

MISSIONARY

F O U N D A T I O N



Brothers and Sisters at the 2006 Italy Conference

Italy Conference Cala Gonone, Sardinia 8/30-9/5/06

Paul Thomas Pezzenti,
Evangelist

Italian Saints Learn Lesson of "First Love"

We left the states on August 29 arriving at our final destination on August 30 in Cala Gonone after over 30 hours of air and automobile travel. As we crossed the rocky mountain ranges from the Olbia airport to the city of Durgali we began to anticipate the blessings the Lord had in store for us. It was our annual Italy conference! We have been rotating it from the

northern part of the main land to the southern part and now to the seaport of Cala Gonone, Sardinia where a beautiful church building is set. The Saints were gathered and awaiting our arrival. We passed over the final mountain range and began our descent into the seaport. It was well past our exhaustion level but we were running on adrenaline.

Ten U.S. team members were on this trip, four for their first Italian conference: Brother Panfilo and Sister Christine DiGenzo and Evangelist Jim and Sister Lynette Huttenberger. Seasoned veterans were Evangelist Alex and Sister Cathy Gentile, Brother Tony and Sister Lydia Micale, Sister Deanna Nuzzi, and Evangelist Paul Pezzenti. We were met by 15 members and friends of the Church during

our visit.

Brother Alex initiated the meetings with singing and feet-washing and we were very joyful in starting the conference. As the days progressed, Brother Panfilo taught the scriptural lesson on "First Love" by transitioning our love for one another to our love for Christ. We all received a blessing and the lesson was well received. Later Brother Panfilo sang the hymn "First Love," written by Sister Esther Dyer, to everyone's delight. As there is no air conditioning in the building, the windows were wide open. The music of the Lord resonated throughout the neighborhood for which we were elated.

Our conference was a combination of spiritual and business segments. The spiritual portion was blessed with preaching

begun by Brother Jim and the entire ministry followed. Brother Nino Romano, the Resident Elder, has progressed as a new Minister under the tutelage of Evangelist Rosario Scravaglieri, President of The Church of Jesus Christ in Italy. Sister Marisa Romano has embraced her office as a new Deaconess.

Brother Paul reviewed the proposed three-year plan and led the business sessions. There is much to accomplish as the goals are to bring the dying souls of men and women to our Savior through preaching the Word of Christ and administering our three-year growth plan throughout all of Italy from our mission in the north near Monza to the building in the south at San

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Sisters doing Crafts in Italy

Crafting in Italy

by Sister Deanna Nuzzi

For a second time, I brought a crafting project with me on our missionary trip to Italy; and again it was a success.

About two years ago, I thought it would be nice to craft with the sisters and friends in Italy. Since the Saints in the USA enjoy it so much when at campout or our region retreats, I thought "Why wouldn't they enjoy it?"

So I packed my glue and paints and various other supplies and set off for another trip. After much deliberation as to what craft we could do together, I thought about a Ladies' Circle activity we participate in each year. At the start of each year the sisters in the local circle write their name on a piece of paper and then put the slips of paper into a bowl. We then reach in and grab a random name. Once the names are all taken you are charged to remember that person in prayer for the upcoming year. In the United States it is called the "Secret Sister" meaning, We do not share whose name we have. Then at the end of the year we

reveal who our Secret Sister was.

I thought a version of this might be a wonderful activity for us to do with the sisters and friends in Italy. One afternoon all the ladies got together and decorated small papier-mâché boxes. Paint, rib-

bons, pearls and gemstones were used. We had a wonderful time, laughing and sharing a personal part of who we are. It was amazing to see how different individuals decorated their boxes and how it matched their personality.

After all the boxes were decorated, we took two bowls – one for the Italians and one for the Americans. We each wrote our names on a piece of paper and then placed our name in the respective bowl. Then the Italians



Sisters doing Crafts in Italy



Sister Immacolata Avellino Romano and Sister Cathy Gentile

SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS

GREETINGS FROM THE PHILIPPINES

God continues to bless the saints on the islands of Mindanao and Bohol in the Philippines. With over 175 members there are six missions on Mindanao and two on Bohol.

God healed Elder Rolando Caballes of a very serious illness last December after the Saints fasted and prayed for his recovery. With this natural healing God has brought to our brother a very powerful preaching spirit. Brother Rolando is in charge of the Las Arenas mission which has been meeting in a member's home. They have increased in number and now desire a meeting place of their own. They have identified a plot of land which costs \$2,000. Another \$3,000 to \$4,000 is needed for a building.

The membership on Bohol has grown during the last two years to over 70 members. Elder-in-charge Brother Orencio Jaso and newly ordained Elder Romulo Macalam

are looking to add another mission in the village of Sierra Bullones. The location is in the public market area and would be very visible to all. The funds needed for both the land and building are estimated at

*God healed Elder
Rolando Caballes...
after the Saints fasted
and prayed for
his recovery.*

\$8,000. There are families in the area that Brother Orencio visits and it is felt many would come if a church was established there.

If you have interest in helping the Lord's work in the Philippines, please consider donating funds through the Missionary Foundation. Thank you.

Brother Art Gehly Sr.
Philippine Coordinator



chose an American name and vice versa. Going against the Secret Sister pattern, I had everyone reveal whose name they had chosen and it turned out to be a blessing. We each hugged the person who had our name and the dedication of upholding that name in prayer was sealed. For one year we will pray for the person whose name we chose. We grew close and we enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship.

I'm now thinking about what craft to do on the next trip. If anyone has any suggestions for an easily transported craft (that will not weigh my suitcase down), please forward it to me. I encourage any other sister who is going into a foreign field to give the craft idea a try. You will bond on a completely different level.



THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

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*"What shall I render unto
the Lord for all his
benefits toward me?"*

PSALMS 116:12

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Italy Conference Cala Gonone, Sardinia

Continued from cover

Demetrio and the seaport of Cala Gonone. Italy is a modernized country with many distractions but we have learned the souls here are as wanting as anywhere in the world that we take the Gospel of Christ. All souls are precious in His sight and are in need of the opportunity to be saved.

We identified many financial needs of the two main buildings. The church in Cala Gonone is in need of approximately \$10,000 US dollars in building renovations from the windows and doors requiring screens to keep the bugs and flies outside to an air conditioner and a new kitchen with a stove and cabinets. The church in San Demetrio is in need of approximately \$20,000 US dollars in building renovations from new front doors that are se-

verely weathered to new window screens, remodeling restrooms for sanitary purposes, drainage repairing to remove water in the front of the church and general cosmetic painting and masonry repairs.


One of our major goals of the three-year plan is to fund missionaries to stay in-country for two to three months at a time teaching, holding meetings and evangelizing the Gospel to the friends of The Church and any visitors. Enhancing the buildings is a necessity which must be taken at this time to move forward. Fund- raising for missionary travel expenses will be an ongoing effort and is very needed.

Many days and nights were occupied in fellowshiping with the Saints and sometimes having long walks after dinner with Sister Immaculata Romano who is recovering from a stroke. The Sisters also spent one afternoon

together making a craft. Other times, we reminisced about Saints who have gone on to their reward or tried to develop action plans to bring growth to The Church by giving our testimonies to others. Many of us met strangers in the streets, shops, restaurants, and boat docks and planted the seed of the Gospel Restored. The Italian people were so very open to talking with us as well as with many tourists who visit the area each summer. The opportunity to reach many souls from all over Italy is present.

Our trip was a success on many fronts as we have seen the growth of the ordained offices, membership and dedicated friends. We could not have done it without the assistance of Sister Marinella Salmazo's two daughters, Marta and Chiara, who so willingly translate for us. Their love for us personally and The Church is exceptional.

As our conference came to an

end, we received the good news that Sister Carmela Oliva asked for her baptism in San Demetrio. She is the daughter of deceased Elder Salvatore Oliva and is continuously kind to us each trip that we make there. We pray the Lord blesses her in her walk with Him. It was only appropriate and fitting that we gladly sang the fitting words of the hymn, "...joined together in perfect harmony. Love! Oh, what love." 

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