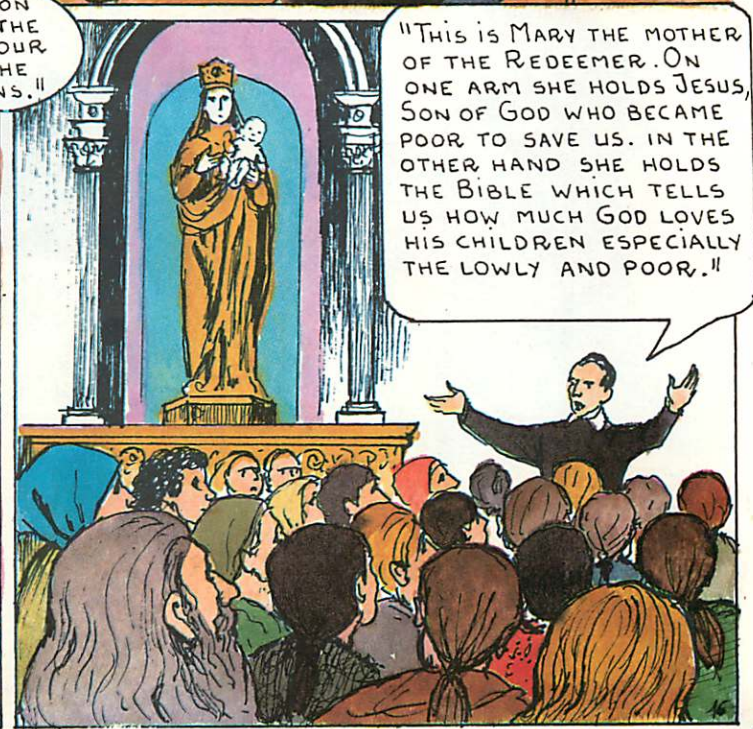


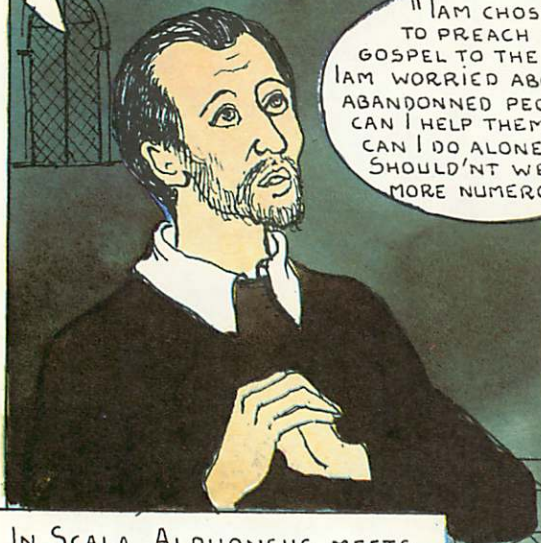


MANY DESTITUTE PEOPLE LIVE HERE IN THE MOUNTAINS : THEY ARE SHEPHERDS, FARMERS, SMALL-HOLDERS , THEY HAVE VERY LITTLE THEY CAN NEITHER READ OR WRITE. THEY HAVE NO PRIESTS HERE AND ARE SPIRITUALLY NEGLECTED.



ALPHONSUS FOUNDS THE REDEMPTORIST CONGREGATION

"MARY QUEEN OF APOSTLES, I FEEL SORRY FOR THESE POOR PEOPLE HERE. THEY NEITHER KNOW YOU NOR YOUR SON, THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD. THERE ARE SO MANY PRIESTS IN NAPLES AND NOBODY CARES ABOUT THE POOR IN THE COUNTRYSIDE AND THE MOUNTAINS."

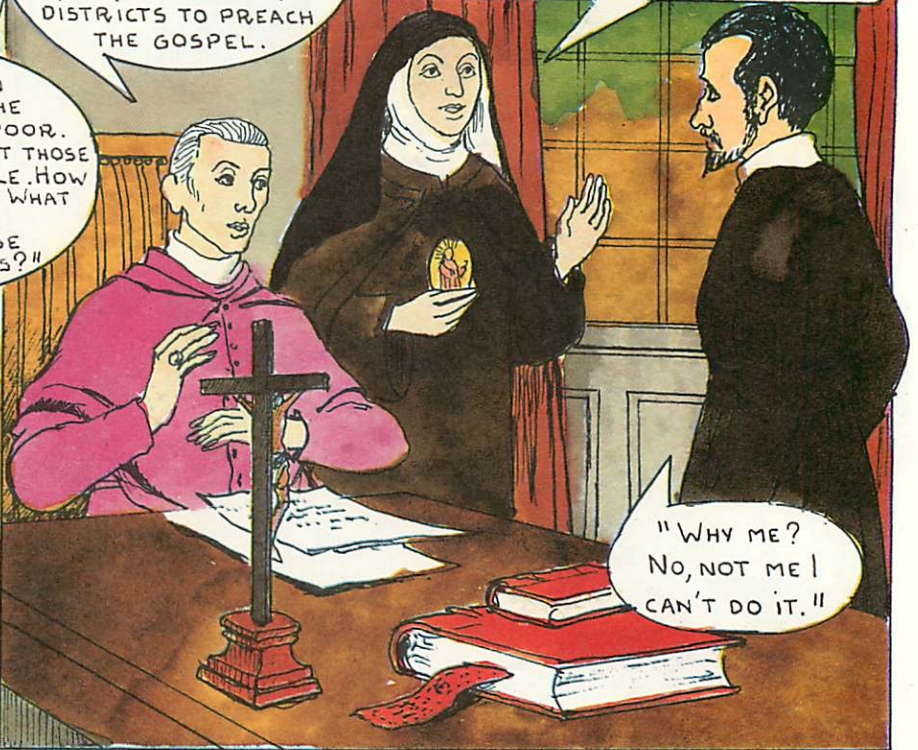


IN SCALA ALPHONSUS MEETS HIS FRIEND BISHOP FALCOIA AND A HOLY NUN SISTER CELESTE.

"I AM CHOSEN TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. I AM WORRIED ABOUT THOSE ABANDONNED PEOPLE. HOW CAN I HELP THEM? WHAT CAN I DO ALONE? SHOULD'NT WE BE MORE NUMEROUS?"

ALPHONSUS LEAVES NAPLES AND GOES TO THE NEGLECTED PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY DISTRICTS TO PREACH THE GOSPEL.

"I SAW YOU IN A VISION - GATHER A GROUP OF MEN LIKE YOURSELF AROUND YOU TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR - THIS IS WHAT GOD WANTS."

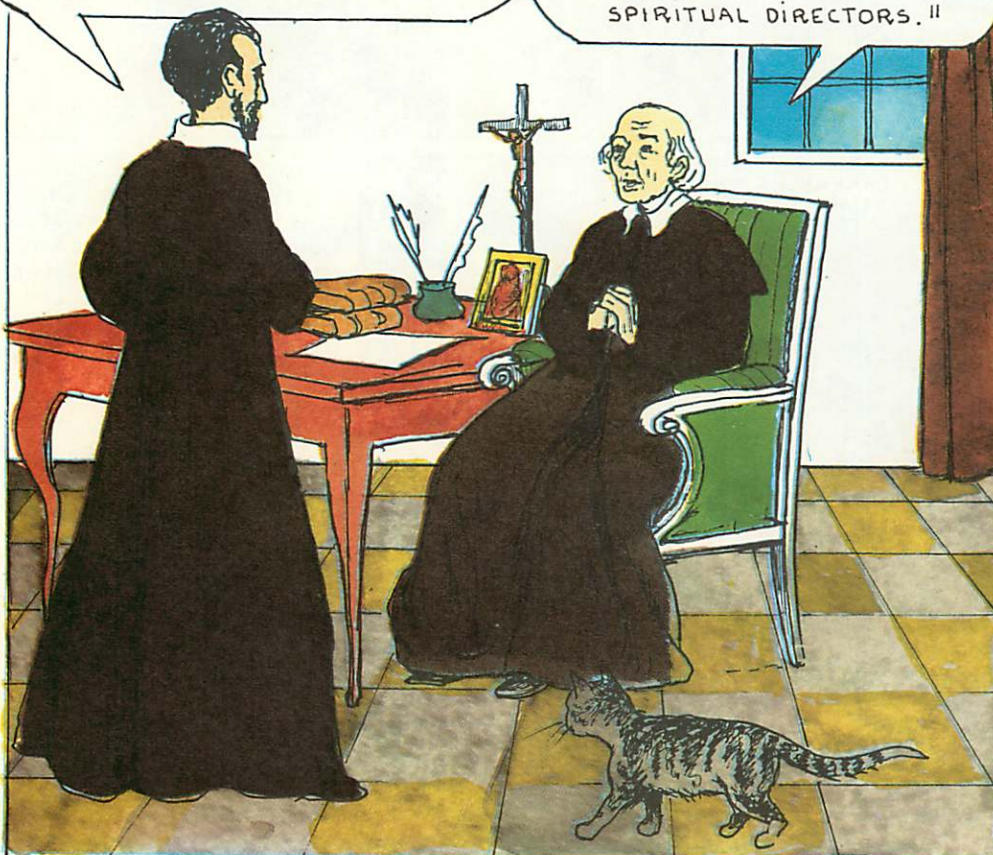


"WHY ME? NO, NOT ME! CAN'T DO IT."

A MONTH LATER ALPHONSUS AND HIS FRIENDS ARE BACK IN NAPLES. ALPHONSUS GOES IMMEDIATELY TO HIS CONFESSOR AND TELLS HIM ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED.

"DO I REALLY HAVE TO LEAVE THE CITY? FR. PAGANO IS IT REALLY GOD'S WILL?"

"WE MUST NOT RUSH THINGS. WE MUST PRAY AND YOU MUST BE GUIDED BY EXPERIENCED SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS."



ALPHONSUS ASKS A JESUIT, A VINCENTIAN AND A DOMINICAN FOR THEIR ADVICE. THEY ARE ALL OF THEM RENOWNED FOR WISDOM AND HOLINESS.

VINCENTIAN: CUTTICA



DOMINICAN: FIORELLO



JESUIT: MANULIO



ALL OF THEM ADVISE HIM TO FOLLOW GOD'S WILL. NOW THERE IS NO TURNING BACK FOR ALPHONSUS. BUT IN NAPLES EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT HIM.



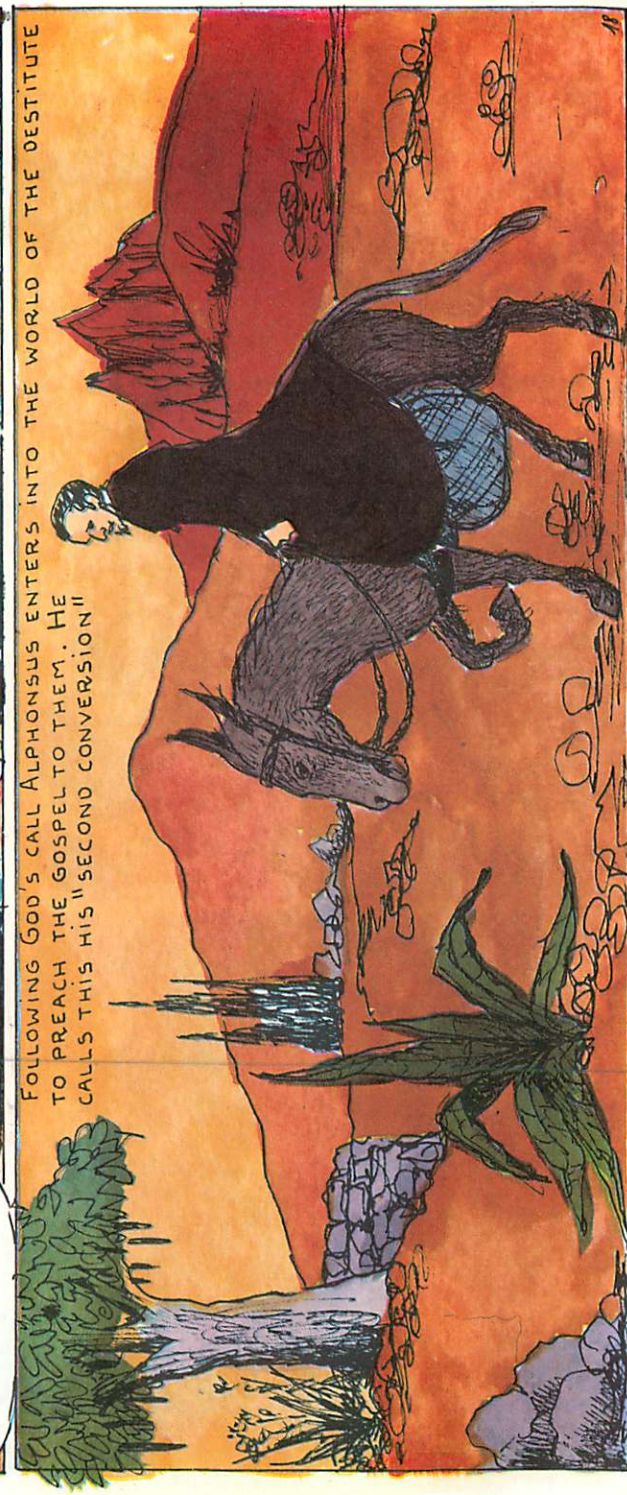
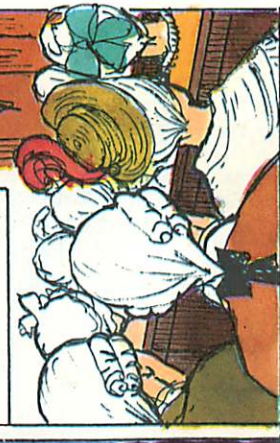
EVEN HIS UNCLE A WELL KNOWN PRIEST SPEAKS ANGRILY TO HIM.



AND THEN ALPHONSUS' FATHER COMES TO SEE HIM AND FOR THREE HOURS PLEADS WITH HIS SON NOT TO GO OFF INTO THE MOUNTAIN REGIONS.

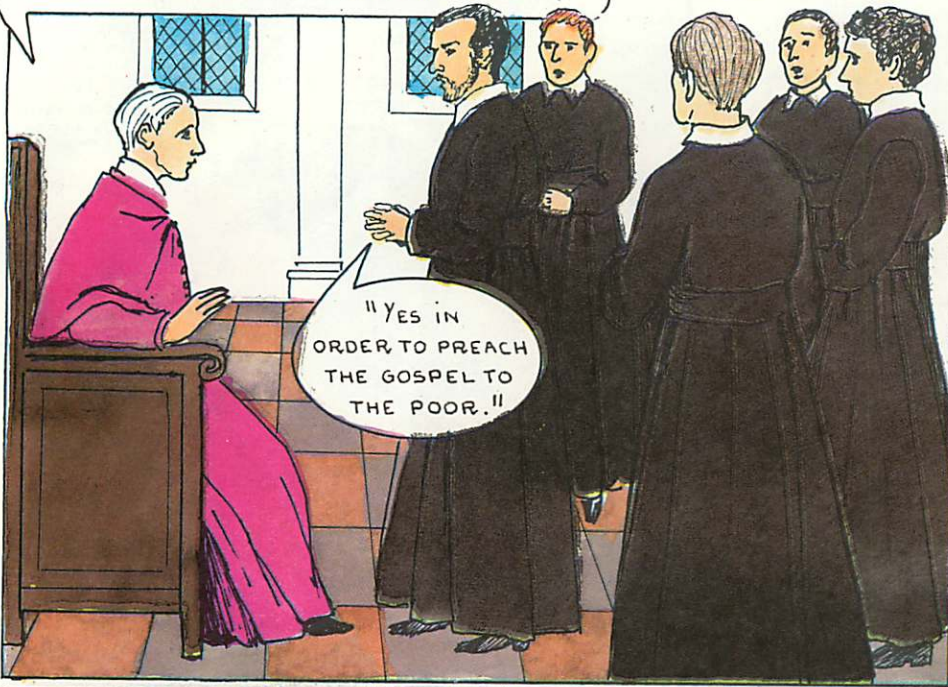


ON 2ND NOVEMBER 1732 ALPHONSUS PREACHES IN NAPLES. VERY SOON AFTERWARDS HE LEAVES THE CITY WITHOUT SAYING GOODBYE TO ANYONE. HE LEAVES IT ON A DONKEY, THE POOR MAN'S MOUNT.



SCALA, 9TH. NOVEMBER 1732 - THE FOUNDING OF THE REDEMPTORIST CONGREGATION. IT HAS A POOR START.

"SO YOU WANT TO FORM A COMMUNITY?"



"YES IN ORDER TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR."

A NEW POSTULANT SOON ARRIVES - HIS NAME IS BROTHER VITUS.

"UNTIL NOW I RELIED ON THE GUN AND THE DAGGER."



SO THERE IS A SAINT IN OUR COMMUNITY FROM NOW ON.

THEY CALL THEMSELVES REDEMPTORISTS WHICH MEANS MISSIONARY CO-REDEEMERS. TWO MONTHS LATER THE SMALL GROUP OF REDEMPTORISTS LEAVES FOR A MISSION IN THE COUNTRY.

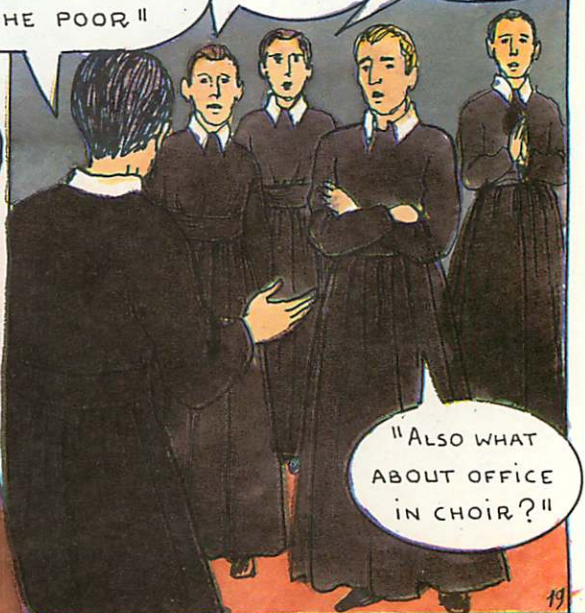


THE MISSIONARIES ARE BACK IN THEIR HOUSE IN SCALA AND TENSIONS ARISE.

"WE HAVE ONE AIM - TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR"

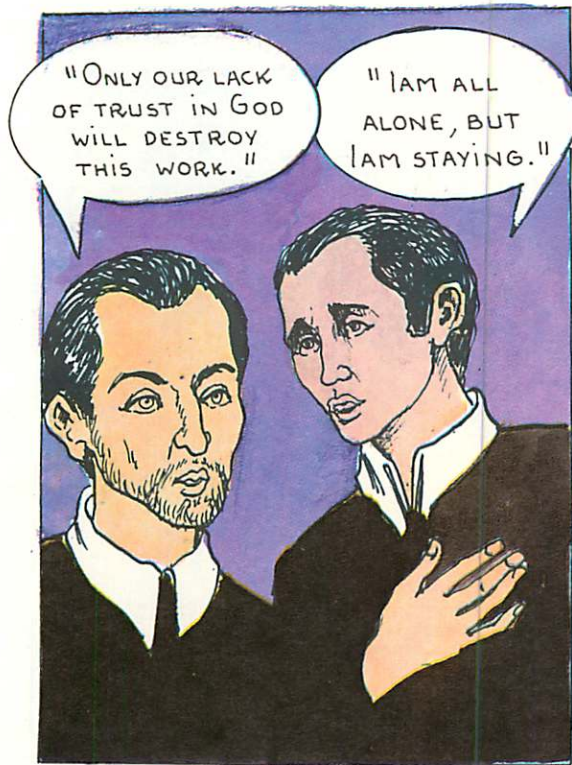
"YES, BUT WHAT ABOUT THE HABIT?"

"AND WHAT ABOUT SCHOOLS?"



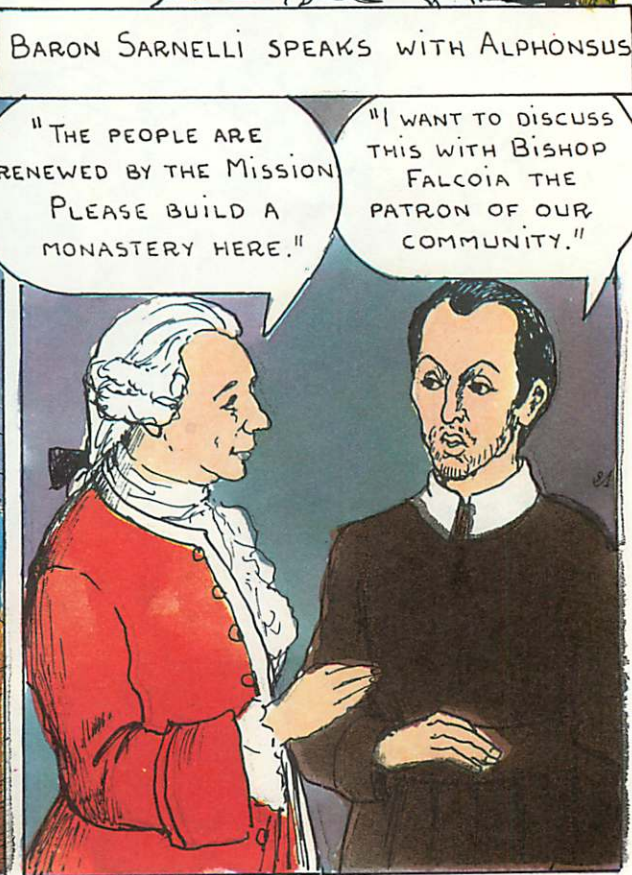
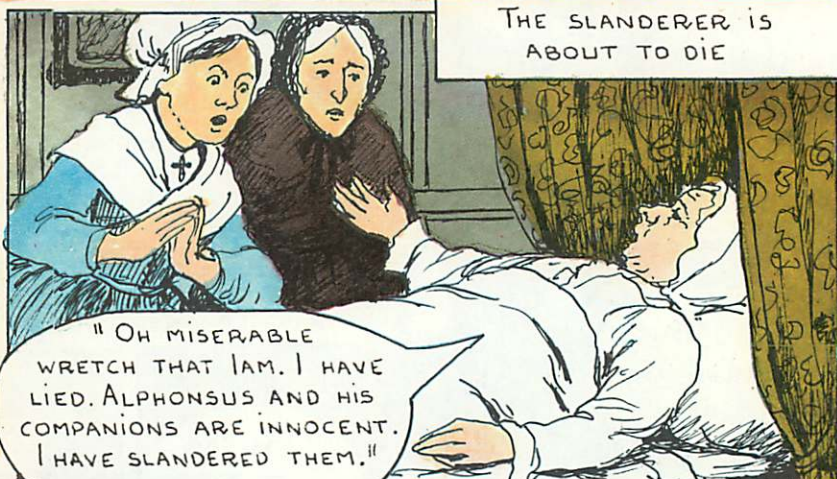
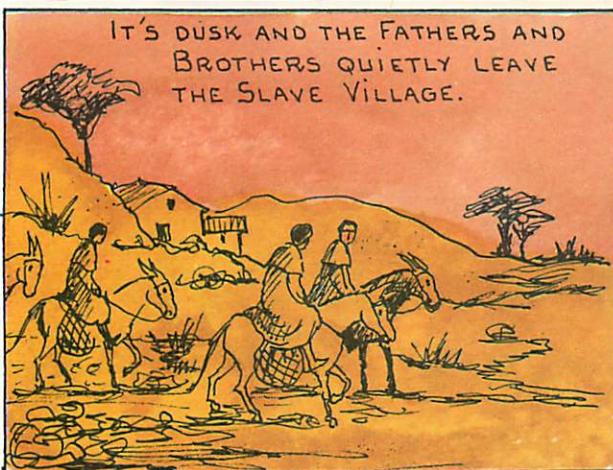
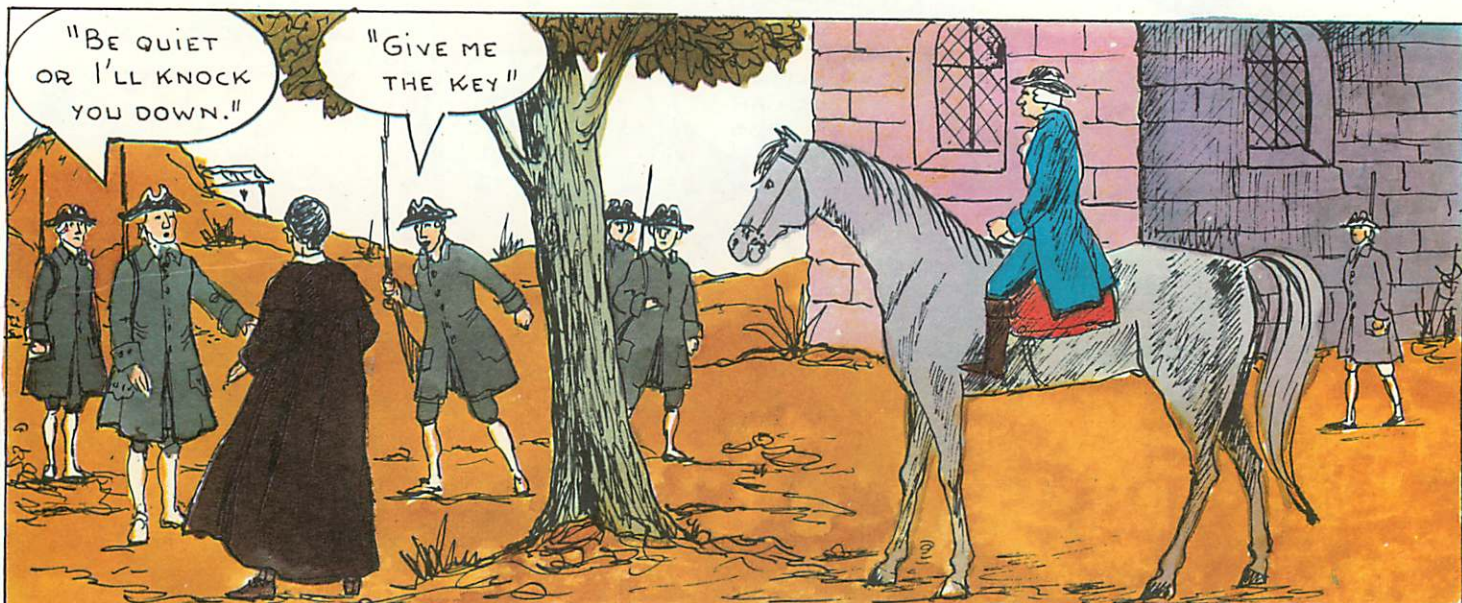
"ALSO WHAT ABOUT OFFICE IN CHOIR?"

LITTLE BY LITTLE ALPHONSUS LOSES ALL HIS COMPANIONS BROTHER VITUS ALONE REMAINS FAITHFUL TO HIM.



BUT SOON OTHERS JOIN THE REDEMPTORISTS INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT OF ALPHONSUS. THEY FOUND A MONASTERY IN THE SO-CALLED "SLAVE VILLAGE" - THE VILLAGERS HELP WITH THE BUILDING. MANY PEOPLE COME TO THE MONASTERY UNTIL AN INFLUENTIAL NOBLEMAN OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WHO IS LEADING A WICKED LIFE SAYS...







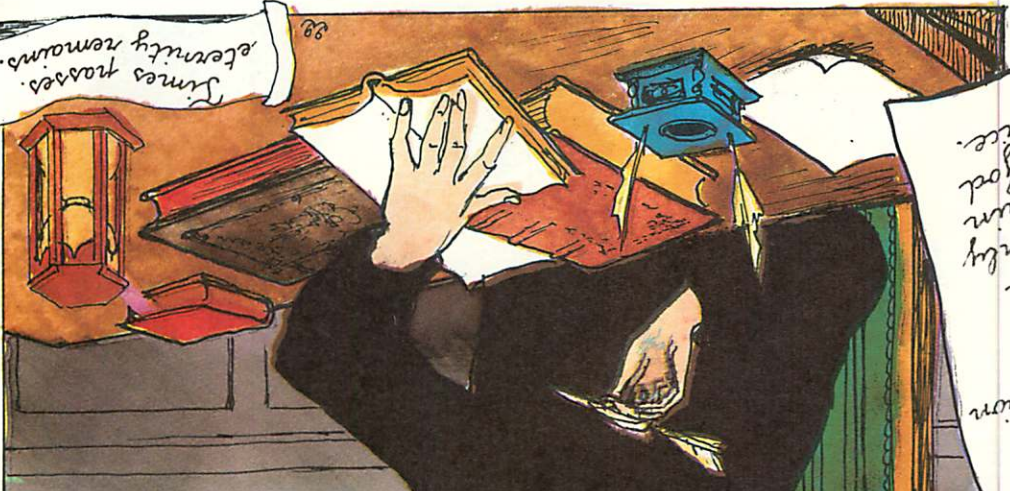
THE LARGE MONASTERY AT CIORANI IS BUILT. NOBLES AND ORDINARY FOLK HELP IN THE WORK.



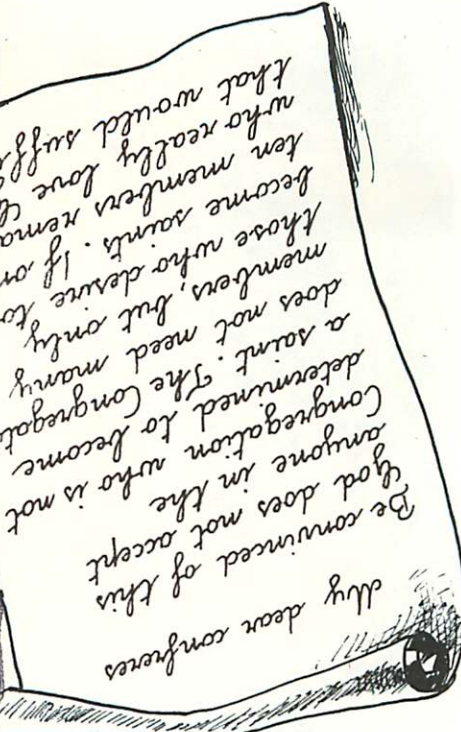
ALPHONSUS BECOMES THE REDEMPTORISTS SUPERIOR GENERAL.



ALPHONSUS LOVE OF SOULS WILL NOT LET HIM REST. HE THE SUPERIOR SHOWS THE WAY TO HIS BRETHREN. HE MAKES A VOW NOT TO WASTE A MOMENT OF TIME.



Times passes. eternity remains.



My dear confessor Be convinced of this God does not accept anyone in the congregation who is not determined to become a saint. The congregation does not need many members, but only to those who desire to become saints. If only ten members remain who really love God that would suffice.

TEN HOURS WORK



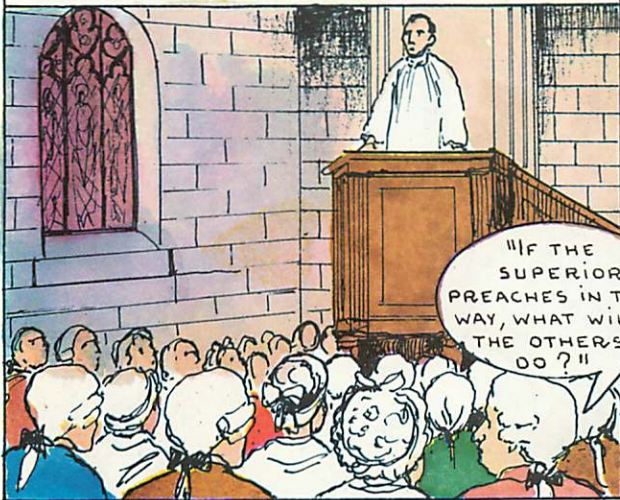
EIGHT HOURS PRAYER



SIX HOURS FOR SLEEPING, EATING AND RELAXING

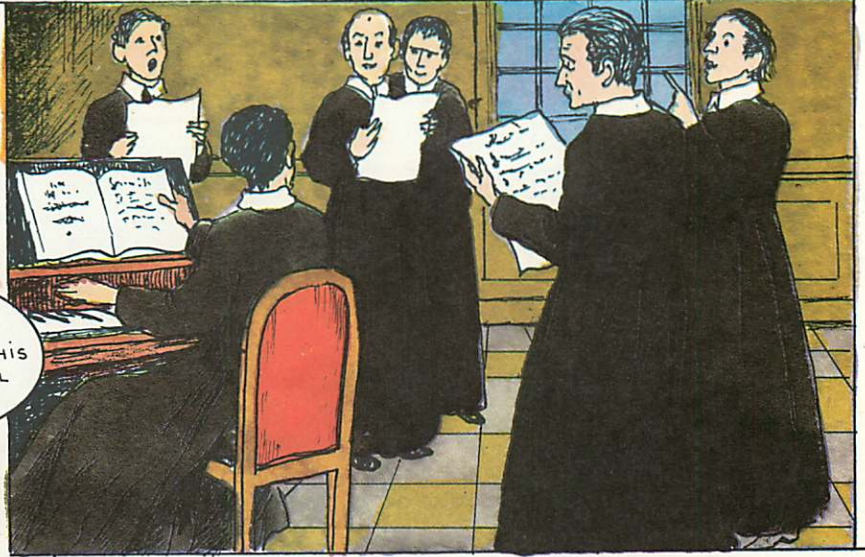


ALL OVER NAPLES ALPHONSUS AND HIS COMPANIONS PREACH.



"IF THE SUPERIOR PREACHES IN THIS WAY, WHAT WILL THE OTHERS DO?"

HE USES MUSIC IN THIS WORK AND COMPOSES SEVERAL HYMNS. HE IS THE 'SINGING MISSIONER'



ALPHONSUS PAINTS PICTURES AND USES VISUAL AIDS IN HIS PREACHING.

WHAT DOES OUR LORD SAY TO YOU FROM THE CROSS?
"SEARCH WHEREVER YOU WILL FOR ANYONE WHO HAS LOVED YOU MORE THAN I."



HE WRITES BOOKS, MANY BOOKS AT LEAST THREE A YEAR AND THEY ARE BEST-SELLERS

MORAL THEOLOGY: VISITS TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:
THE ETERNAL TRUTHS: THE GLORIES OF MARY:
PREPARATION FOR DEATH:

