

SAINT GIOVANNI ANTONIO FARINA WITH US

MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2025

FEBRUARY 2 - PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
(CANDLEMAS), WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

THE DIFFERENT VOCATIONS



FROM FARINA'S WRITINGS

"Remember the purpose of your mission and do not reject those creatures who belong to Jesus Christ. He Himself entrusted them to you. Do not use the excuse that they are unruly or not docile. It does not matter. Call them, teach them, take care of them."

"Charity faces all obstacles head-on and does not fear them. Charity is like an angel amid the horror of darkness, like a brilliant ray in a foggy sky that makes its light sparkle and drives away the darkness of the night."

BRIEF COMMENT

The Saint reminds us what is essential in every vocation (religious, matrimonial, parental, etc.): the mission to care for others, especially children, youth, and the most vulnerable. It is about caring for and protecting creatures that belong to God. Charity is the queen of virtues and should distinguish all vocations, in every situation of life, whether joyful or sorrowful.

(Freely adapted from Nicola Gori, "With Passion in the Heart")

ANECDOTES ABOUT FARINA'S LIFE

"In the morning, I hurried to the church to prepare for my First Communion. The Holy Mass was to be celebrated by Bishop Farina, who was on a pastoral visit to my parish. He showed interest in me and asked if I would like to enter his College. After receiving my father's permission, I joined the Institute. I was supported, educated with charity, and always treated kindly. I was able to complete my studies and obtain a diploma as a teacher for both lower and higher grades. Now I am part of the teaching sisters and work with that beloved youth who was so dear to Farina. I always remember his charity."

(From the memories of Sister Fulgida Spagnolo, 1897)