

# Porticina della Provvidenza

Piazza san Domenico 5/2 - 40124 Bologna



## COMMUNION OF SAINTS

Parish, one of the Diocese. It accomplishes the Pastoral visit of Card. Giacomo Biffi. He informs, he asks about the Christian community life. Above all on the sacraments: baptisms, communions, confirmations that have been celebrated. Marriages, too. In confidence turns to the priest: 'You, Don ..., tell me, what do you like? That is happily celebrating?' 'The funerals!' 'Is the answer. Surprised the Cardinal replied: 'Why?'. Still, the priest: 'Those, yes, at least they're made!'. The Cardinal, without reporting the name of the priest, ironic and witty, clever as he was, often reported the story.

Why? Because the Christian life is a fact: the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Risen One. Because death -has reminded the pastor - is a fact. Everything we do, in fact, is useless if death is the last word on our lives. Death is a fact and can only be won by another fact, precisely the death and resurrection of Jesus. Christianity has understood that and, participating in the life of the Risen One, it indicated the cemetery, which means dormitory, the place of burial in expectation of the resurrection of the dead. Therefore, the care, custody and worship, the memory of the dead. As November 2, crowded cemeteries. It is memory, is pungent longing of our Dears. Devoting an entire day to the prayers of suffrage for the souls of the dead is the belief in the communion of the Risen. Reasonable to go to the cemetery and the grave, the place and sign of communion of life; not only that, already passed and together with them for years but now, with this, we participate, because living with the deceased, all in the communion of the Risen. It is the paschal character of Christian death. It makes contact with our dead and implore through the Eucharistic sacrifice, of the Holy Mass, the light and the peace of God, for them and for us. Be with them forever!

'The funeral! (...) At least those are the facts! ': Yes it's true! It is our faith: that happened, that endures, the fact: the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Risen One.

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