



“I’d like to give you a piece of advice specially suited to these times of Lent and it’s this: that you in these times of mourning for the Church you would prepare yourself with some little sacrifice and self-denial in order to better celebrate a Holy Easter; then if this year unfortunately we cannot be physically together, then spiritually yes, because I in my prayers will remember you and you in yours will remember me and so that day as always our spirits will be firmly united in God.” (Pier Giorgio to his sister Luciana, March 13, 1925)

Lent 2009

Dear Friend of Blessed Pier Giorgio,

In 1925, Pier Giorgio spent his first Lent apart from his sister who had married and moved out of the country just a few months earlier. And yet, as the above excerpt shows, he was determined to remain united to her in prayer. He even took the time to give her some spiritual advice and encouragement. I hope his beautiful example of brotherly love will help get your Lenten season off to a good start.

Some good news that I am very excited to share with you in this newsletter is that one of Pier Giorgio’s nieces will visit the U.S. in June! Save the date and make plans to watch “EWTN Live” on Wednesday, June 3rd, when Wanda Gawronska, Pier Giorgio’s niece, will be the featured guest. Many of you have met or corresponded with Wanda in her role as president of the Associazione Pier Giorgio Frassati in Rome. She is coming to the U.S. in June to tape a mini-series about Pier Giorgio that will be aired on EWTN at a later date. If you want to be in the audience for the live show, you need to make reservations in advance by contacting the EWTN Pilgrimage Department. This may be done in writing, by phone [205-271-2966 (option 2)], by fax [205-271-2957], or by e-mail [pilgrimages@ewtn.com].

I also want to pass along a little more good news for those of you who have been patiently waiting for the book of Pier Giorgio’s letters to be available. The final manuscript is now in the hands of the publisher. We are still many months off from having the finished product, but the work is

moving along. As soon as I have an anticipated publication date, I will post that information on the website (www.frassatiusa.org) Be sure to check back from time to time and also to check the blog (frassatiusa.blogspot.com) for the latest info.

Some of you were interested in an inexpensive version of the Pier Giorgio medal. **A limited quantity of a silver-plated medal is now available!** It is the exact same design and size as the sterling silver medal. The medal is made in Italy, authorized by the Frassati family and only available in the U.S. through FrassatiUSA. We are always working on adding devotional items to the [online PGF Bookstore](#). For your convenience, the items currently available are listed on the attached order form.

Finally, if you are looking for a great outdoor adventure with others who love Pier Giorgio, plan to join the Minnesota Frassati Society on their trek to the Grand Canyon in May. If you are in the Minnesota area, you can travel from there. If not, you can meet up in Arizona. **All of the details are on the website.**

Frassati groups seem to be popping up all over the place. If your group has an event planned, send an email to info@frassatiusa.org and we will be sure to post it on the website.

Wishing you a holy journey through Lent in the company of Pier Giorgio.

Verso l'alto,



Christine M. Wohar, Executive Director

p.s. It is too late to sign up for the Pier Giorgio Pilgrimage 2009. However, you can still view the itinerary on the website. If you aren't coming this year, you may want to start making plans now to join the pilgrimage next summer when the Shroud of Turin is expected to be on display. (The Holy Shroud is located in the same cathedral where Blessed Pier Giorgio can be venerated.)