

April 15

*1895 A decree from Rome orders the replacement of the original statue of OLSH with a new one, but an exception is made for the statue in the Basilica of Issoudun.*

*Letter to (Blessed) Caterina Volpicelli*

It is with real consolation and joy that I have heard you are occupied in founding at Naples the Society of the Third Order of the Sacred Heart. May God bless your efforts and make this budding work prosper more and more.

I am happy to send all necessary powers to the Reverend Barnabite Father whom you have chosen to direct it. This delegation is absolutely necessary; on its own the authorization by the Archbishop of Naples is insufficient; for, concerning this point, the Third Order of the Sacred Heart is dependent on our Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

I authorize you also to make your chapel the centre of the Association of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart for Naples. While waiting for us to be erected into an archconfraternity, you should collect the names of the members of the Association and send them to me in Issoudun (Indre), France.

I gladly bless you, my very dear Sister, and also your companions, and I invoke on you all the blessings of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and of his Holy Mother.

*(Issoudun, 8 February 1868)*