



**ST. JOHN CALABRIA** was born in Verona, to a very poor family, on 8th October 1873. Since he was a little child, he had a strong ambition to become a priest, which was then inconceivable for someone from a low-income household. Thanks to the assistance provided by a priest who adopted him into his family following the loss of his father and took care of encouraging him to study in spite of numerous obstacles, he was able to realize this ambition. He was ordained as a priest on August 11, 1901.

He took in abandoned children, who were widespread in Verona at the time, commencing when he was a student. Later, as a young priest, believing in the Divine Providence that he had personally experienced and becoming its Apostle for the city of Verona, he was able to open the first small house with seven children on November 26, 1907. With the benevolent gaze of a father who always understands how to look to the future, even in the face of trials, he called it "Good Children's Home." As the number of boys grew, Providence provided him with the House of San Zeno in Monte, which would later become the Mother House, perched on a hill overlooking Verona.

St. John Calabria founded the Congregation of the Poor Servants of Divine Providence, composed of priests and brothers, and in parallel the Congregation of the Poor Servants of Divine Providence Sisters and Missionaries of the Poor [ Sisters], with the



aim of living and witnessing to the world faith and trust in God the Father and in Divine Providence by dedicating themselves to the poorest and the marginalised. However, his intention is not primarily social welfare: Father Calabria wants to shake the world out of its widespread materialism and show through his work that God exists, that God is providential and does not abandon humanity to its fate. In this spirit, the opera still tries to be present today in a world dominated by so much instability and materialism and to transmit faith in God, the Father of all people, trusting in His Divine Providence and promoting a family style of sharing and respect for everyone.



**GOD IS OUR FATHER** – The best Father we could ever have - which has two immediate consequences: first, We are His beloved children, not orphans, not abandoned but cared for; second, Providence, though we do not see the Father, we do experience his providential care, His actions in us and

in the world. For all this to work, we need faith, we need to believe and trust in God, who is the Father, and in His Providence.

**THE SPIRIT OF FAMILY** We are all members of God's family because he is our father, making us all brothers and sisters. Nobody is left out. All are welcomed. In this family, we are accepted and valued for who we are by God, who loves us just as we are..



**SERVICE, CHARITY, MISSION** God has faith in you! God gives us a purpose that is one of love and service because he respects and values us for who we are and because he believes that we are worthy of his trust. As you are, you have the ability to love, you have something to provide, and you can do your part to improve the world and

spread love.

**GOD'S KINGDOM** God's Kingdom grew extremely near to man with the advent of Jesus Christ, to the point where he actually took on human form. God is with us, he is among us, he walks with us, he does not leave us, we can turn to him whenever we want, and we can relate to him as children. This wonderful truth, which Jesus referred to as the kingdom of God, is a world where God's love rules, a better world, and a marvellous world where God is. It is revealed to us by the coming of Jesus Christ. And each of us is called by our faith, to participate in this beautiful undertaking, and our response to God's love will help to establish this kingdom.



[www.doncalabria.org](http://www.doncalabria.org)



### **SOCIO-EDUCATIVE ACTIVITIES**

These are activities to welcome, look after, and educate young people in difficulties —what Fr. Calabria termed “good children”. The founder always intended to provide them with spiritual sustenance and education in addition to material care so they might integrate into the society of

the day in a dignified manner. Numerous Calabrian homes continue to operate today that care for children, and to some extent, adults as well, from a variety of

perspectives: daycare facilities, family homes, foster homes, kindergartens, schools, career centers, community centers, and drug rehabilitation facilities.

## **HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

As illness tests the whole person, not just the physical body, caring for the sick requires providing them with the greatest care possible but also taking into account their spiritual fragility. In this attitude, the Opera devotes itself to providing medical care for the sick in hospitals, health facilities, and clinics around the globe.

Today, Calabrian family has four hospitals that collaborate with one another under the direction of a sector of administration known as the "Calabrian Health Services Sector."



## **ACTIVITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

Disability is one of the most fragile conditions in today's society. The Opera has long worked in this area, providing assistance to those with disabilities in a variety of ways, including educational and vocational training, health care, and job

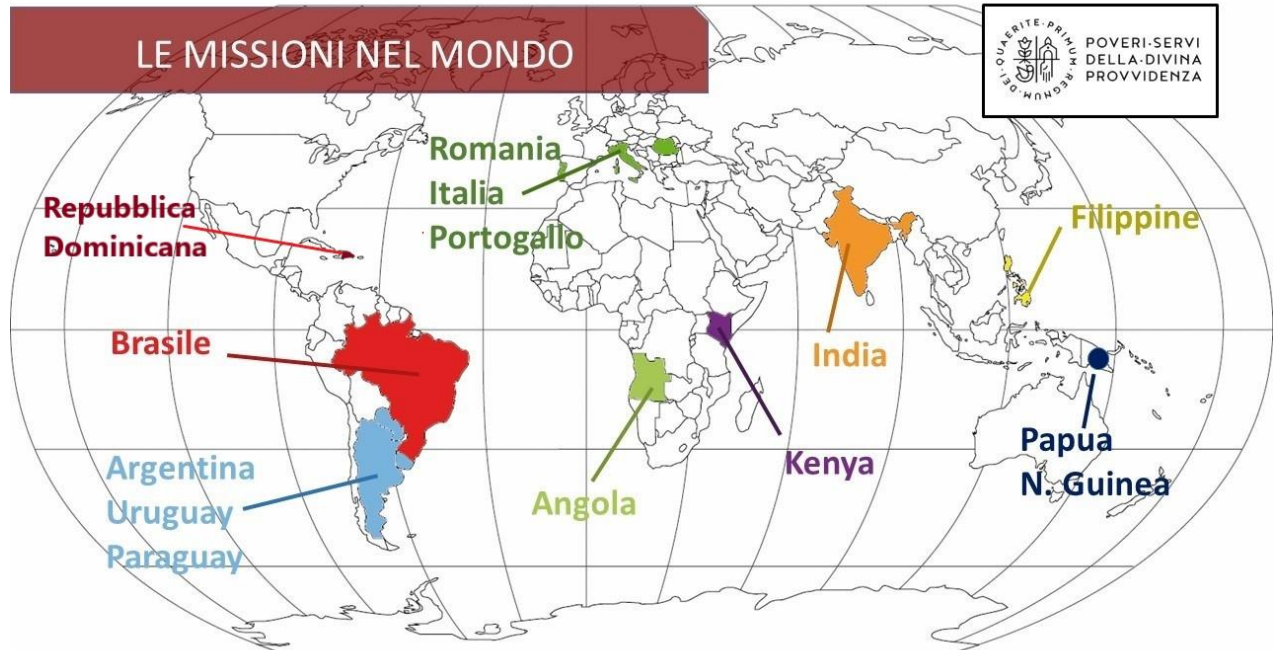
placement. One of the frontiers it is pursuing is "Dopo di noi," or taking care of the disabled when family members have passed away or are no longer able to do so. The majority of disabled-related activities take place in Italy (Verona, Ferrara, Rome), although in recent years, initiatives have also been started in Brazil, India, and Angola.

## **PASTORAL AND FORMATION ACTIVITIES**

The Opera is active in the pastoral and formation sectors through its numerous parishes worldwide and its work in preparing young people for religious life and the priesthood. The Opera has ten vocational guidance centers across the globe where more than 300 young people are receiving training, some of whom will become religious men and women for the Church.



***Opera Don Calabria is currently present  
with its activities and religious communities in  
13 Nations and in 5 continents.***



**IF YOU WANT TO KNOW US BETTER**

***Below you can find the contacts of the vocational referents of each territory***

**CONGREGAZIONE POVERI SERVI DELLA DIVINA PROVVIDENZA**

[www.doncalabria.org](http://www.doncalabria.org)

**DELEGAZIONE SAN GIOVANNI CALABRIA – Europa**

<http://www.delegazionedoncalabria.it/>

Italia	Casa Madre – S. Zeno in Monte <i>Indirizzo: Verona, Via S. Zeno in Monte, 23</i>	Don Valdecir Tressoldi <a href="mailto:valdecirtressoldi@gmail.com">valdecirtressoldi@gmail.com</a>
Romania	Institutul Don Calabria – Racaciuni <i>Indirizzo: Racaciuni (Bacau) Strada Stefan cel Mare 116</i>	Don Gustavo Lissa <a href="mailto:gustavolissa68@gmail.com">gustavolissa68@gmail.com</a>
Portogallo	Comunità pastorale presso parrocchia S. José - Algueirão (Lisbona) <i>Indirizzo: Rua da</i>	Don José Barbosa da Silva <a href="mailto:terra.paz123@gmail.com">terra.paz123@gmail.com</a>

Capela nr.24 A, 2725-249 – Mem  
Martins

**DELEGACION MARIA INMACULADA**  
(Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, Republica Dominicana)

<https://www.facebook.com/pobresservos.org/>

Argentina Paraguay Uruguay	Casa Sagrado Corazón de Jesús – González Catán <i>Calle Domingo V. Achea, 5851-1759 – Gonzalez Catan - Buenos Aires – Argentina</i>	H.no Bruno Ferreira <a href="mailto:ferreiraarndt@gmail.com">ferreiraarndt@gmail.com</a>
Republica Dominicana	Comunidad Madonna dell'Acqua Santa <i>Santuario Nuestra Señora de la Aguasanta, Boyá 92000</i>	P. Ricardo Riveros <a href="mailto:riquiriver@hotmail.com">riquiriver@hotmail.com</a>

**DELEGAÇÃO NOSSA SENHORA APARECIDA – Brasil**

<https://www.pobresservos.org.br/>

Brasil	Casa de Formação São José - Porto Alegre <i>Rua Aracaju, 493 - Vila Nova 91740- 320 - Porto Alegre</i>	Ir. Silvio da Silva <a href="mailto:dasilva@pobresservos.org.br">dasilva@pobresservos.org.br</a>
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**S. JOSEPH MISSION - Kenya**

Kenya	St. John the Evangelist Parish – Nakuru <i>P.O. Box 3650 – 20100 Nakuru - Kenya</i>	Fr. Felix Salvat <a href="mailto:felixpsdp@yahoo.com.ar">felixpsdp@yahoo.com.ar</a>
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**DELEGATION MARY MOTHER OF THE POOR – Philippines**

<https://www.calabrians.org/>

Philippines Papua New Guinea	Nazareth Formation House – Calbayog City <i>6710 Dagum Hills – Calbayog City – W. Samar - Philippines</i>	Fr. Jeffrey Singzon <a href="mailto:jeffreysingzon@gmail.com">jeffreysingzon@gmail.com</a>
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**ISH KRIPA DELEGATION – India**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100072248446571>

India	Ish-Kripa Sadan – Nagpur <i>Seminary Hills P.O. – Nagpur 440006 – MS – India</i>	Fr. Danny Sunny <a href="mailto:dannypsdp@gmail.com">dannypsdp@gmail.com</a>
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## DELEGAÇÃO MAMA MUXIMA – Angola

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100072229245649>

Angola	Casa de Formação Divina Providencia – Luanda <i>Av. Pedro de Castro Van-Dunem, S/N Controlo do Golf, Kilamba Kiaxi - Luanda</i>	Pe. Alberto Henrique Sissimo <a href="mailto:padresissimo@gmail.com">padresissimo@gmail.com</a>
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## CONGREGAZIONE POVERE SERVE DELLA DIVINA PROVVIDENZA

<https://www.facebook.com/povereservedelladivinaprovidenza/>

### EUROPA

<https://www.facebook.com/povereservedelladivinaprovidenza>

Italia	Casa Madre S. Toscana – Verona <i>Alto Nazaro, 1 – 37129 Verona</i>	Sor Ionà Santos da Silva <a href="mailto:irionamaria@hotmail.com">irionamaria@hotmail.com</a>
Romania	Comunitatea Buna Vestire – Racaciuni <i>Strada Stefan cel Mare, 62 Racaciuni (Bacau)</i>	Sor Ecaterina Istoc <a href="mailto:ecaterina.istoc@yahoo.it">ecaterina.istoc@yahoo.it</a>

### AMERICA LATINA

<https://www.pobresservas.org.br/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pobresservas.calabria>

Argentina	Comunidad Madre de la Divina Providencia – Laferrere <i>Calle Concejal P. Gomez (ex Elizalde), 3791 1757 – Laferrere (Bs. Aires)</i>	Sor Angelica Esquivel Ibarra <a href="mailto:esquivelangelica296@gmail.com">esquivelangelica296@gmail.com</a>
Paraguay	Hogar Santa Maria – Ciudad del Este <i>Barrio S. Alfredo (Parroquia S. Lucas Area 1) – Ciudad del Este</i>	Sor Norma Miranda Vazquez <a href="mailto:normaemv@hotmail.com">normaemv@hotmail.com</a>
Uruguay	Obra Don Calabria – Salto <i>Calle Dr. Elias Pascale, 385 – Barrio Mio Tio – Salto</i>	Sor Merice Bertolini <a href="mailto:sor.merice.bertolini@gmail.com">sor.merice.bertolini@gmail.com</a>
Brasil	Comunidade Mater Dei – Farroupilha	Sor Justina Danieli <a href="mailto:jusdanbina@hotmail.com">jusdanbina@hotmail.com</a>

Rodovia dos Romeiros, 1208 –  
Farroupilha – RS

### PHILIPPINES

<https://www.facebook.com/psdpsisters.carmen>

Philippines	Carmen Community – Cagayan de Oro <i>A. Fernandez St., 23 – Carmen – Cagayan de oro</i>	Sor Rosella Chiavegato <a href="mailto:chiarosella@hotmail.com">chiarosella@hotmail.com</a>
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### KENYA

Kenya	Nyumba Riziki ya Mungu – Nakuru – Kenya <i>P.O. Box 3650 – 20100 Nakuru – Kenya</i>	Sor Fatima Naloti Wambo <a href="mailto:wambofatima@gmail.com">wambofatima@gmail.com</a>
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### INDIA

India	Shanti Niketan Community – Nagpur <i>Ring Road Jaripatha Plot., 187 – Nagpur – MS</i>	Sor Prabha Xess <a href="mailto:prabha_sara@yahoo.com">prabha_sara@yahoo.com</a>
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### ANGOLA

Angola	Oásis da Providencia – Luanda <i>Controle do Golf – C.P. 10214 – Luanda</i>	Sor Vanessa Perin <a href="mailto:perinvanessa85@gmail.br">perinvanessa85@gmail.br</a>
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### **SORELLE MISSIONARIE DEI POVERI**

Uruguay	Hermanas Misioneras de los Pobres – Salto <i>Av. Rodo, 705 – 50.000 Salto</i>	Sor Jandira Balestrin <a href="mailto:psiervas@hotmail.com">psiervas@hotmail.com</a>
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