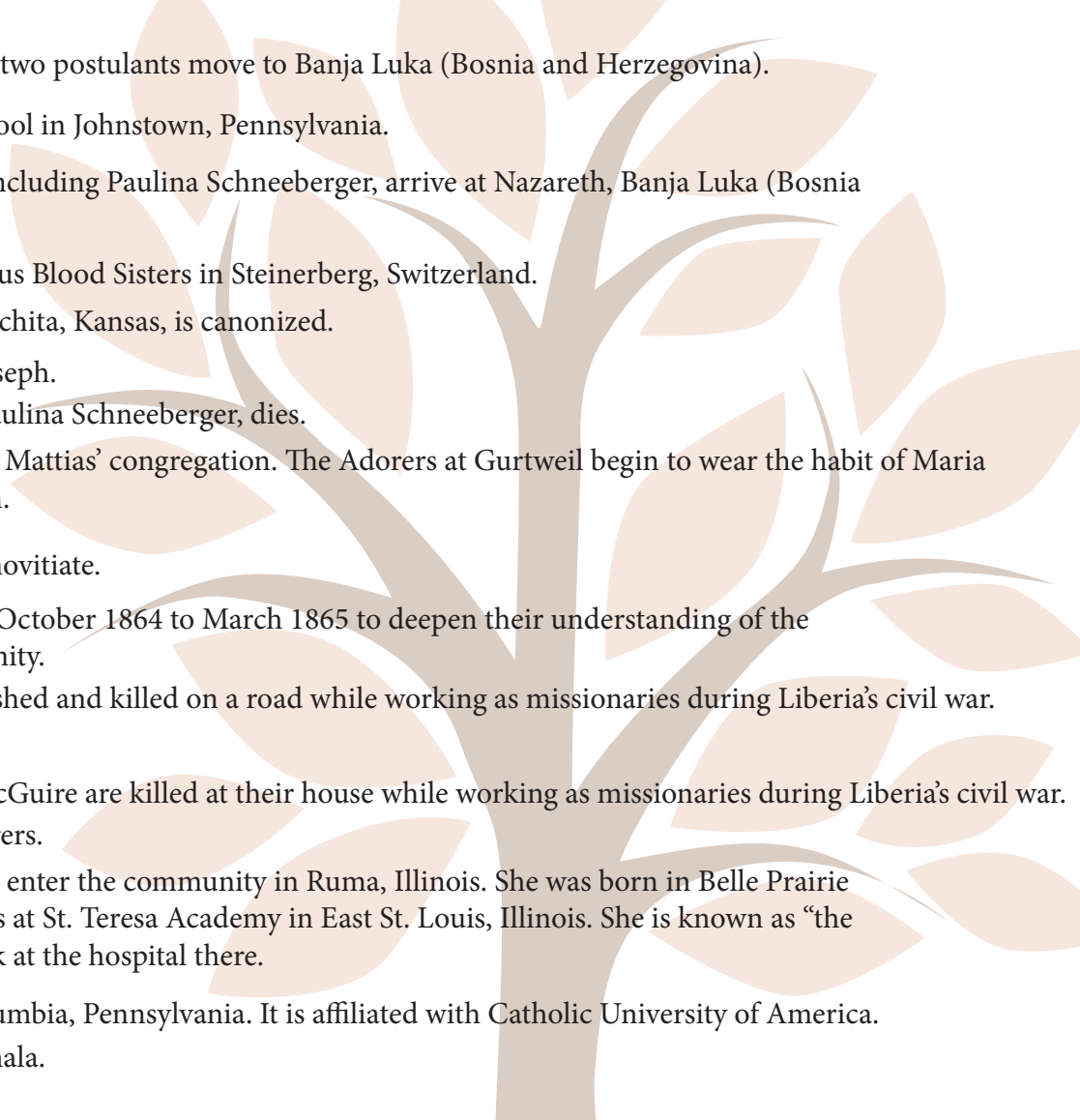


# Important Dates in October

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- 1 1950 Maria De Mattias is beatified.
  - 1 1879 Sister Hermina Gantert, four sisters, three novices and two postulants move to Banja Luka (Bosnia and Herzegovina).
  - 3 1908 Sisters from Alton, Illinois, open the first Croatian School in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.
  - 7 1879 Sister Hermina Gantert, other sisters and candidates, including Paulina Schneeberger, arrive at Nazareth, Banja Luka (Bosnia and Herzegovina).
  - 9 1845 Sister Teresa Weber is appointed superior of the Precious Blood Sisters in Steinerberg, Switzerland.
  - 13 2019 St. John Newman, patron of Newman University in Wichita, Kansas, is canonized.
  - 16 1912 Nazareth Home in Alton, Illinois, is dedicated to St. Joseph.
  - 16 1920 Sister Josepha Arnold, friend and confidant of Sister Paulina Schneeberger, dies.
  - 17 1860 The Gurtweil community is incorporated into Maria de Mattias' congregation. The Adorers at Gurtweil begin to wear the habit of Maria and become independent of the sisters in Ottmarsheim.
  - 17 1860 Sister Hermina Gantert dons the habit and begins her novitiate.
  - 1864-1865 Clementine Zerr and Pauline Fesser are in Rome from October 1864 to March 1865 to deepen their understanding of the spirit and the life lived in the Maria de Mattias community.
  - 20 1992 Sisters Barbara Ann Muttra and Joel Kolmer are ambushed and killed on a road while working as missionaries during Liberia's civil war.
  - 21 Feast of St. Gaspar
  - 23 1992 Sisters Shirley Kolmer, Agnes Mueller and Kathleen McGuire are killed at their house while working as missionaries during Liberia's civil war.
  - 25 1965 Manaus, Brazil, is established as a province of the Adorers.
  - 27 1877 Sister Angela Brummer is the first American Adorer to enter the community in Ruma, Illinois. She was born in Belle Prairie (Piopolis), Illinois. She became the first head of studies at St. Teresa Academy in East St. Louis, Illinois. She is known as "the St. Vincent De Paul of Taylorville, Illinois" for her work at the hospital there.
  - 30 1944 The Teacher Training Institute for Sisters opens in Columbia, Pennsylvania. It is affiliated with Catholic University of America.
  - 30 1968 Sisters from Ruma depart to open a mission in Guatemala.
  - 31 1984 A program for Associates begins in Liberia.

1847 October 21 The Bishop of Chur, Rev. Kaspar del Karl, was in favor of the German Sisters affiliating with the congregation of Maria De Mattias because the latter community was better established. He felt that the German community would become more stable through the connection, thereby protecting the Sisters from suppression by the Swiss government. Ultimately, the government suppressed the community at Steinerberg in spite of the affiliation. However, because of this situation, Maria De Mattias' congregation spread to North America, Yugoslavia, Switzerland, back to Germany, Poland, Australia, South America, Spain, Africa, China, India, Vietnam, Korea and Guatemala.

1860 October 17 Through the work of Rev. Joseph Loehr and Rev. Giacomo Ferrari, Missionaries of the Precious Blood from Dei Aehren, the final negotiations for the full amalgamation of the German Sisters into Maria De Mattias' congregation were completed, and the German sisters adopted the Rule and habit of the Italian congregation. These are the sisters who started in Steinerberg, Switzerland, moved to Ottmarsheim, France, and then to Gurtweil, Germany. A group of the German sisters remained at Ottmarsheim in Alsace as a contemplative community dedicated to perpetual adoration of the Precious Blood. This group later adopted the Rule of a Benedictine Community from Einsiedeln in Switzerland.

1867 October 23 Rev. Herman Kessler was spiritual director to the Gurtweil Community and guided it through difficult beginnings in Baden. He was a powerful force in adapting the community to the Rule of Maria De Mattias according to the amalgamation that had been entered into before the sisters came to his parish at Gurtweil. He personally trained the sisters in the apostolate of active service of the Church. Upon his recommendation, Sister Clementine Zerr was elected the head of novices at Gurtweil. He also recommended that Clementine and Sister Pauline Feser travel to Italy to learn the spirit and customs of the Italian Congregation and to become acquainted with its saintly foundress.

1950 October 1 Maria De Mattias is solemnly beatified at St. Peter's Basilica by decree of Pope Pius XII.

“Blessed Maria had shone forth, in an epoch of difficulty and hostility toward the Church, as a model of loyalty to the Holy See and a courageous practical example of that social action in behalf of the lowly which the Church always has at heart and which it was above all necessary in the nineteenth century to bring to a particular flowering of initiative and of action. Indeed, it is touching to review the stages of her life, marked by her encounter with the illustrious apostle of devotion to the Most Precious Blood, St. Gaspar del Bufalo, and always oriented to obedience to the (Church), seeing how she shines forth in a magnificent irradiation of good works for the true welfare of souls. The founding of her religious congregation, the institution of schools and or workshops, the collaboration that she gave to the priestly ministry, at first in humble beginnings, then, continually growing and spreading through Italy and the world, are efficacious proof of a life all spent for the interests of the kingdom of God, multiplied in its fruitfulness in good works by the spreading of the institute.” -- Letter from Cardinal Cicognani