

MARY IMMACULATE IN THE LIFE AND MISSION OF THE OPERA

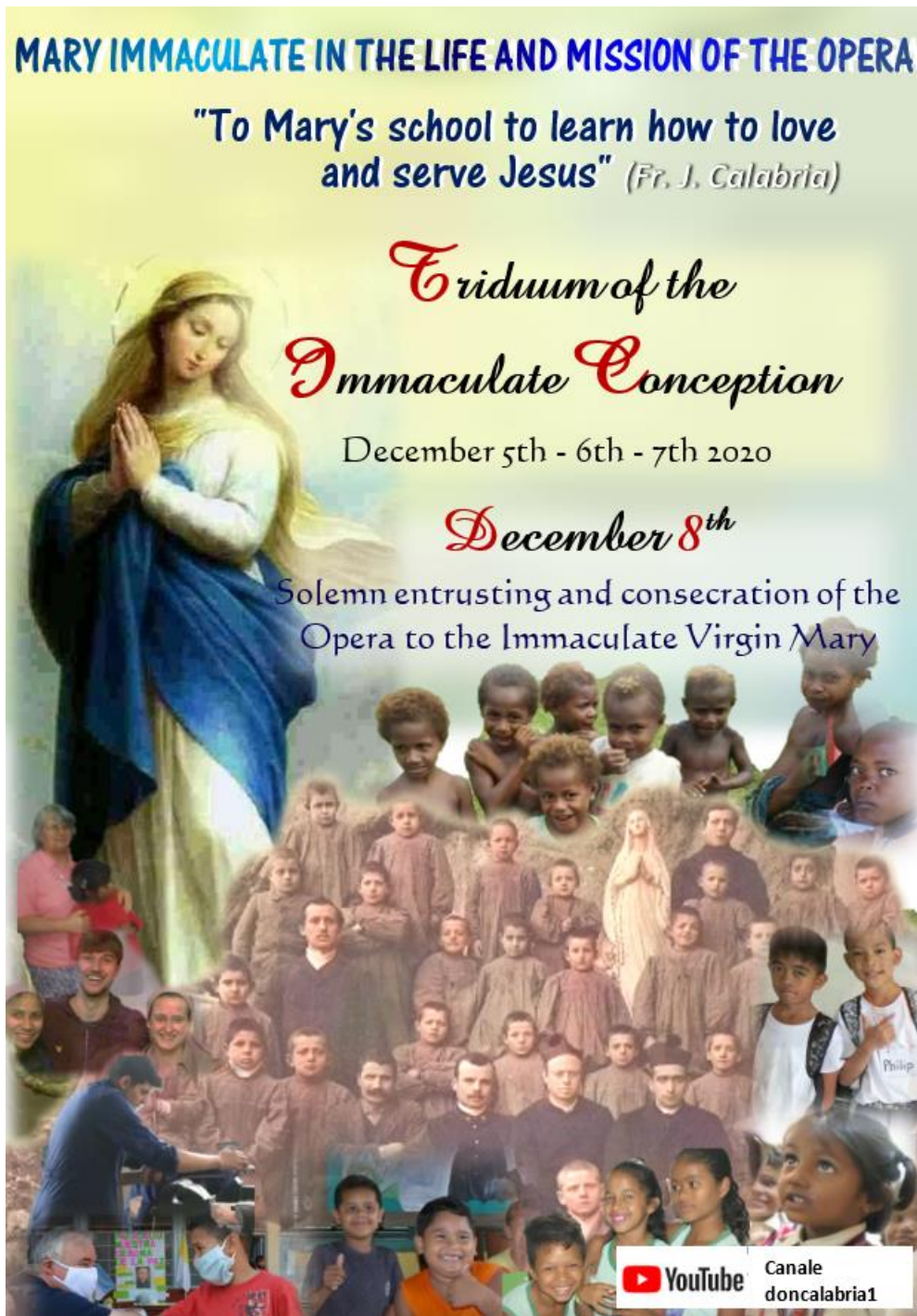
"To Mary's school to learn how to love
and serve Jesus" (Fr. J. Calabria)

Triduum of the Immaculate Conception

December 5th - 6th - 7th 2020

December 8th

Solemn entrusting and consecration of the
Opera to the Immaculate Virgin Mary



Dear brothers and sisters of the Calabrian family,

The novena in preparation to the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary begins today.

St. John Calabria named her as patroness of the Opera. He wanted her feast to be prepared and celebrated with great solemnity as he reminds us in many letters: *"We have begun the novena of the Immaculate Conception and my heart exults with you to celebrate the grand feast of the Immaculate Conception given by the Lord to our heavenly Mother. The feast of the Immaculate Conception for us the members of the Opera is the most grand and solemn one in honor of the Most Holy Mother ... Our Lady wants certainly to shower upon us lavishly her graces and gifts. And it is our duty to implore humbly and with trust her maternal and merciful protection"*. (Fr. Calabria, LETTER LXXXVI, Verona, November 26, 1953).

With the same love and devotion to Mary as Fr Calabria taught us, I invite you to prepare well and with a deep spirit of faith the celebration that will be very special for us members of the Opera in the context of the pandemic we are experiencing.

I propose for everyone to intensify prayers to Our Lady during these nine days that separate us from the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. We can also do this through the prayer we send along with this letter.

On December 5, 6 and 7 we will live together as a Calabrian family a triduum in communion and prayer from different parts of the world. I invite all communities of Poor Servants brothers and sisters, Missionary Poor sisters, and the laity of the Calabrian Family to join this prayer proposal.

The triduum will have a main motivation and intention, the spiritual preparation for the act of entrusting and consecration of the Opera to the Heavenly Mother the Casante will make on behalf of all on the day of the Immaculate Conception.

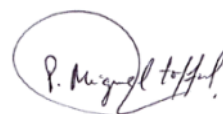
The video material of the triduum will be available every day on the YouTube channel where everyone can have it available to pray in religious communities, groups, families or individually.

Let us spread this spiritual initiative and involve all the members of the Calabrian family, our parishioners, collaborators and all the people who wish to join us in prayer to invoke together the Mother and Patroness of the Opera.

I thank all those who collaborated with the material from different parts of the world for the video edition.

May the Lord bless us and accompany us always.

United in prayer, I greet you with a fraternal love.



P. Miguel Tofful

PRAYER TO MARY

(to be recited every day of the novena)

*Rejoice, Virgen Mary, full of grace.
In Nazareth, you heard the voice of God,
obedient, you said yes to his will.
Mother of Christ,
you welcomed and brought the divine Word with joy
and put it into practice.*

*Mother of the new humanity,
at Cana, you revived your faith in the Word of your Son
inviting the servants of all times
to "do always what He tells us",*

*Caring mother, faithful disciple,
Pilgrim Virgin who walks through
every heart in need of your care.
We come to your school
to learn to love and serve Jesus,
and recognize His face in every needy brother we meet.*

*Accept with Mother's kindness
the act of entrusting that we do today with confidence.
Keep our life in your arms:
bless and strengthen every desire for good;
revives and nourishes faith;
sustain and enlighten hope;
arouses and animates charity;
guide us all on the path of holiness.*

*O Mary Immaculate, dawn of hope on the horizon of humanity,
watches over the Opera, over our Communities, over the whole Calabrian Family,
so that we never lack what we have most precious:
the joy of fidelity, service and mission,
because we can be in the world, struck by so many trials,
witnesses of faith and singers of the loving Paternity of God.
Amen.*