



***I would like for us to pledge a pact which
knows no earthly boundaries nor
temporal limits: union in prayer.***

Pier Giorgio .

(to I. Bonini, 15 gennaio 1925)

Rome, March 18th, 2023

Dear friends, dear friends of Pier Giorgio.

This year we also want to celebrate Pier Giorgio's birthday by keeping faith with the "pact." We propose that we all pray for the Church. We also want to ask that we know how to find, again and again like Pier Giorgio, our place in the Church, not giving up what we can do for Her edification and mission in the world.

April 6 coincides with Maundy Thursday. We propose to organize a Holy Hour on the night between Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, or at any rate during the time when the Eucharist will be kept and adored at the Altar of Repose, in which to pray for the Church. "***Every day I understand more and more what a grace it is to be Catholic...***" Pier Giorgio wrote, and later added: "***we are the only ones who possess the Truth...***" (to I. Bonini Feb. 27, 1925).

We know how much Pier Giorgio loved Holy Mass, Communion, and especially Eucharistic Adoration. We know how in those blessed hours he poured all his prayers, supplications, and intercessions into the Heart of Christ. Many of the letters he wrote bear the imprint of that glimpse of faith that matured in him, both from praying at the Eucharist, and from his friendship with so many people, to whom he wished he could convey the peace and friendship of Christ, and communion with Him. The centenary cadence of letters written by Pier Giorgio to his German friends reminds us of his love for Germany and his connection with the German Catholic Movement, whom he had known and esteemed. We thus want to extend this prayer of ours to them in a special way.

Early in 1923, Pier Giorgio, leaving for the last time Germany, where "***I spent the best days of my youth,***" wrote the important letter to the Catholic students in Bonn: "***we have no possibility of changing the sad situation, but we feel within ourselves the entire strength of our Christian love which unites us in brotherhood beyond all national boundaries***" (Jan. 12, 1923). To his friend Villani he entrusted his dream: "***in two years I too will also be, if God grants me life, working in the Ruhr and as a Catholic I will help the Germans as much as possible***" (Jan. 10, 1923). God, two years later, gave him Eternal Life and a much wider scope for his apostolate in the Church. And we, with our gift in prayer, will help him.

In the joy of meeting again on Holy Thursday, united in prayer, we send you cordial greetings. To feel more united in prayer we invite you to confirm your participation.

Happy birthday to Pier Giorgio !

Wanda Gawronska