

AUGUST1

- 1847:** Fr. Lenotti began assisting Fr. Fedelini with the Sunday services for the Oratory at the Stimate.
- 1853:** Fr. Benciolini began a series of Gregorian Masses for the deceased Fr. Gramago.
- 1854:** Pius IX signed a Rescript allowing for an extended period for the Jubilee indulgences.
- 1856:** An organ that had been purchased at the DeLorenzi firm of Vicenza was installed at the Stimate.

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- 1840:** This was the last day of Fr. Bragato's annual vacation at the Stimate.
- 1872:** Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, wrote a letter to the Students at Sale di Povo, and told them to draw a lesson from the Lawyer's profession and, in particular, from Attorney Brasca. He said that lawyers often must practice heroic humility and they have to take the 'back seat' even after extraordinary accomplishments. He exhorted the students to extra effort in the practice of silence.
- 1875:** Fr. Lenotti was at Trent, having just returned from Rabbi. He said that he had to spend several days in bed and was not even able to pray his Breviary. He said that he felt like a 'Hebrew Priest' – he expressed concern over the families of his two brothers – Joseph [recently deceased] and Francis.

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- 1808:** Francis Louis Bertoni [Fr. Bertoni's Father] and his largest creditor, Julius Carra, reached some sort of an agreement on this date.
- 1829:** Countess Isabella Settala, daughter of a Count, entered Mother Naudet's Congregation.
- 1857:** **A number of Priests were leaving for the Missions in Africa, and they came to the Stimate to make their Retreat before leaving.** They were: Frs. John Beltrami, Daniel Comboni, Alexander Dal Bosco, Angelo Melotti and Francis Olibeni.

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- 1853:** The Provincial authorities at Venice denied Fr. Marani's request to have Fr. Bertoni's body returned to the Stimate, so Fr. Marani appealed to Vienna.
- 1866:** Saturday – the Novice, Anthony Caucigh, took part in the regular Saturday afternoon recreations at the Novitiate – no one would suspect on this date that in one short week, he would be dead!
- 1872:** Fr. Vincent Vignola and Fr. Bassi had received permission to be away from the Student House at Sale di Povo for a few days. Fr. Lenotti wrote and asked them to be sure that there would be no lessening of discipline while they were away.

1874: A young aspirant of great promise died this day at Sale di Povo, at the age of 17 – his name was Achille Anselmo Brunati. He was eulogized by the Superior, Fr. V. Vignola.

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1874: The 6th General Chapter convened on this date to discuss Fr. Francis Sogaro's request to leave the Congregation. A vote was taken and permission was given to him, 5 – 1. Fr. Lenotti felt his departure keenly and so he had been looking more in earnest for a possible Foreign Mission Field for the Congregation to satisfy this aspect of the Stigmatine Vocation, particularly among the talented young members.

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1839: Fr. Bertoni wrote to Metilde di Canossa, Vicarress of the Sisters of the Holy Family, as she wanted to build a school near the wall of the Stimate,

1866: Monday – Feast of the Transfiguration – Anthony Caucigh received Communion with the community. [At this time, Novices received Communion only on Sundays, but special permission had been granted for this Feast]. After dinner, he told Fr. DaPrato that he had a head ache, and was given permission to go to bed.

1874: Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, spoke to the Students of Theology on humility.

1875: The President of Equador, Garcia Moreno, was assassinated. Previously he had made an offer to pay the expenses for any Missionaries who would come to his country – the offer was seriously considered by Fr. Lenotti.

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1814: Napoleon fell – the Jesuits were reinstated. Frs. Gramego and Farinati wanted to go to Rome to join the Jesuits, but Bishop Liruti was reluctant to grant permission.

1838: Fr. Bertoni completed payment for Sezano through Dr. Lawrence Maggi, with 110,000 Austrian Lira.

1853: Fr. Bragato wrote to Fr. Marani and told him that he hoped that he was still considered at the Stimate as 'a most obedient and still affectionate Brother', despite his 18 years of absence from the Community.

1866: Anthony Caucigh's condition at the *Trinita'* Novitiate seemed to be worsening.

1869: The Holy See granted permission to the Congregation to ordain some of its members this year without the canonical title of *Mensa Communis*.

1874: The members of the Congregation drafted a letter to Fr. Lenotti, besieged with difficulties, in which they affirmed their fidelity.

1875: Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, ailing in Trent, wrote again to the Stimate and asked for their prayers so that he could return home.

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- 1816:** Teodora Campestrini left the Salesian Sisters of Malo and returned to Verona hoping she could start her own Convent at St. Teresa's; she took up residence with Mother Madeline di Canossa.
- 1866:** Anthony Caucigh began to manifest signs that gave reason for alarm – on this day, his speech became confused.
- 1874:** The letter drafted by members of the Congregation promising their fidelity, was given to the Superior General, Fr. Lenotti.
- 1877:** To accede to Bishop di Canossa' wishes [but, much against the wishes of the Congregation], Fr. Peter Vignola, Superior General, sold the *Trinita'* to Clara Peranzoni, Superior of the Ottolini Sisters.

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- 1808:** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that murmuring often wears the mask of charity; sometimes under the mask of noble virtues of zeal and charity lurks self-love – we will have to repay God for it.
- 1825:** the Emperor Francis I left Venice where he had been on a visit.
- 1838:** Fr. Bertoni offered all the property to Pope Gregory XVI. An eye-witness stated that when the Pope received this offer, he remarked with tears in his eyes that the conduct of such Priests in the Church gave him the courage to continue.
- 1857:** Fr. Marani was staying at the *Dereletti* to make room at the Stimate for the **Priests on Retreat**. Fr. Daniel Comboni, one of the retreatants, came to consult Fr. Marani. He seemed somewhat afraid of him, but was encouraged by Fr. Benciolini. Fr. Marani put him at ease and was a great help to him – long years later, as Prefect Apostolic to Central Africa, Monsignor Comboni remembered this day.
- 1858:** Frs. Lenotti, Rigoni, Benciolini finished their Mission at the Cathedral in Padua, that was attended by the Bishop and the Canons. The Bishop was most effusive in his thanks and appreciation.
- 1866:** Anthony Caucigh was visited by the doctor on this day who ordered a bleeding. The young Novice ranted and raved in his delirium about the Pope and his tormentors.
- 1869:** Fr. Marani, a tried, old man of 79, wrote for permission to have the Blessed Sacrament reserved in his house of exile, the home of his widowed niece, a Mrs. Massalongo.

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- 1837:** Some property in Sezano that once belonged to the Olivetani, a religious Congregation, was put up for sale. Bishop Grasser stated that once any property was owned by the Church, it should be retained by it – Fr. Bertoni took this as a command, and set about to purchase it.
- 1849:** This was the date of Fr. Brugnoli's will – he stated that when he came to the Stimate, he had nothing. So, whatever he had now, he left to the Stimate, except for stipends of 200 Masses to be celebrated within 3 months of his death.

1854: Fr. Marani visited with the Under-Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of Bishops and regulars in Rome and was assured that the documents he had brought from Verona were being scrutinized by Fr. John Perrone, SJ, a Consultor, who would give his opinion in due time. The Under-Secretary was very concerned about Fr. Marani's appearance. He seemed very uncomfortable.

1866: Anthony Caucigh sank still further – he was anointed and his delirium ceased. He spoke to the Brother Infirmarian who attended him day and night, and frequently mentioned the approaching Feast of the Assumption.

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1827: Bishop Innocent Liruti died – the Diocese was ruled by Monsignor Dionisi and the Chapter.¹⁰

1845: A **Priest on Penance** was sent to Fr. Bertoni to make an eight day retreat.

1866: About 4:30 a.m., this Saturday morning, the Novice – Anthony Caucigh died, in the presence of Fr. DaPrato, his Novice Master for about two weeks; also present were Fr. Lenotti who had been his guide his four years at the Stimmate and others.

1875: Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, wrote to Fr. Rigoni about an offer for the Congregation that had been made by Bishop Dominic Villa, Bishop of Parma.

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1810: A Fr. DelBusna received a letter from Monsignor Doria, 'Maestro di Camera' for Pope Pius VII, containing a Blessing for Mother Naudet's group.

1836: A Fr. David Fernarelli died of cholera – he had been stationed at St. Lawrence Parish, and was Confessor at the Seminary.

1857: The departing Missionaries concluded their Retreat at the Stimmate and were now set for Africa. These men made a deep impression on Fr. Lenotti.

1876: The Congregation suffered a great loss this day, in the death of Fr. Lawrence Pizzini, at the age of only 28. The brilliant young man had mastered French, Spanish, German and English – his death brought to an abrupt halt for now the **Foreign Missionary** aspect of the Congregation at that time.

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1869: Fr. Marani made another trip from Verona to Villazzano – these trips were becoming increasingly more difficult for him to make. Fr. DaPrato, on this same day, had to make a trip to Verona on business.

1870: Fr. Marani, Superior General was anointed this day.

¹⁰ **BC I**, p. 42: gives August 21, 1827 as the date of his death; but **CS I** p. 106, has August 10th; the *Epistolario*, pp. 215 and 347 has August 11th.

1893: Michaelangelo Zanetti was ordained a Priest this day – on the same day, the Parish of the *Trinita'* celebrated the fact that Fr. Giaccobbe had served this Parish for 50 years.

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1840: Fr. Bragato wrote again from Vienna – there was a very frequent correspondence between Verona and Vienna these days: Fr. Marani would later destroy all these letters between Fr. Bertoni and Fr. Bragato for fear of the government which would one day be hostile in Verona.

1842: Fr. Cainer celebrated Mass this day for the first time in many weeks.

1843: This was the date of the will of Teresa Borghetti Cartolari, the Mother of Fr. Francis Cartolari – this will made the Stimate, the Institute of San Silvestro and the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb the beneficiaries of this extensive estate.

1866: The Students of the Congregation left the *Trinita'* and Verona this day, and took up residence in Villazzano, in the Diocese of Trent. Bishop Riccabona had offered the use of his summer residence to the Congregation for its Students.

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1799: Fr. Nicholas Paccanari [a most controversial figure in the life story of Mother Naudet] instituted a Congregation which he called the “Madames of the Faith.” St. Madeline Sophie de Barat would continue this institute as the “Madames of the Sacred Heart.’ Mother Naudet would develop the Italian branch as the ‘Sisters of the Holy Family.’

1825: Fr. Bragato stated that he had renewed his Private vows to “**D.G.**” - this seems to indicate *Don Gaspare*, Fr. Bertoni.

1847: Feast of the Assumption – Fr. Lenotti delivered a sermon to the members of the **Oratory** – he told the young men that when they prayed, to imagine that Mary was kneeling along-side of them praying as well; then, their prayer would always be humble and confident.

1867: the examinations were concluded, and Fr. Marani left for ‘Italy’, i.e., Verona.

1875: Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, sent a Circular Letter out to the Congregation - it was to be his last. He asked for volunteers for the **Foreign Missions**, as Fr. Rigoni had just made some successful contacts in Rome, including Cardinal Franchi. Fr. Lenotti asked that those so inclined should volunteer before the end of the coming September – sadly, he would die on its 5th day! He urged the members to study German and also Swedish. His letter was signed from San Bernardino Vecchio, Trent.

1893: Fr. Zanetti celebrated his First Mass at the Stimate.

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1839: Festivities honoring saint Zeno, Patron of the Diocese of Verona, began here. At the Cathedral, a Capuchin preached the morning

service and a Jesuit in the evening. Fr. Bertoni preached at a Novena to San Zeno.

- 1867:** Fr. Marani was back in Verona and stated how happy he was that no one among the Students at Villazzano had failed in their examinations.
- 1870:** Word was received at Villazzano that Fr. Marani had been anointed. Frs. Lenotti and DaPrato left immediately for Verona. Fr. DaPrato stayed with Fr. Marani until his death, nearly 11 months later – Fr. Lenotti filled in at Villazzano as Novice Master, a post he had held from September 1855-July 1865.

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- 1792:** Francis Bertoni gave over the administration of the family finances and promised not to interfere again – a promise that he did not keep.
- 1805:** Pius VII accepted the resignation of Bishop Avogadro as Bishop of Verona.
- 1808:** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that in matters concerning one's religious vocation, it is better to leave it up to God – it is better to accept the will of God in what happens, than to try to anticipate it.
- 1816:** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that Fr. Galvani had offered him the Stimate and the other 'pious places.' Fr. Marani was urging him to accept them.
- 1834:** **Mother Leopoldina Naudet died this day.** Fr. Bertoni wrote a letter of condolence to Sister Sophia Gagnere. The Sisters referred to this letter as 'precious.'
- 1841:** Fr. Odescalchi, SJ, retired Cardinal Vicar of His Holiness, died today in Modena.
- 1866:** A group of students of the Congregation left Verona for Villazzano.
- 1905:** **In a Session of the General Council, Fr. Gurisatti, Superior General, granted permission to Fr. Luchi and Fr. Anthony Dalla Porta to leave for the United States of America.**

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- 1831:** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet to tell her that the construction going on at St. Teresa's was jeopardizing a wall at the Stimate.
- 1845:** A Fr. Polidoro wrote to Fr. Bertoni and told him that the Priest who was performing his penance had gone to Confession.
- 1857:** Fr. Marani went to the Imperial Villa, at Stra'.
- 1866:** Fr. Lenotti arrived at Villazzano with a group of Students. They worked hard to prepare the Bishop's summer home for the rest of the Community.
- 1886:** Fr. Louis Tommasi wrote on this date that the little booklet he was preparing on the lives of the early Fathers and Brothers was being done in great haste. It had to be ready within a month for the Superior General's Golden Jubilee [Fr. Peter Vignola] the next month. [this may be the booklet used for the '**Early Necrologies**' that appears on the Stigmatine web-site, under 'Translations' [cf. www.st-bertoni.com].
- 1905:** Fr. Antonioilli was supervising the construction of the Students' Boarding House in the 'Acquabella' section of Milan.

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- 1828:** Cardinal Castiglioni answered Fr. Bertoni's letter of the previous July 23rd, in which he had given an account of the activities at the Stimate.
- 1831:** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her of his difficulty in finding any competent professional advice in their construction difficulties.
- 1839:** Fr. Bertoni preached in his turn at the Cathedral at the Solemn Novena honoring San Zeno, Patron of Verona.
- 1845:** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Bishop Mutti that the **Priest** he had sent to him at the Stimate had made his 8 day retreat very well.
- 1862:** Frs. Lenotti and Benciolini began two separate Retreats for the Clergy of the Diocese of Udine. In these two Retreats, they would preach to over 350 Priests, including Arch-Bishop Trevisanato, Bishop of Udine, who had been named Patriarch of Venice.
- 1866:** One of the Brothers accompanied the last of the Students from Verona to Villazzano.

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- 1808:** Fr. Bertoni wrote that it is a good practice to treat with others on their own level if the intention is to bring them to our own.
- 1817:** Some lumber was purchased on this date to construct benches, or pews, for the Stimate.
- 1831:** Fr. Bertoni wrote again to Mother Naudet, as he was very concerned about the construction at St. Teresa's coming so close to the wall at the Stimate.
- 1858:** the fathers began a Mission at Holy Cross Parish in Padova: the Capuchins had a House nearby, and were a great help in hearing Confessions.
- 1864:** Fr. Benciolini presented his litigation with the Sisters of the Holy Family to the Holy See. It was then referred back to Bishop di Canossa, who had already sided with the Sisters. The Bishop wrote to Rome that he was surprised that the Fathers at the Stimate were so insistent on their rights!
- 1875:** Fr. Rigoni went to Trent to accompany the ailing Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, back to Verona.

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- 1847:** Because of Fr. Fedelini's failing health, Fr. Bertoni was afraid that he would leave the Congregation.
A **theater** near the Stimate caused some consternation there that it would prove in time to be a distraction to the students studying there.
- 1856:** Fr. Marani returned to Verona from Reichstadt.
- 1899:** The Diocesan Process of Fr. Bertoni's Cause was concluded in Verona, and was sent to the Sacred Congregation of Rites in Rome. Fr. Tabarelli succeeded Fr. James Marini as Postulator.

22

- 1854:** Fr. Marani in Rome obtained from the Sacred Congregation of Indulgences a favor for the Main Altar of the Church of *Santa Maria del Giglio*, making of it a 'privileged altar.'
- 1904:** Fr. Joseph Zandonai suffered another attack of apoplexy, and this time it proved fatal. For the school year that had just ended, he had taught Church History to the Students of the Congregation.

23

- 1840:** Another letter from Fr. Bragato arrived for Fr. Bertoni at the Stimate.
- 1875:** On the doctor's advice, Fr. Lenotti went out to Sezano with Fr. Rigoni. Fr. Rigoni wrote that they were awaiting those students who had gone to Padova for the examinations of accreditation. Melchiade Vivari, a student, noted that the Superior was visibly slipping – he managed to get up every day, but could not hold anything on his stomach.
- 1891:** **Fr. Peter Vignola, 3rd Superior General, died very suddenly this Sunday afternoon. He had just finished teaching Catechism at San Silvestro. [Frs. Bertoni – Marani – Lenotti - and now, Fr. Peter Vignola: all died on a Sunday afternoon!]**

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- 1813:** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet from Colognola ai Colli, where he was convalescing. He said that he was no longer afraid of pain – and that he was awaiting a 'command' from God.
- 1857:** Fr. Marani left Stra' for Verona.

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- 1839:** Solemn Feast of San Zeno celebrated in Verona.
- 1841:** James Campedelli left the Congregation.
- 1843:** Cardinal Odescalchi in a letter of this date, had words of praise for Fr. Bragato – the Cardinal, at this time, was Secretary of State.
- 1847:** Fr. Fedelini left the Congregation this day due to ill health – he was 37 years of age, and had spent 21 years at the Stimate. Fr. Bertoni. When he came to say good-by, urged him not to resign as Professor of Moral at the Seminary. [Fr. Fedelini would one day return to the Congregation after Fr. Bertoni's death, and himself would die as a member of the Congregation].
- 1860:** Frs. Lenotti and Peter Vignola preached the Annual Retreat to the **Clergy of the Diocese of Feltre**. After this, they then preached to the **Clergy of the Diocese of Belluno**. Bishop Renier was most exuberant in his praise of the Fathers. Fr. Lenotti expressed the hope that Fr. Sperti's offer to the Congregation to come to Belluno would be accepted. [It was not, however, but the Fathers of the Congregation did serve the Diocese some 50 or more years later, by taking over as the **faculty of the Diocesan Seminary**. Fr. Fancis Cappello, SJ – a latter-day 'Confessor of Rome', whose Cause of Canonization has progressed, served with them].

1865: Charles Zara became a Deacon – he had received almost all of his education at the Stimate.

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1799: Death of Pius VI.

1826: Bishop Liruti assigned Francis Benciolini, in his 2nd year of Theology, to assist at the Church of *Santa Maria della Scala*. This was near Piazza Erbe, and his Uncle, Fr. Cajetan Benciolini, was Pastor here.

1835: Fr. Gramego was out of danger, but needed a long convalescence.

1862: Monsignor Gaspardis wrote again to Fr. Marani and told him that Frs. Lenotti and Benciolini had made a lasting impression in Udine.

1872: Fr. Lenotti, Superior General, wrote to Fr. Vincent Vignola, Superior of the Student House at Sale di Povo, that the summer trips of the Students be not too fatiguing, and that their piety be not neglected.

1883: Fr. Andrew Sterza began a 13 week period of preaching throughout the Diocese of Pavia – Fr. Vivari helped him for a while, and so did Fr. Julius Zanini.

27

1812: This is the date of the only letter that has come down to us of Fr. Bertoni to Mother Madeline di Canossa, who was in Venice. He told her that Fr. Galvani had not been feeling well.

1839: two Brother candidates entered on this date – Louis Ferrari and Francis Stevanoni.

1840: Fr. Bertoni wrote to Fr. Bragato this day and said that a Priest should be as familiar with God that he could be able to ‘incline God’s good pleasure.’

1862: **The Diocesan Retreat ended at Udine** – Fr. Benciolini told the Priests that they were all Ambassadors of Jesus Christ. He said that he had had the custom of going to chapel to recite the *Miserere* the last day of Retreats he preached to ask pardon for faults he committed during the Retreat.

1867: The members at the Stimate were told on this date that force would be used if anyone resisted the confiscation of the property.

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1828: Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet and told her that God distributes His graces in His own time. Fr. Bertoni told her that he has great difficulty in offering Mass, because his leg was quite swollen, and very painful.

1838: The Sezano deal was closed on this date – it now belonged to Fr. Bertoni and the Congregation – and still does.

1867: Fr. Rigoni left for Florence, the temporary capital of the new government, to plead the case of the Congregation losing its property.

1875: Fr. Zara’s Chronicle began on this date.

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1910: Charles Joseph Zanotti pronounced his First Vows.

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- 1816:** Fr. Bertoni visited Fr. Galvani to discuss particulars of the Bellotti property left to Fr. Galvanic, who in turn offered its use to Fr. Bertoni.
- 1837:** Fr. Benciolini's father, Peter, died on this day.
- 1853:** Fr. Benciolini finished the Gregorian Masses today for Fr. Gramego.
- 1856:** Frs. Benciolini and Lenotti began a Mission at Stelle - Fr. Marani was present for the opening, then left.

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- 1808:** Fr. Bertoni wrote in his Spiritual Diary that great temptations are the means of great holiness when they are met with courage.
- 1813:** Fr. Bertoni in his letter of this date showed a great fear of being Vice Rector of the Diocesan Seminary. This fact would later be used by the 'Devil's Advocate' in his Cause for Canonization – Fr. Bertoni had already been Spiritual Director. He wanted his Uncle, Dr. Ravelli, to write to Bishop Liruti to tell him that he could not be Vice Rector.
- 1816:** Fr. Bertoni wrote to Mother Naudet that a number of young girls wanted to enter her Congregation.
- 1864:** The Way of The Cross was erected at the Novitiate at the *Trinita'* by a Fr. Bernardino, OFM – it was a Wednesday.

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