



*Postulazione per la Causa di Beatificazione
di Venerabile Madre Alfonsa Maria Eppinger*

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*„Her death was a reflection of her life.“
(Georg Schneidt about Mother Alphonse Maria, P. 41)*



*150th death anniversary
of „Venerable“ Servant of God,
Mother Alphonse Maria Eppinger*

Dear Sisters of our common foundress,
Dear Associate members,
and the people who honouring the Venerable Servant of God, Mother Alphonse Maria!

On 31st July 2017 we celebrate the 150th death anniversary of our foundress Mother Alphonse Maria.

This jubilee of our foundress is certainly an ideal occasion for a common celebration in the congregations of the same origin, and all over the world where her sisters and associates members are involved today.

In the course of this year we want to emphasis on the spiritual values and different accents of the spirituality posed by our foundress, which may unite us and contribute to announce the Gospel. We ourselves would like to make effort to make known and to deepen the charism and ask Mother Alphonse Maria to help in our striving for a better spiritual life personally by simplicity. This can also help to progress towards her beatification.

The time of a jubilee celebration is always a phase of review of life and a look in to the future, the reflections and new perspective; which the preparations of the jubilee will serve for. Also this jubilee preparations should contribute for it. The solemnity is not a self-purpose, but an invitation for the renewal.

The Look back, at the time interval of 150 years we marvel about the life and work of the venerable servant of God Mother Alphonse Maria. We want to thank God, those sisters originated from her foundation live and work in fidelity to her charism in four continents. They are in the service of God and the people according to her spirit and giving a living witness of their consecrated life.

The look at our foundress Mother Alphonse Maria should open our eyes in the difficult situations of the suffering people in today's world. Particularly we would like to look at those who are in many countries object of discrimination, of persecution and of social injustice, rejected in the outskirts of the society.

Has not given the merciful God to Mother Alphonse Maria the charism as an answer to the needs of the people of her time?

When we look attentively at the situation and development of the society today, we are obliged to answer to the needs of the people. Besides that we discover the depth and actuality of the charism of

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Mother Alphonse Maria. Each of our three congregations draws from her heritage a new spiritual and apostolic dynamism.

Looking towards the future, we are left with total confidence to wait, that the merciful God leads the work in his providence, furthermore our vocation and mission becomes an image of ripe ears “of the cornfield” (*the vision of Mother Alphonse Maria*).

Delighted through this strong experience of the visions of our foundress we go with courage on our journey and entrust to the Lord our life and our selfless service. The prayer and transmission of the charism to the next generations of the sisters of Mother Alphonse Maria and to the associate members remains for us an **obligation and task**.

In the final stage of the *beatification process of the venerable servant of God, Mother Alphonse Maria*, the “precious flower of Alsace”, we are intensifying our prayer and spreading the veneration of this authentic witness of her faith. It is in the work of mercy that we can perceive the beauty of the greatness of her simple life and of the soul, which reflects the happiness of the heaven.

The Bookmarks and calendar 2017, you will receive, are a sign of jubilee. The calendar should be a real way of creating link among us sisters and associate members of Mother Alphonse Maria.

All over the world there are 265 communities and mission fields of sisters and associate members of Mother Alphonse Maria, in the Congregations of Oberbronn, Wurzburg and Sopron/Rome.

For each day of the year 2017, I invite all the sisters and associate members of the congregations, originated from the foundation of Mother Alphonse Maria, to pray for the community of the sisters indicated and associate members, for a mission and in other intentions of our three congregations (*see calendar 2017, going to receive*).

Since 2017 have 365 days, other intentions are also suggested for which we will pray, like for the priests, chaplains, lay collaborators, for the beatification process of venerable servant of God Mother Alphonse Maria, for new vocations....

The aim of this initiative is to get to know us better, deepen our spiritual life, and strengthen our hope. Only then can we live in a unified manner our charism and our spirituality in the spirit of our common foundress. May this become for us a year of grace, rich in spiritual fruits.

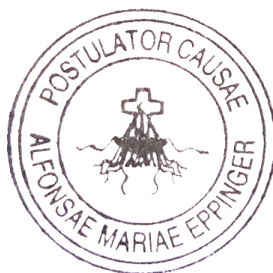
Finally I still want to express a wish: that the sisters of Mother Alphonse Maria become the women of prayer and will orient themselves to her advice: “*as long as you endure, you are on the right track*”.

“Thanks, Mother Alphonse Maria for this advice and your heroic attitude! It is the heroism which has its source the joy of salvation. The salvation by Jesus Christ is a source of joy and force from which we live, because we know that we are loved. 150 years after your return in the house of the father, united with Jesus Christ, we also are longing, amidst the storms of our time, to be united with Jesus. It is in all modesty and simplicity that we want to continue to spread the Gospel. We accept the invitation to do everything quietly and unnoticed, like YOU!”

In the love of our venerable servant of God, Mother Alphonse Maria, I greet you all whole heartedly!



Sr. Katarína Krištofová, SDR
Postulatorin



Rome, 31st July 2016, 149th death anniversary of Venerable Mother Alphonse Maria.

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