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Dear brothers and sisters,

Peace be with you.

Surely you are asking yourselves at what point is the project of the Cathedral in Bahrain. I am happy to inform you that I received from the Ministry of finance the "No Objection" letter for the building of our Cathedral dedicated to Our Lady of Arabia. Now the municipality will examine our technical drawings, which will take between 6 and 8 weeks. I hope to have the ground breaking towards the end of January or first half of February. This long delay, independent from us, is an end. I shall send you regularly photos of the construction, so you may see how the project is going.

I want first of all to thank all of you for your generosity. We collected so far 10 million US Dollars. Almost all this money is coming from you. The Virgin Mary will provide special protection for those who contribute for the building of her house.

The first phase of our project is to excavate for the parking, to build all the foundations and to build the church. We need five and half million more, for this first phase.

I rely on the Virgin Mary, to whom the Cathedral will be dedicated. She is the Mother of the Church and she will help us. But, I rely also on your bounty once again, because the worldwide financial crisis is very much affecting the contributions from outside. Practically, we have to build our Cathedral by ourselves.

Courage! God will be extremely generous with those who contribute for the building of the house of his mother!

Finally, I want to thank in a special way those who are against this project and spread wrong information about it and about the Bishop. I thank them because their attitude confirms that our project is from God. When God wants to do something he always sends along many sufferings because he wants to tell us that that project is from him and not from me, so the glory has to go only to him and not to me. Thank you, brothers and sisters, for revealing to me, through your negative judgments or even calumnies, that what we are doing is from God. God bless you all.

Dear brothers and sisters, thanks for your love for our Cathedral. God will reward you in a manner that you cannot imagine because his love is without end.

I pray every day for you and your family and wish you to be happy with your life.

Your Bishop,
+ Camillo Ballin

+ *Camillo Ballin*

