014

"Before Easter, Jesus, being aware that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end". (Gospel of John - 13, 1)

The liturgy of the Holy Thursday invites us to reflect on these words, focusing on the dimension of gift.

We have to notice that John does not report the rituals of bread and wine, as the other Evangelist do: he focuses on Jesus washing the feet of His disciples, inviting them to act the same way every time and everywhere.

Thus the entire Holy Thursday liturgy is mainly focused on the institution of the Eucharist and the ministerial priesthood, telling us that Jesus is present in our midst !

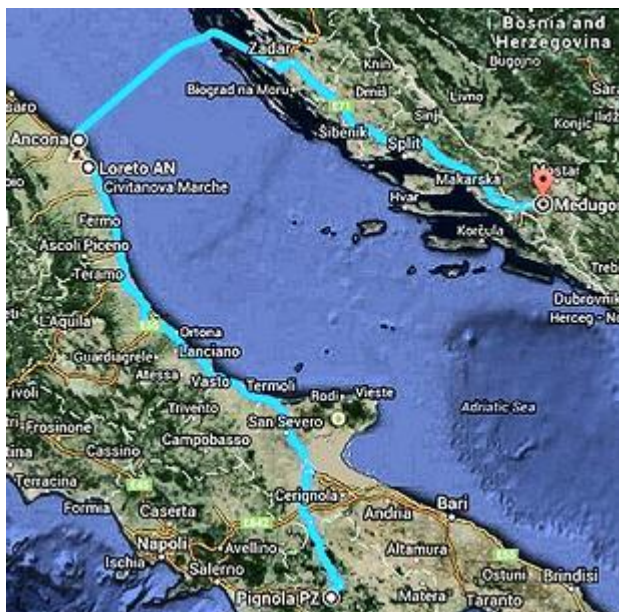
The whole community of Pignola has attended, on Holy Thursday evening, to a prayer vigil to entrust the health of the little Francesco and his family deep suffering to God's mercy, through the intercession of Our Lady of Trust: don Antonio Laurita said "You're a mother, You know what we need: the little Francesco is seriously ill; take him on your womb and give him a good health"

Well, the Holy Friday Francesco smiles again, embracing his parents: faith, hope, and charity allow us to say "My Lord and My God", teaching us to appreciate day by day the miracle of love.

Gaetana Lanotte

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

April 21-26 , 2014



The Spirit of the Risen Lord has characterized the pilgrimage to Medjugorje of some parishioners during the 8th week of Easter.

It has been a week full of spirituality, worship, joy and friendship that enforced the faith through feelings and emotions coming from the genuineness and simplicity of the visited sites, the people met, the climate of peace and serenity you can breathe here, where you perceive the presence of Mary, Queen of peace, and feel touched by the Grace of God.

After a stop-over in Loreto to enjoy the Easter Monday, we went to Ancona for embarking to Medjugorje.



Let's ask ourselves : why so many people do a pilgrimage to Medjugorje ? Through the pilgrimage the man of faith expresses the human condition of an itinerant existence: dissatisfaction, alienation, homesickness, heartache, longing, hope; the pilgrimage is a trip characterized by proceed and target.

Proceed: desire of an experience of faith with God; target: the need to discover visible traces of the divine revelation of Incarnation, Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus, in the plan for the humanity Salvation of which Mary is instrument through the history of the Church.



The pilgrim knows that such traces have to be seen with the eyes of the heart, and they are capable to transform the life of the believer.

Thus, the pilgrimage becomes a symbol of faith, to be realized in the daily life towards an inner peace up to the final meeting with God.

Medjugorje is a target of conversion and prayer reflecting, in a different way, the apparitions of Our Lady in Lourdes and Fatima, where Mary calls all her children to a

conversion and a spiritual renewal through the faith, rediscovering the values lost in the current world; here in Medjugorje pilgrims feel all of the above within the simplicity and deepness of celebrations.



We went through the winding, stony path of Podbrdo, the hill of apparitions, where at the top is the beautiful sculpture of the Queen of Peace.

Then, we did the "Via Crucis" walkthrough up to the top of Krizevac mount, where a big cement cross is there to remind us the Redemption.

Later, a visit to the Shrine of Divine Mercy and a stroll throughout the wonders of nature up to the waterfalls.

The participants experienced the peace of the heart, entrusting themselves and the whole community of Pignola to Mary, and therefore when they had to come back there were emotion and nostalgia.

We want to thank our spiritual guide don Antonio Laurita and the travel organizer Pino Valentino, hoping to have the possibility to go again in Medjugorje.

Rosa Mautone

FOOD DAY

March 2014

March 29, 2014 has been the "food day", and Pignola contributed (as well as many other towns) showing a very large solidarity.

We, as Catholic action members following the CHARITAS DIOCESANA initiative, have been hosted by **PICKUP**, our local supermarket.

The real protagonists of this wonderful day were those who have offered what they could, despite the downturn period we're suffering, showing how also less wealthy people take really care of those who are worse off than them.



It must be noticed that everybody wants to know how food will be distributed, because of recent mass-media information about bad events on this matter.

Well, just in one day we collected about 128 K of pasta and rice, 42 K of sucre, more than 50 lt of milk and also oil, baby food, biscuits, tomato sauce, etc.

Particular thanks to the supermarket director and her staff for their patience; but let's really thank mainly those we have helped our brothers and sisters in need.

Lucia Logrippo

Madonna della Fiducia

Source: *LA NUOVA DEL SUD* newspaper

March 3, 2014 - Pignola

The awaited Christian event dedicated to the "Madonna della Fiducia" has been celebrated soberly but also gleefully last Saturday in Pignola. This initiative, wanted by the parish priest don Antonio Laurita, is based on the active participation from Pignola's families: the goal is to go every evening into town's houses for the recital of the Holy Rosary, sharing a moment of exchange and comparison (the so called "Peregrinatio Mariae" started in 2012 and should terminate in 2015 because of the several request that reached the parish.

It seems to be the small seed of a Christian movement that will surely germinate; after a couple of years, the "Families Group of Madonna della Fiducia" meet the Archbishop Agostino Superbo, who held a Catechesis focusing on the relationships within the today's Christian family, following the speech of Feb.14 from the Pope addressed to engaged couples preparing themselves to the matrimony. The meeting has been held in S.Rocco church immediately after the celebration of Holy Mass in S.Antonio church.



After the meeting the participants went at the Caritas Center for a party; at the end everybody increased his interior well-being, that helps to overcome problems within the family and the community.

To formally ask for receiving at home the visit by the Madonna della Fiducia, you've to contact either Mrs Agnese Covino or Rosa Mautone. (E.V.)



In Oct. 11, 2012 the Holy Father Benedetto XVI launched the Year of the Faith, encouraging the observant to rediscover the values of the faith.

With the same spirit don Antonio Laurita, our parish priest, launched the *Peregrinatio Mariae*, entrusting to Our Lady of Trust the Pope's exhortation to have Her as a model for a deep spiritual renewal.

The peregrinatio started on Nov. 17, 2012, and represents an event having a missionary value for our of territory: the little, sweet statue of Our Lady of Trust is visiting each evening the hearth of a family, intended as Home of God.

There are already thirty families which have greatly accepted our priest's invitation, participating to this beautiful mission that means to be pilgrims with and for Mary.

Her visit, beyond the contemplation of the splendid figure, allows a personal test of the communion with this Woman, the ideal partner of our journey of faith.

Every evening an host family prays in front of Her statue; the priest blesses the family, and everybody entrusts to Mary: nobody is excluded, because She enters into the people's heart, mainly when they are suffering and in need.

The *peregrinatio* is also an opportunity for further reflections and renewal of our faith: She travels to allow everybody to understand how big is God's love.

This is confirmed by the expressions of the hosts, revealing trepidation and joyful emotion; and when someone cries, these are tears of joy.

As well, when She leaves to reach another family we cannot feel sad, thinking She's going to comfort another house, giving joy to children and elderly, to young couples and grandparents (sometimes left alone).

Each visit is a renewed celebration: we hope Mary to be the star in our journey of faith, and that God -through her intercession- makes the faith flourish in our community life.

Agnese Covino

March 9, 2013 - Our Lady of Trust holy day



Couples which will accompany the Madonna della Fiducia – 2014

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Ferretti Saverio-Agnese | 2. Perito Rocco- Mautone Rosa |
| 3. Di Nuzzo Tonio- Mara | 4. Sgovio T. -Francesca |
| 5. Petrone Nicola- Angela | 6. Paciello Giuseppe- Giusy |
| 7. De Luca Antonio-Stefania | 8. Sagaria Antonio- Teresa |
| 9. Primavera O.-Rosanna | 10. Mautone Nicola- Daniela |
| 11. Vista Vincenzo-Saverina | 12. Corleto Nicola-Anna |
| 13. Rosa Michele-Doriana | 14. Sabatella Giacinto-Pina |
| 15. Russo Vincenzo -Carmen | 16. D.Calace Giuseppe-Anna |
| 17. Cecere Felice- Francesca | 18. Perone Francesco-Elisa |
| 19. Valentino Pino-M.Vittoria | 20. Venice Rocco- Anna |
| 21. Perrone Rodolfo- Anna Maria | 22. Palmieri Enzo-Angela |
| 23. Finizio Gennaro- Lina | 24. Visone Massimiliano -Lucia |
| 25. Dapoto Giovanni - Giuseppina | |

Trip to Catania

February 2014



A trip to Catania has been the first of a series that we named "Enjoy yourself traveling"; the Catholic Action of Pignola wants to implement this project to keep the community together.

The 80 participants, headed by don Antonio, went to Catania (Sicily) to witness the celebrations in honour of S. Agata, the Patron of the town.

Once disembarked from the ferry in Messina, they went to look at the extraordinary astronomic watch that is installed in the bell tower of the Dome, consecrated to the Virgin of the Letter (Patron of Messina).



When the group reached Catania, some members of the local Catholic Action accompanied us to look at the main aspects of the celebration; thus the participants could see the imposing candles ("candelore"), the "vara" (the sedan on which are perched on the bust and jewel-encrusted casket containing the remains of the saint), that is carried by a lot of faithful all dressed with the traditional white coats, white gloves and a black headgear named "scazzetta". The group could also visit the sites where the tradition says that S. Agata was held captive and later martyred.



The age differences in the group have been overcome by a cheerful atmosphere, exceeding the organizers' expectations.

This communication wants to represent also an invitation to join next step of the 2014 tour.

fraternally, the parish president

Mara Azzarino

Parish events



Baptism

05/01/2014 - *Beatrice Carlucci di Pietro*
26/01/2014 - *Luigi Paciello di Lucia e Carmine*
09/02/2014 - *Alessia Telesca di Antonio*
16/02/2014 - *Claudia Telesca di Marina e Rocco*
16/02/2014 - *Valentina Perrone di Annamaria e Rocco Rodolfo*
22/02/2014 - *Donato Telesca di Antonio*
16/03/2014 - *Gerardo Russo di Rocco*
30/03/2014 - *Eleonora Di Lascio di Domenico*
06/04/2014 - *Antonio Miglionico di Tania e Saverio*
20/04/2014 - *Joele Faraldo di Agnese e Antonio*
20/04/2014 - *Giulia Fiore di Rocchina e Michele*
20/04/2014 - *Saverio Calvello di Enza e Francesco*
20/04/2014 - *Emanuele Lucio Darimini di Raffaella e Rocco*
20/04/2014 - *Arianna Lucia Darimini di Raffaella e Rocco*
20/04/2014 - *Nausica Sorrentino di Donatella e Riccardo*
24/04/2014 - *Paolo Di Bello di Catia e Vittorio*
25/04/2014 - *Antonio Maria Ciriello di Rocco*
25/04/2014 - *Livia Michela Lettini di Maria Elisabetta e Angelo*
26/04/2014 - *Davide Feo di Cristina e Luciano*
27/04/2014 - *Nenia Laurino di Michele*
01/05/2014 - *Luigi Pio Roma di Rossella e Raffaele*
18/05/2014 - *Raffaella Damgaard di Peter*
25/05/2014 - *Chiara Albano di Antonio*
31/05/2014 - *Miriam Greco di Giuseppina e Michele*
01/06/2014 - *Carlo Buono Garcia di Antonio*
07/06/2014 - *Alessandro De Marco di Tiziana e Vincenzo*
15/06/2014 - *Vincenzo Mancino di Maria e Vito*
22/06/2014 - *Gloria Santarsiero di Carmine*
29/06/2014 - *Andrea Gerardi di Michela e Nicola*
12/07/2014 - *Greta Audrey Antonangeli di Antonietta e Alfredo*
13/07/2014 - *Anna Mary Labella di Cinzia e Antonio*

13/07/2014 - *Benedetta Vista di Daniela e Vincenzo*
 27/07/2014 - *Marta Ruggiero di Rosa Maria e Antonello*
 02/08/2014 - *Anastasia Anna Lapenna*
 02/08/2014 - *Alessia La Bella*
 03/08/2014 - *Michele Giordano*
 10/08/2014 - *Mattia Muro di Tania e Vincenzo*
 10/08/2014 - *Antonia Palma di Luciana e Giacinto*
 12/08/2014 - *Alessia Torchia di Giuseppina e Gaetano*
 17/08/2014 - *Donato Brienza*
 31/08/2014 - *Teresa e Antonio Petrullo di Catia e Pasquale*
 07/09/2014 - *Benedetta Giordano*
 13/09/2014 - *Carol Del Giudice di Stefania e Luigi*
 14/09/2014 - *Azzurra Maria Stigliani*
 14/09/2014 - *Aurora Rita Esposito*
 14/09/2014 - *Mattia Viccaro*
 20/09/2014 - *Eliana Pinto*
 28/09/2014 - *Rebecca Maria Russo*
 20/09/2014 - *Eliana Pinto*
 28/09/2014 - *Rebecca Maria Russo*
 12/10/2014 - *Elisa Bianconi*
 19/10/2014 - *Francescantonio Ignazio Datena di Mariangela e Nicola*
 19/10/2014 - *Rocco Cillo di Maria e Domenico*
 19/10/2014 - *Mattia Aliandro*
 08/12/2014 - *Luigi Lonato di Maria Teresa e Saverio*
 08/12/2014 - *Ariù Calvello*
 28/12/2014 - *Emma Ungaro*
 28/12/2014 - *Paolo Michele De Luca di Catia e Gerardo*
 28/12/2014 - *Chiara Perito di Antonella Cinzia e Giovanni*



First Communion – June 1st

Albano Valeria, Azzilonna Luca, Cavuoti Salvatore, Corleto Emanuele,
De Biase Gaia, Dolce Vincenzo, Guida Luca, Imbrogno Luisa,
Lanotte Maria Carmen, Lisco Valeria, Loscalzo Aurora, Marino Francesca,
Mecca Lorenzo, Memoli Niccolò, Nozzi Carmelo, Nozzi Maria Teresa,
Paciello Valentina, Petraglia Giovanna, Pepe Alessandro, Pepe Francesco,
Roma Patrizia, Rosa Giusy, Sabia Salvatore, Scavone Saverio,

Verdecanna Sabrina, De Stefano Giulio, Sangiacomo Fabiana, Falce Lucia, Pepe Rosa,
Sabia Adele Cesira, Brucoli Gaia Alessandra, Smaldone Fabiola, Rosa Angela, Rosa Roberta,
Santangelo Nicola Pio, Rosa Martina, Magri Chiara, Mancusi Maria, Albano Rocco, D'Oronzo
Giuseppe, Onorato Antonio Decio, Adinolfi Rocco, Miele Alessandro, Lopardo Antonio,
Sabia Sabrina



Confirmation

January 26 : Stigliani Marco, Santangelo Gaetano

April 26 : Lovallo Alberto, Destefano Maria Rosaria, Petraglia Paola,
Lisena Sergio Maria, Lisena Anna Chiara, Alvaro Sebastiano,
Damiano Elena, Rosa Mariagrazia, Santarsiero Fabiana,

Salvatore Emanuela, Dolce Paolo, Muccilli Fulvio, Faraldo Mariapia, Magro Lorenzo,
Magro Andrea, Faraldo Marina, Faraldo Alessandro, Sabia Francesca, Laurino Giuseppina ,
Sgovio Micaela, Distasio Sonia, Gerardi Rosaria, Cerroni Simona, Dolce Debora,
Villani Domenico, Messina Stefano, Tripaldi Francesco, Muro Catia,
Morrone Valerio, Lovaglio Maria Antonietta, Sabia Betsabea, Rosa Liliano Paolo,
Strazzeri Jennifer, Pino Roberta, Marsico Simona, Saganeiti Carmine

May 23 : Albano Felice, Arcieri Maria Ornella, Bianconi Angelica, Calace Stefania,
Cillis Chiara, D'Andria Antonio, Datena Romano, Figliuolo Costantino Pasquale,
Lonato Anna Pina, Mancusi Vincenzo, Marchetto Angelo, Rago-Rosa Gerardo,
Santangelo Anna, Santangelo Feliciano, Tolve Maria, Vignola Maria, Vista Nicola,
Vista Maria Grazia

June 8 : Accogli Arianna, Albano Bruno Mario, Arcieri Vincenzo, Bonelli Giovanni,
Cianci Antonio, Comminiello Salvatore, Dolce Sabrina, Faraldo Caterina Pina,
Faretta Giovanni, Geltride Michele, Guglielmini Benedetta, Marcogiuseppe Rocco,
Perito Emanuela, Petrone Alessia, Petrone Lorenzo, Pietrafesa Antonella,
Riviello Marta, Rossano Enrico, Russo Alessandro, Torino Anna



Matrimony

<i>Giovanna Dolce e Ignazio Lo Russo</i>	<i>May 10</i>
<i>Rosa Fabiana Calace e Domenico Rosa</i>	<i>June 7</i>
<i>Nicoletta Di Lascio e Alessio Aloisio</i>	<i>June 21</i>
<i>Angela Quaratino e Giuseppe Pelosi</i>	<i>June 21</i>
<i>Teresa Muro e Giuseppe Giordano</i>	<i>July 12</i>
<i>Gaetana Buonansegna e Paolo Santarsiero</i>	<i>July 12</i>
<i>Serafina Faraldo e Giuseppe Sabia</i>	<i>July 23</i>
<i>Anna Santangelo e Rocco Spagnoletta</i>	<i>July 23</i>
<i>Donatella Pace e Sergio La Rocca</i>	<i>July 26</i>
<i>Valeria Trivigno e Alessandro Del Meglio</i>	<i>Aug 2</i>
<i>Anna Pina Lonato e Antonio D'Andria</i>	<i>Aug 7</i>
<i>Rossana Albano e Donato Corleto</i>	<i>Aug 9</i>
<i>Giuseppina Calvello e Nicola Grandinetti</i>	<i>Aug 28</i>
<i>Lorella Giannattasio e Roberto Pavese</i>	<i>Aug 30</i>
<i>Rosa Anna Piro e Lorenzo Rocco</i>	<i>Sept 10</i>
<i>Rosa Marino e Luciano Acierno</i>	<i>Sept 13</i>
<i>Maria Elena Jaramillo Gomez e Vincenzo Altavilla</i>	<i>Sept 20</i>
<i>Antonietta Olita e Giulio Nappi</i>	<i>Sept 25</i>
<i>Paola Anna Azzarino e Francisco Jose Lazaro Blasco</i>	<i>Oct 4</i>
<i>Lucia Corleto e Gianluca Calvello</i>	<i>Dec 13</i>



DEGREE

Caterina Roma

MATHEMATICS

March 26, 2014 - University of Basilicata

Maria Gaetana Lanotte

BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR MEDICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL, AND VETERINARY DIAGNOSIS

March 27, 2014 - University of Basilicata

Bruno Biscione

ARCHITECTURE

April 16, 2014 – University of Chieti-Pescara

Claudio Lauria

BREEDING TECHNIQUES OF PEDIGREE DOGS AND THEIR TRAINING

June 3, 2014 - University of Pisa

Captain Rocco Smaldone

ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES

July 22, 2014 - La Sapienza University - Roma

Mara Azzarino

THEOLOGY

November 22, 2014 - University of Basilicata

Tiziano Candela

LITERARY, LINGUISTIC, AND HISTORICAL-PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES

December 16, 2014 - University of Basilicata



Silver wedding celebrations

May 13 - Angelo Imbrogno e Rosalba Ditaranto

June 1 - Pasquale Laurino e Anna La Bella

June 4 - Domenico Vignola e Antonietta Covino

August 20 - Saverio Corleto e Filomena Calvello



Golden wedding celebrations

September 19 - Salvatore Verrastro e Maria Carmela Leonessa



Deceased

<u>Pasquale Malatesta</u>	<u>01/02/1936</u>	<u>05/01/2014</u>
<u>Antonia Punella</u>	<u>10/09/1926</u>	<u>09/01/2014</u>
<u>Rosa Maria</u>	<u>04/10/1928</u>	<u>16/01/2014</u>
<u>Carlo Passarelli</u>	<u>26/05/1927</u>	<u>18/01/2014</u>
<u>Donato Rosa</u>	<u>12/10/1937</u>	<u>18/01/2014</u>
<u>Michele Faraldo</u>	<u>03/01/1933</u>	<u>25/01/2014</u>
<u>Nicola Pinto</u>	<u>25/02/1946</u>	<u>28/01/2014</u>
<u>Alessandro Olita</u>	<u>05/03/1935</u>	<u>05/02/2014</u>
<u>Gerardantonio Trapanese</u>	<u>10/05/1950</u>	<u>09/02/2014</u>
<u>Donato Ciampo</u>	<u>09/11/1931</u>	<u>11/02/2014</u>
<u>Antonio Laurino</u>	<u>09/01/1931</u>	<u>14/02/2014</u>
<u>Mariantonia Santangelo</u>	<u>26/08/1921</u>	<u>16/02/2014</u>
<u>Antonello Falce</u>	<u>23/08/1988</u>	<u>17/02/2014</u>
<u>Angela Rago</u>	<u>15/08/1942</u>	<u>19/02/2014</u>
<u>Donato Gerardi</u>	<u>11/04/1921</u>	<u>24/02/2014</u>
<u>Donato Vaccaro</u>	<u>11/06/1949</u>	<u>10/03/2014</u>
<u>Giulia Angela Viola</u>	<u>27/10/1935</u>	<u>16/03/2014</u>
<u>Gaetana Salvatore</u>	<u>02/02/1930</u>	<u>16/03/2014</u>
<u>Margherita Cafarelli</u>	<u>20/03/1921</u>	<u>18/03/2014</u>
<u>Suor Sofia (Maria Gerarda Petrone)</u>	<u>29/06/1927</u>	<u>25/03/2014</u>
<u>Raffaele Cerroni</u>	<u>22/02/1929</u>	<u>28/03/2014</u>
<u>Gerardo Uva</u>	<u>21/07/1939</u>	<u>28/03/2014</u>
<u>Angelo Paradiso</u>	<u>10/02/1951</u>	<u>04/04/2014</u>
<u>Virginia Vista</u>	<u>01/02/1932</u>	<u>16/04/2014</u>
<u>Rosa Maria Antonia Urgo</u>	<u>26/09/1933</u>	<u>19/04/2014</u>
<u>Maria Carmela Gianmarino</u>	<u>21/04/1922</u>	<u>26/04/2014</u>
<u>Rocco Marino</u>	<u>09/08/1952</u>	<u>02/05/2014</u>
<u>Carlo Gerardi</u>	<u>10/07/1958</u>	<u>08/05/2014</u>
<u>Giovanni Corleto</u>	<u>05/02/1931</u>	<u>19/05/2014</u>
<u>Giambattista Telesca</u>	<u>27/07/1939</u>	<u>27/05/2014</u>

<u>Candido Positano</u>	<u>28/09/1935</u>	<u>04/06/2014</u>
<u>Donatantonio Santoro</u>	<u>25/12/1920</u>	<u>10/06/2014</u>
<u>Rocco Luongo</u>	<u>03/08/1934</u>	<u>12/06/2014</u>
<u>Rocco Corleto</u>	<u>01/01/1932</u>	<u>16/06/2014</u>
<u>Cancellieri Giovanni</u>	<u>27/01/1922</u>	<u>05/07/2014</u>
<u>Roma Anna</u>	<u>02/08/1956</u>	<u>06/07/2014</u>
<u>Postiglione Gabriella</u>	<u>15/03/1922</u>	<u>08/07/2014</u>
<u>Masi Domenico</u>	<u>13/11/1930</u>	<u>21/07/2014</u>
<u>Scavone Carmela</u>	<u>05/10/1930</u>	<u>29/07/2014</u>
<u>Gioia Donato</u>	<u>19/10/1951</u>	<u>31/07/2014</u>
<u>Ida Elvira Albano</u>	<u>24/04/1924</u>	<u>10/08/2014</u>
<u>Angiola Punella</u>	<u>11/02/1925</u>	<u>17/08/2014</u>
<u>Rosa Maria D'Andrea</u>	<u>11/06/1922</u>	<u>18/08/2014</u>
<u>Pietro Rosa</u>	<u>29/04/1951</u>	<u>22/08/2014</u>
<u>Rocco Uva</u>	<u>04/11/1959</u>	<u>29/08/2014</u>
<u>Domenica Zaccaro</u>	<u>02/10/1925</u>	<u>02/09/2014</u>
<u>Celestina Damiano</u>	<u>14/11/1925</u>	<u>04/09/2014</u>
<u>Domenico Candela</u>	<u>21/09/1925</u>	<u>14/09/2014</u>
<u>Vita Crescenza Telesca</u>	<u>25/12/1932</u>	<u>17/09/2014</u>
<u>Fatima Zahra Benjdia</u>	<u>07/08/1992</u>	<u>18/09/2014</u>
<u>Lucia Muro</u>	<u>15/01/1931</u>	<u>27/09/2014</u>
<u>Donatantonio Santarsiero</u>	<u>26/6/1942</u>	<u>30/09/2014</u>
<u>Pasqua Tremamundo</u>	<u>03/03/1929</u>	<u>07/10/2014</u>
<u>Iolanda Pacilio</u>	<u>30/05/1939</u>	<u>07/10/2014</u>
<u>Michele Laurita</u>	<u>11/03/1930</u>	<u>24/10/2014</u>
<u>Anna Lucia Santoro</u>	<u>28/10/1967</u>	<u>28/10/2014</u>
<u>Paolo Roma</u>	<u>25/04/1945</u>	<u>31/10/2014</u>
<u>Rocco Rossetti</u>	<u>26/06/1948</u>	<u>05/11/2014</u>
<u>Giulia Olita</u>	<u>08/08/1937</u>	<u>14/12/2014</u>
<u>Rosina Claps</u>	<u>09/08/1939</u>	<u>14/12/2014</u>
<u>Angela Di Bello</u>	<u>29/09/1967</u>	<u>18/12/2014</u>

MARIA SS. DEGLI ANGELI CONGREGATION

To remember the opening of the Main Church in Pignola twelve years after the 1980 earthquake, in May '92 the **Congregazione Universale Maria SS. degli Angeli** was created.

The Congregation is a free association of devotees that want to promote the devotion to Virgin Mary, whose statue is venerated in the Pantano shrine, contributing in taking care of the shrine itself, the Main Church and related infrastructures. In addition, the Congregation will celebrate a solemn Mass for all members, dead or alive, every month on the 3rd Saturday, and every year on November the 2nd for all deceased members.

Enrolment rules

Send a letter to:

CONGREGAZIONE UNIVERSALE MARIA SS. DEGLI ANGELI

Via Dante, 23 - 85010 PIGNOLA

containing name, surname, date and place of birth, profession, address and paying the membership fee (yearly or lifetime).

The members can be live or deceased, single or families, and also children

The participation to spiritual goods is eternal for deceased, while for living people is related to the subscription duration. There are no particular commitments, unless to live as Christians.

We recommend:

- to attend every Holy Mass, mainly those in honour of Maria SS degli Angeli;
- to recite the prayer to Maria SS. degli Angeli;
- to pray the Rosary;
- to attend the celebration on every 3rd Saturday, and to take part in the pilgrimage to Pantano shrine;
- to participate in Processions and other religious events wearing the Congregation badge

For information:

CONGREGAZIONE UNIVERSALE MARIA SS. DEGLI ANGELI

Via Dante, 23 - 85010 PIGNOLA (Italy)

Phone +39 0971420319

Historical notes about churches in Pignola

MAIN CHURCH

The church is on the highest part of the town, called "Terra Vecchia"; it is made in local grey stones, and is dated back to XI century; the town grew around it.

Beginning XIII century there were various implementations and in 1400 Jacopo Trifosiano terminated the bell tower, having square plan with a cusp and whose corners are padded by sculpted symbols and figures.

The church collapsed because of the 1694 earthquake, and was reopen in 1789 after the rebuilding activities cured by Antonio Magni, which followed the Vanvitelli style, up to the status we see today, despite some damages suffered after 1857 and 1980 earthquakes.

In 1924 a lightning seriously damaged the cusp, that had to be removed (as of today, people is still waiting for the rebuilding).

The church has a latin cross plant, with a single nave with barrel vaulting, interrupted by nails at large windows, and by a dome topped by a lantern at the cross vault.

On the pendentives of the dome there are the four Evangelists, and along the vault some medallions report biblical scenes (high-relief in stucco).

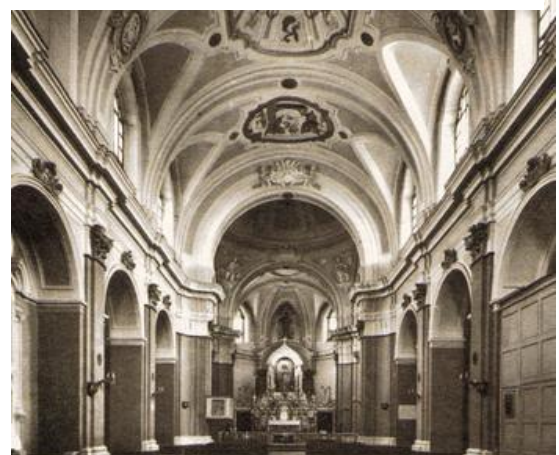
Inside the church you can find wonderful works of art: paintings depicting S. Pietro Apostolo by Carlo Sellitto, S. Antonio da Padova e S. Diego by Filiberto Guma, the Madonna dei Martiri by Vincenzo Lombardo, Crocifissione and Madonna del Rosario (Pietrafesa school), S. Francesco di Paola by Feliciano Mangieri, a portiuncula (author unknown), some sculptures depicting S. Vito (XV century) and Mary Immaculate (XVII century).



1858



TODAY



S. ANTONIO ABATE

Today only the main structures and the monumental entrance are left from the original church made in '400; the rest is the result of several parts added in different times. Inside you'll find an age-old S. Antonio Abate statue, made of wood, and some interesting paintings.

The artistic stone portal was probably sculpted by the same artists which made the two Main Church gates; at the top there is a S. Antonio low relief.

The presbytery and the two shrines are dated 1892, while the bronze main door was installed in 2000 (Jubilee year).

In the central part of this door we have a man and a woman which raise up their infant, meaning that a new millennium is starting; on the left and right sides there are representations of biblical subjects related to Jubilee



S. ROCCO

This church was included in a convent of Capucins, when they abandoned the S.Michele convent to build this new one adjacent the church between 1590 and 1595. It had also a large vegetable garden with stables and barns.

In 1865 the convent, dedicated to the SS. Salvatore, became a school, then a leper hospital and later an holiday camp, till 1948 when it was demolished to construct municipal buildings.

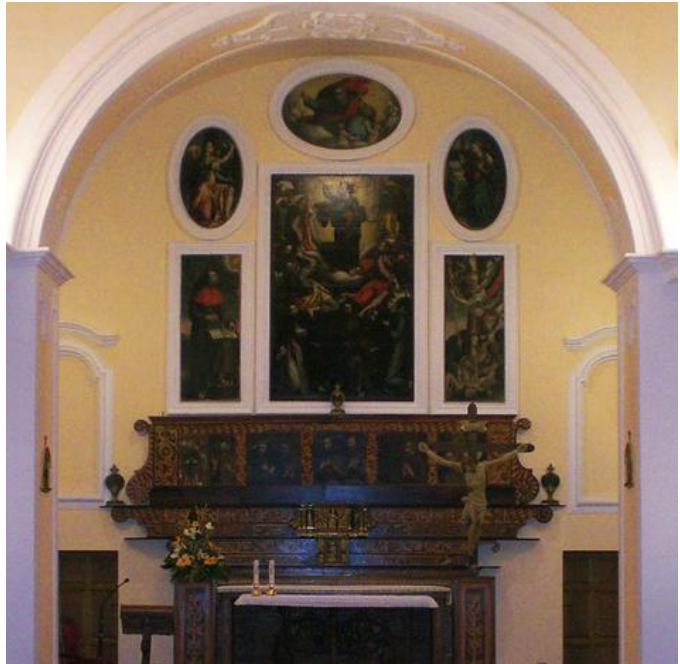
The church, dedicated since the beginning to S. Rocco, was damaged several times by earthquakes but every time it has been rebuilt thanks to people's devotion : they trusted the miracle worker born in Montpelier, mainly when there were pestilences.

The high altar, dated XVIII, is completely made of wood artfully inlaid, and has a ciborium dated XVI. It has been reconditioned after the 1980 earthquake.

The polyptych that decorates the front wall was made by Pietro Antonio Ferro between 1590 and 1595: it depicts the Transfiguration, the Eternal, the Annunciation, San Bonaventura, San Michele.

There is also a predella with Franciscan martyrs, the emblem of the commissioner and the artist self portrait.

You'll also notice a S.Rocco statue (XVII century) made by Nicola Fumo, that replaced an older one of which there are no more info.



MARIA SANTISSIMA DEGLI ANGELI SHRINE IN PANTANO

The Shrine is about 3 km distant from Pignola, where in the middle ages there was a Cistercians rural settlement that was later abandoned until in 1524 Leone X gave it to ecclesiastics of Pignola.

As per other Sanctuaries, the legend says that the chapel was built where a shepherd found by chance the Virgin image that today is in a recess of the portal.

The building we see today was built in neoclassic style in 1789, as reported by a latin inscription on the carved stone portal, to replace the church collapsed because of the 1694 earthquake.

The interior has a central nave with domed ceiling and two aisles with barrel vaults.

The church has been reopen Sept. 21st, 1986 after six years needed to repair the damaged caused by an earthquake.

Here there is the image of the Virgin of Angels, made in notched wood between 1577 and 1587 by Geronimo Arnone, and commissioned by Don Francesco Cammerota, apostolic notary in Pignola; initially she was venerated as Santissima Assunta.

The statue was covered by pure gold after the church rebuilding in 1789. This sanctuary has been damaged several times by earthquakes; when it was not accessible or during wars or pestilences the Virgin image was guarded into the Main Church.

Every year a ritual is renewed: in September the statue is carried from the Pignola main church to Pantano, and in May it comes back, always accompanied by a faithful crowd. This keeps happening regularly since more than 50 years, and in the past these processions happened more frequently, originated from severe problems impacting the population.



OTHER CHURCHES

The little **S. Lucia** church is located on a steep spur on S. Michele river, near the town. It was probably built on XV century , being already known in 1587 when it was restored by “ masters Giorgio Olita and Carlo Boezio with the money given by the Pignola Hospice.” This chapel, accessible through a stairway made in 2011, is open for the triduum of the Saint from Siracusa, with an high participation of devotees. The building needs restoration; the painting layers may hide some original elements. Inside the chapel, Santa Lucia is depicted with a polychrome wooden sculpture made by Geronimo Arnone in 1587.



The **Madonna delle Grazie** church was built replacing the San Giacomo church, and represented a meeting place for pilgrims going to Roma, to Monte S. Angelo on the Gargano, to Holy Land, or simply to reach the sanctuaries present in the vicinities. It was fully rebuilt in the last century by Potenza Civil Engineering, and inside there is a polychrome wooden sculpture (XVIII century) depicting the Virgin with the Child, which is venerated as Madonna delle Grazie (our Lady of Graces). The church is open to celebrate the masses only every July the 2nd

S.Michele's church is in the countryside, at the foot of San Bernardino mount, over a cave that is also dedicated to the cult of the Archangel Michael. Behind the chapel there are the ruins of the ancient convent of the Capuchins, built in XVI century and later abandoned to go in the new one near S.Rocco church, in the town. The church has been rebuilt around 80s, and has not particular architectural elements. In 1996 the S.Michele's statue (XV cent.) was stolen, so today there is a copy made in Ortisei. The church is open just on May the 8th and Sept. 29th , for the S.Michele feast. There are some folk legends about this site: one says that a donkey refused to carry the S.Michele statue to follow the friars that were abandoning the convent.



In Rifreddo there is the church dedicated to **S.Maria Madre della Chiesa**. Consecrated on Nov.8, 1967 by Monsignor Augusto Bertazzoni, it was donated by Potenza Municipal Authority on the occasion of his 90th birthday. It is made of reinforced concrete, that sustain wooden beams in form of a spiral pointing upward: they seem to compete with nearby secular beeches in searching the light..

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