

St. Maria De Mattias

St. Maria, a great teacher, founded the Adorers of the blood of Christ modeled on the inspiration of her contemporary, St. Gaspar Del Bufalo, who founded the Society of the Precious Blood. She opened schools in many towns which had none and was a gifted speaker and apostle for the glory of God. She is shown here supported by a chair as was her teaching style and also with a book as she was often portrayed. Early in her life she prayed often to Mary before the painting, shown at left, that hung in her room. Mary communicated to Saint Maria saying, “Do not be afraid. I will help you.” The wine grapes shared with St. Gaspar embodies the blood of Christ, and the wheat is her connection to Kansas and the fruition of seeds planted through teaching.

The Sisters Adorers of the Blood of Christ ministered in parish schools first from their province in Ruma, Illinois, and then from Wichita. They operate Newman University in Wichita and have outreach sites throughout the Diocese of Dodge City. Newman University and the diocese together operate “Church in Partnership,” an interactive television network that is used in the Pastoral Ministry Training Program.

