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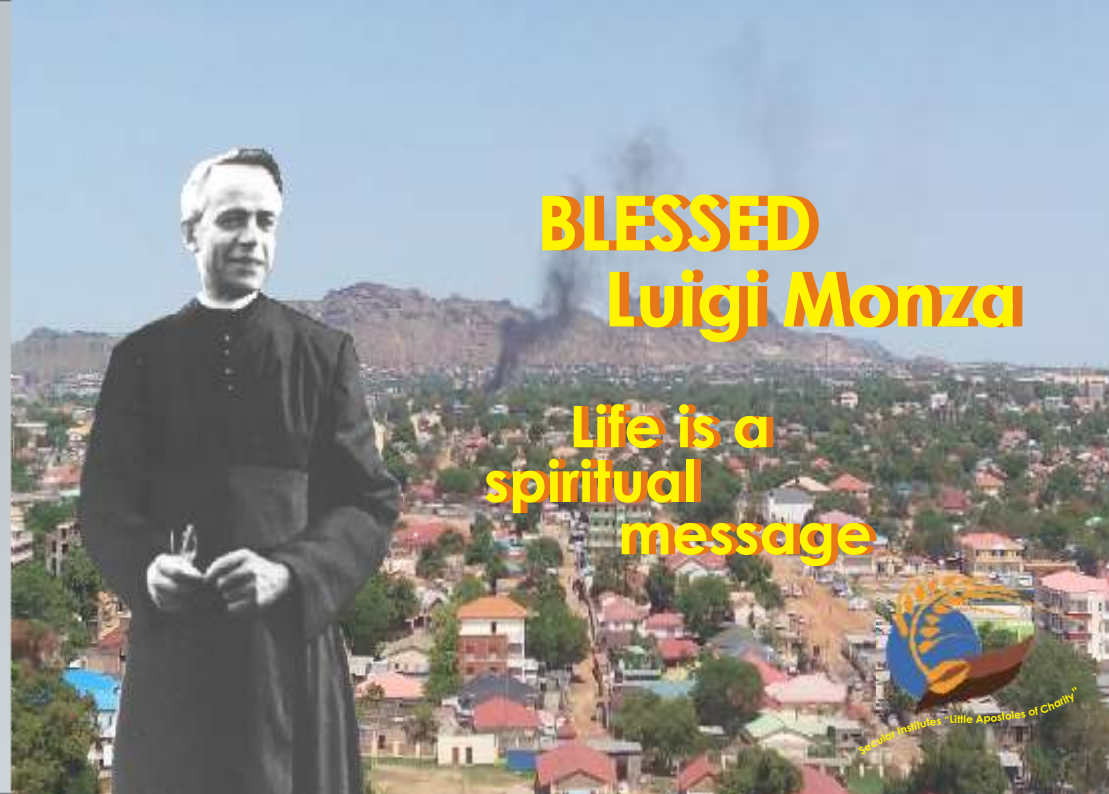
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In Juba – South Sudan USRATUNA  
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The Lord wants us to be saints and does not expect us to be content with a watered down, inconsistent, mediocre existence. [...] We are all called to be saints, living with love with each person offering their own testimony in everyday tasks, wherever he may find himself. [...] This holiness to which the Lord calls you will grow through small gestures. [...] (Pope Francis, *Guadete ed Exsultate*, Rome 2018).

These words expressed by Pope Francis in the Apostolic Exhortation seem to highlight the nature of Blessed Luigi: a man of 'small stature', guided by his passion for the things of the Lord and determined in his actions, looking towards the Eucharist and the Mystery that resides there, and with his heart full of love for the world and its poverty.



Whoever has received grace or favours through the intercession of blessed Luigi Monza can report it to: Blessed Luigi Monza Centre of Studies tel. 031.625111 Ponte Lambro (Co),Italia email: [centrostudi.luigimonza@lanostrafamiglia.it](mailto:centrostudi.luigimonza@lanostrafamiglia.it)

## Prayer to the blessed Luigi Monza

**B**lessed Louis Monza,  
good shepherd  
always waking in prayers  
in the nights,  
looking for the lost sheep  
during the day,  
you have given us  
the vivid and fertile image  
of the mystery of the grain  
rotting to produce the ear.  
Intercedes for us, that we may obtain  
prayer and charity,

*Saints to flourish among us,  
endless hope to the weak  
to live in the happiness  
of being one in heart and one soul,  
in the image of Christ Jesus,  
who made shine in the world  
the overwhelming force of love.*

*(in silence ask for a grace)*



Would you like to find out more?

Visit our websites: [www.luigimonza.it](http://www.luigimonza.it)  
[www.ispac.it](http://www.ispac.it)  
[www.lanostrafamiglia.it](http://www.lanostrafamiglia.it)  
[www.emedeaa.it](http://www.emedeaa.it)

Do you know



Blessed  
Luigi Monza?



*A priest of simple origins, brought up in a farmer habitat. He had difficulties in studies, also due to family problems. He was, however, rich in the wisdom of the heart that is born from prayer and obedience to the Spirit.*



*A parish priest who lived side by side with his people as a guide and as a shepherd, sharing the difficult times of war and material poverty, but also the richness of generosity and good.*



*A teacher careful to the education of children and young people and to the spiritual support of many people who approached him for confession and spiritual direction. A competent guide in understanding the various vocations (priestly, special consecration and matrimonial).*

- **Group of Friends of 'Our Family'**
- **'Our Family' Parents' Association**
- **Family spiritual groups**
- **Zarepta widowhood group**
- **Spiritual youth groups**
- **'Don Luigi Monza' Voluntary Association**
- **OVCi Our Family, Voluntary Organisation for International Cooperation**
- **FONOS (Serene Horizons Foundation)**
- **Amateur Sports Association Viribus Unitis**



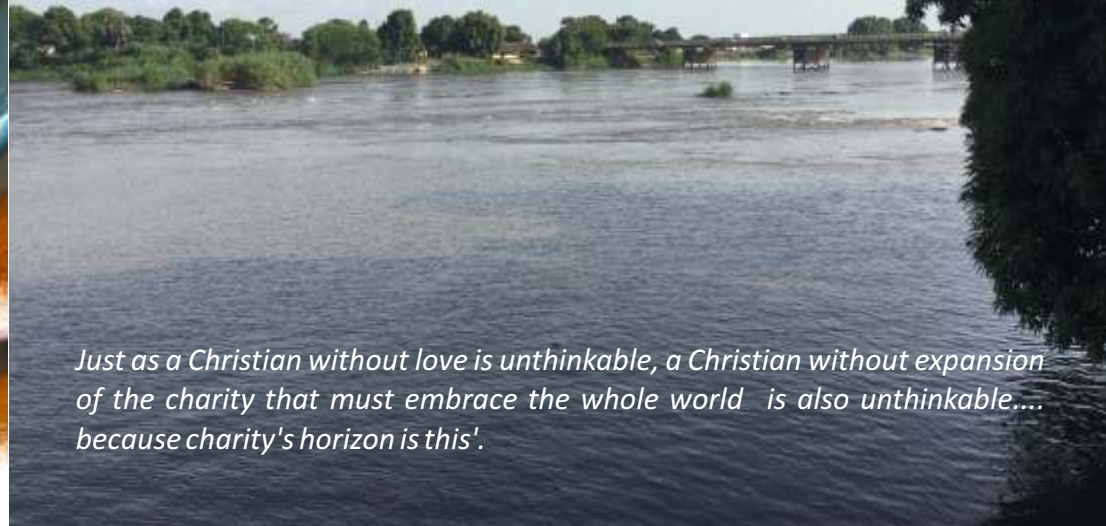




**They live  
his spirituality**



*A 'dreamer': Fr. Luigi's dream was 'an intuition' that he felt was not his own; it was a gift from the Spirit that pushed him, a shy and humble man, to relaunch the challenge of the 'practical charity of the first Christians' in the world:*



*Just as a Christian without love is unthinkable, a Christian without expansion of the charity that must embrace the whole world is also unthinkable.... because charity's horizon is this'.*

# The main stages



of his life

## Don Luigi's words for life



Our love towards God and towards our neighbour must be without measure.



If you want, I will let you know my Love.



The modern world needs our holiness, a holiness built on Love.



Good must be done well.



As members of the same family they will love each other in God and for God, helping each other reciprocally and carefully avoiding words or acts that may cause offence.

# Father Luigi's challenges... are our challenges

**Also today Father Luigi sends us important messages:**

- holiness is not impossible. It is all the time and everywhere, in all nations and conditions of life;
- holiness does not consist in doing extraordinary things but in doing ordinary things extraordinarily well;
- to live with everyone as brothers and sisters of a single family paying attention to those small details of daily life;
- to entrust all work to Providence, after making all the effort possible, according to one's abilities;
- to love is beautiful and joyful and the heart that lives in God is always one full of joy;
- to announce the Gospel with the courage of the Apostles through words and neighbourly acts in school, at the office, in the factory, on the train, at the supermarket and in everyday occupations.

He was born in 1898 in Cislago (Varese) in a poor farmer family.

Due to painful family events his path of preparation for the priesthood is long and difficult. From the moment he enters the Seminary he demonstrates the personality and character which will make him into a solid man able to 'smooth' his rough edges.

He was ordained priest in 1925 by Cardinal Eugenio Tosi and carried out his first activity as a priest among the youth in Vedano Olona (Varese).



In 1927 he was unjustly accused of attacking a fascist party official. He was arrested and imprisoned for four months in Miogni prison in Varese. This for him was a period of profound suffering and inner maturation.



In 1929 he was sent to carry out his ministry at the Sanctuary of the Madonna of Miracles in Saronno (Varese). Italy

It was here that he had the first intuition of the Work that the Lord called upon him to carry out and he met some young people who wished to consecrate themselves to the Lord while remaining outside in the world.

In 1936 the Cardinal Archbishop of Milan, Alfredo Ildefonso Schuster, entrusted him with the parish of San Giovanni alla Castagna in Lecco. Italy

He had a 'farsighted' vision towards a society that was changing and towards a Church that needed to dialogue with. He came up with courageous activities for its young people (a Theatre group, cinema and a foreign language school for those who were preparing to emigrate abroad), identifying in the people's spiritual and biblical training the necessary bases for understanding and fully experiencing acts of worship.





## ST MARY'S COLLEGE

High education institution founded in 2008 by the Archdioceses of Juba with the support of OVCI La Nostra Famiglia Bachelor degree in Rehabilitation Sciences permanent training centre.

## CBID PROGRAM (Community Based Inclusive Development)

It is based on a strategy implemented within the community and aimed at promotion of rights and equalization of opportunities for people with disabilities to live as equal citizens in the community, to have access to health and education services, to participate in social, cultural, religious, economic and political activities. This strategy is carried out through: home visits for rehabilitation treatments, community awareness and mobilization, educational activities in primary schools, livelihood activities with parents' groups, support of DPOs and local organizations



He was a normal priest, first as assistant and then as parish priest. He let himself be guided by events, seeing in them a sign of God's will to be humbly received, in constant discernment.



Fr. Luigi died from cardiac disease in September 1954 in the parish of San Giovanni alla Castanga in Lecco.

The Diocesan Process of Canonization opened in Milan in November 1987 thanks to Archbishop Carlo Maria Martini and concluded in February 1991 in Ponte Lambro (Co) Italy. At the end Fr. Luigi was recognized as a servant of God.

In December 2003 the Holy Father John Paul II proclaimed him Venerable, recognizing his heroic virtues.

With the recognition of a miracle attributed to his intercession, he was proclaimed Blessed under the pontificate of Benedict XVI on April 30<sup>th</sup> 2006 in Milan Cathedral.

His liturgical Remembrance is celebrated in the Ambrosian Diocese on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

plastic surgery. Orthopedic workshop (production, delivery and maintenance of appliances)



**Training /** Courses for the staff and stakeholders on primary health care, education, and rehabilitation on people with disability. Awareness for parents on care and prevention of disability.



**Mobile Clinic /**Provision of basic health services in informal IDP camps inurban Juba for the most vulnerable persons. Diagnosis and treatment of most common diseases. Referral and follow up of severe cases. Screening of STD (Syphilis, HIV), disabilities and malnutrition.

**Education /**Pre-school for children with disability or special needs; support and assistance to children with disability included in primary school

USRATUNA FOR DISABLED CHILDREN is in South Sudan since 1984. The centre was founded by Ovcì La Nostra Famiglia and it takes care of children in many ways:

### **PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CENTRE**

A dispensary with a dozen of clinical officers, nurses midwives and nutritionists specialized in medical examinations, laboratory analysis and Pharmacy. Pre and post natal services and vaccination for mothers and children, epilepsy services, feeding program for malnourished children, pregnant and lactating mothers, milk distribution for pregnant and lactating mothers

### **REHABILITATION UNIT**

Usratuna Centre's main purpose is the rehabilitation for children with disability and special needs. Our services are the following: Social workshop department, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy. Referrals to Uganda of children in need of neurosurgery or orthopedic and



Statue of the Blessed in  
Milan Cathedral

Sculptor Marco Borghi



**THE URGENCY**

**OF HIS TIMES**

**Cure**



**Rehabilitation**



**Training**



**Research**



The mission of 'Our Family' is to protect the quality of life through the specific rehabilitation interventions of people with disabilities, especially in the developmental age, using also scientific research (Scientific Institute for Research, Hospitalisation and Health Care IRCCS E. Medea) and the training of professionals for up-to-date interventions.

We don't treat only a person's disability at 'Our Family', but we also take on the family's sufferance and accompany them during their difficult journey, leading them, as much as possible, to a calm acceptance of their situation.

'Our Family' has a vast network of rehabilitation centres present in six Italian regions. We collaborate with OVCI International Cooperation Volunteering Organism Our Family for socio-rehabilitative interventions and we are present in the following countries of the world: **Brazil** **China** - **Ecuador** - **Italy** - **Marocco** - **Sudan** - **South Sudan**.





## Our Family, a work very dear to him

*“The Association took the name of Our Family to show that, like sons of the same Father, we all form a single family and all members of the Association will be like mother and father, brothers and sisters for those who come into contact with it, just like all the houses belonging to the Association must be family for all those who need to stay there”.*

This is what blessed Luigi Monza said, indicating in the welcome, in the family spirit and in the respect for life, the horizons of the principles within which the Association was born, has developed and still operates today. The aim is, in fact, to interpret in a differentiated, specific and targeted way the needs it encounters to find ever more appropriate and adequate responses.

To bring the Love of Christ back to society because a new 'paganism' was diffusing throughout the world, leaving humanity more alone and poor in relationships.

The answer to this need found concreteness in Fr. Luigi's own life as a priest and parish priest. He lived his life with charity and joy. He suggested a new and original form of vocation within the Church: the secular consecration.

The Secular Institute of the Little Apostles of Charity is born, from the union of Fr. Luigi's charismatic intuition and the goodwill of few young women.



*The Little Apostles  
of Charity  
inheritors of a dream*

Women, consecrated lay women, without uniform or distinction, who share the ordinary life of everyone, individually or in community groups.



Women, who through their profession carried out in the Work 'Our Family' or in other work or apostolic fields are called, like the first Christians, to live creative and concrete charity.

Women with a humble and joyous lifestyle, that proclaim the Gospel among every kind of people in the world. The Secular Institute of the Little Apostles of Charity is affiliated with the male Branch of the Little Apostles of Charity.