A PROVISIONAL CALENDAR OF
ST. JOHN CAPISTRAN'S
CORRESPONDENCE

Part III

The Crusade Against the Turks
May 18, 1455-December 10, 1456

After a long siege, the army of Sultan Mahomet II occupied Constantinople on May 29, 1453. Knowledge of the event caused great consternation not only in Rome but also throughout the whole of Christendom. On September 30, 1453, Pope Nicholas V published a bull exhorting all Christian rulers to take up arms against the enemies of Christ. In most European countries, however, his plea fell on deaf ears. On the night of March 24-25, 1455, Nicholas died. The cardinals elected his successor, the Spaniard Alonso de Borja, on April 8. Calling himself Callistus III, the new pope was well aware of the danger the advancing Turks posed for Christendom and did everything in his power to stop it. On May 15 he published a solemn bull renewing and strengthening his predecessor's appeal; he granted indulgences to all those willing to participate in a crusade against the Turks. In a breve dated July 20, 1455 (letter 558), the pontiff charged John Capistran with the proclamation of the crusade; Capistran did so with his usual zeal. In fact, as soon as he had heard of the fall of Constantinople, he began to preach the crusade against the Turks without specific authorization, giving his support to similar efforts of Enea Sylvio Piccolomini.

Hungary stood in most immediate danger of Turkish invasion. Ladislaus V, king of Hungary; John Hunyadi, the former regent and captain general of Hungary; Denis Szécsi, cardinal archbishop of Esztergom; and other Hungarian magnates insistently implored

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Capistran to come to Hungary to preach the crusade. Capistran was only too willing to do so.

On May 18, 1455, we find him in Lendva, in Hungary. From then on, in collaboration with the papal legate, Cardinal Juan Carvajal and John Hunyadi, he dedicated all his energies to the preparation of the war against the Turks. He travelled throughout Hungary meeting all the important ecclesiastical and secular personalities and exhorting them to unite all their resources and strength to stop the advancing infidel army. Capistran and his three Franciscan companions crisscrossed the country. Their passionate preaching succeeded in recruiting an army, comprised mostly of poor peasants, untrained and poorly armed, willing and perhaps eager to die for the faith.

The heroic efforts of the three Johns (Carvajal, Hunyadi and Capistran) were crowned with a spectacular victory over the Turkish army at Belgrade on July 22, 1456. The triumph kept the Turks away from Hungary and the rest of Europe for the next seventy years. On the evening of July 22, Capistran wrote to the pope announcing the victory (letter 658). The pope received it on August 6 and ordered all the bells of Rome to ring.

Most of Capistran’s letters in this period are related to Hungary and Hungarians. These, along with some earlier ones, were edited nearly a century ago by B. Pettkó.

Capistran wrote his last letter (665) on October 21, 1456, ordering his companions to bring his books, letters and other writings to the Franciscan friary in Capestrano. He died on the evening of October 23 in the friary at Uljak (Ilok/Villac).

536. 1455-V-18, Lendva (Hungary).
IdC ad Callistum III.
Inc.: Beatissime pater. . . . Ad thronum gratiae cum fiducia recurrendum. . . .
Des.: socii calamo per me dictanda commisi.
Reg.: Capistran greets the newly elected Pope and reminds him that he has been serving the Church in various capacities since the first year of the reign of Martin V (1417 XI-11) and has obtained about sixty bulls or briefs from his predecessors. He assures the pope that he is willing to continue serving him and the Church as long as he lives, asking only that the pontiff renew and confirm the apostolic letters he had received from Nicholas V. He is forwarding these letters to the pope by his faithful German interpreter, Fr. Friderc of Thor from Prussia.

537. 1455-V-19, Felső Lendva.
IdC ad Dominicum Capranica, Cardinalem Firmanum, Protectorem Ordinis.
Inc.: Reverendissime in Christo. . . . Scripsi superiori tempore. . . .
Des.: quia omnes morimur etc. Valeat. . . . servulum in senio constitutum non despiciat.
Reg.: Capistran asks the cardinal to continue to serve as his protector under the new pontiff as he had been under the preceding popes and to persuade the pope to confirm all the faculties Capistran received from the previous pontiffs. Fr. Frideric, Capistran’s German interpreter, the bearer of the present letter, will explain everything in more detail.

538. 1455-V-20, Buda.
Dionysius Szécsy, Cardinalis Strigoniensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Audientes paternitatem vestram huic regno Hungarie appropinquantur. . . .
Des.: quam ad vota feliciter valere desideramus.
Reg.: The Cardinal, hearing that Capistran is on his way to Hungary, urges him to come to Esztergom without delay. The Cardinal is eager to have a conversation with him. Fr. Peter (Capistran’s companion) is the bearer of the present letter.

539. 1455-V-21, Buda.
Magnates regni Hungariae ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis pater. Postquam audivimus de exitu paternitatis tue. . . .
Reg.: Cardinal Szécsy of Esztergom, Bishop Andrew of Pécs, Governor Hunyadi and others renew their invitation to Capistran; all of them are eager to hear his sermons, teaching and pleasant conversation.

540. 1455-V-22, Buda.
Ladislaus de Gara, Palatinus regni Hungariae, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende religioseque pater. . . . Certa negotia Hieronymo Kalasz. . . .
Des.: Cui in dicendis fidem creditivam velitis adhibere.
Reg.: Palatine Gara sends his castellan, Jermoe Kalasz to Capistran with a message, asking him to give credence to his words.

541. 1455-V-25, Bologna.
Iacobus de Esculo ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende pater. . . . Multa, pater optime, manum retracthun ne scribam. . . .
Des.: in honorem Dei ad finem usque perducas. Vale.
Reg.: James of Ascoli would like to obtain permission from his superiors to preach in any place with the permission of the local vicar provincial. He asks Capistran’s intercession.

542. 1455-V-25, Strelce (Sihreli tz).
Bernardus, Dux Opolensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilissime in Chrstio pater. . . . Nobilis Conradus Clavarus. . . .
Des.: a Domino Iesu Chrsito in futuro seculo recipere.
Reg.: The duke of Opole was pleased to hear that Capistran liked the friary he (the duke) built for the friars. He promises to provide whatever the friars may need in the future.

543. 1455-V-27, Bologna.
Nicolaus de Fara ad IdC.
Inc.: Gaudium tibi sit. . . . Nihil me tibi scripsisses postquam Italianam. . . .
Des.: cum vix has potuerim velocissima [manu], ut vides, exarare.
Reg.: Nicholas of Fara informs Capistran that the chapter of Bologna elected Fr. Baptist of Levanto vicar general of the Cismontane Observants. Capistran would have been elected had it not been for the letter he wrote to the chapter. The new pope, Callistus III (elected April 8, 1455), favors the Observants. He asked the chapter to assign him six of the better preachers whom he would charge with preaching the crusade against the Turks. Further, Nicholas reports on many things going on in the Italian provinces.

544. 1455-V-30, Bologna.
Ioannes de Prato ad IdC.
Inc.: Prestantissimo ac dignissimo. . . . Non puto necessarium. . . .
Des.: utinam possem. . . . est etatis mee. Dominus . . . multis gentibus utilem servet. . . .
Reg.: John relates to Capistran the proceedings at the general chapter of Bologna and the election of Baptist of Levanto as vicar general of the Cismontane Observants.

545. 1455-V-30, Esztergom.
Dionysius Szécsi, Cardinalis Strigoniensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende pater. . . . Quemadmodum hodie mane scribendo. . . .
Des.: quo istunc, Deo duce, constituamur. In Iesu valeat paternitas vestra.
Reg.: The cardinal urges Capistran to go, without delay, to Györ, and wait for him there. There is going to be an important meeting of Hungarian prelates and magnates.

546. 1455-VI-1, Bologna.
Baptista de Levanto, Vic. Gen. Observantium, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende in Christo pater. . . . Multiplex in expeditione capituli occupatio impedimento est. . . .
Des.: Fr. Ludovicus de Vicenzia. . . . E. patri. . . . (?)
Reg.: The newly elected vicar general relates to Capistran the events of the chapter in Bologna. The bearer of the present letter will provide more detailed information.
Ms.: Cap., c. 392; L’Aquila, Arch. di St., cod. 73, f. 449. Bn 450, copy of Hofer.

547. 1455-VI-4.
IdC ad cives Terrae di Campi, in provincia Leccensi.
Inc.: Magnifici, spectabiles. . . . Non poderia con penna exprimere quanta contentezza et quanto dilecto. . . .
Des.: et poa la morte, eterna gloria. Amen.
Reg.: Capistran praises the citizens of Campoli for having built a beautiful place in honor of St. Bernardine of Siena, exhorts them to live in peace and practice charity.

548. 1455-VI-5, Venezia.
Nicolaus de Fara ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendissime in Chrísito pater. . . . Etsi alias meas perlongas ad te. . . .
Des.: Si aliquando singulari aliquando plurali usus sum, scribendi celeritas causa extitit.
Reg.: Nicholas of Fara again recounts, in more detail, what happened at the general chapter of the Observants in Bologna. He also relates several things about the new pope, Callistus III, about Italian politics and Franciscans in general.

549. 1455-VI-6, Eger (in Hungaria).
Ladislaus de Hedervara, Episc. Agriensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et devotissime pater. . . . De multorum narratione sanctitatis vestre. . . .
Des.: ad quam non dedignetur paternitas vestra declinare.
Reg.: The bishop, hearing that Capistran has already entered Hungary, urges him to come to preach in his church in Eger.

550. 1455-VI-13, Óvár.
Ulricus, Comes Ciliae etc., ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et religiose amice diletce. Commisimus huic venerabili domino Aloh, lectori Zagabriensi. . . .
Des.: plenam et integerrimam fidem credentie impertiri velitias.
Reg.: The count of Cilje sends Capistran a message by the provost, Stephen Aloh, asking him to give full credit to his words.

551. 1455-VI-18, Padova.
Petrus Maurocenus ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende in Christo pater. . . . Nunc demum adverto. . . .
Des.: magna adimplere valeamus.
Reg.: Peter informs Capistran that he (Peter) was elected vicar provincial of the province of Padova, and asks his advice.
Ms.: Cap., c. 219. Bn 455, proc.

552. 1455-VI-21, Györ.
IdC ad Callixtum III.
Inc.: Beatissime pater. . . . Licet superioribus diebus ad sanctitatem vestram binas dederim litteras. . . .
Des.: cui me et ordinem nostrum supplex commendfo.
Reg.: Capistran informs the pontiff of events in Hungary, especially the dealings among the Hungarian nobility
gathered in Győr. He describes the plan of John Hunyadi, governor of Hungary, to organize an army of 100,000 soldiers against the Turks. With such an army he would be able to cast the Turks out of Europe and reconquer Jerusalem. Finally, Capistran advises the pope to send a cardinal to Hungary, with enough money, to preside over the crusaders, or to assign that task to the cardinal of Esztergom, a very capable man.

553. 1455-VII-4, Győr.
IdC ad Callixtum III.
Inc.: Beattissime pater. . . . Non satis equo animo ferre possum. . .
Des.: in quibus errant Rasciani, ultra hereses Grecorum. . .
Contemnunt festa Corporis Christi . . . Assumptionis etc.
Reg.: Capistran informs the pope that the despot of Rascia (Serbia), who at present is in Hungary, is hostile towards the Catholics and favors the Greek Schism. He also claims to have received from Pope Nicholas V a bull which recognized and confirmed the way he practices religion. At the end Capistran lists eighteen errors and nefarious practices of the schismatics.

554. 1455-VII-5, Bologna.
Gabriel de Verona ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendissime in Christo pater. . . . Quia ex Deo est vinculum. . . .
Reg.: Gabriel of Verona announces to Capistran that Fr. Baptist Tagliacarne of Levanto was elected vicar general of the Cismontane Observants. The same vicar general grants Capistran ample faculties and privileges. Fr. Mark of Bologna, the former vicar general, regrets that he had sent Capistran a letter of obedience to return to Italy.
Ms.: Cap., c. 221. Bn 458a.

Gabriel de Verona ad IdC.
Inc.: . . . Semper de hac expeditione loquitur, semper cogitat sanctus iste Papa novellus. . . .
Des.: classe preparande et miliiti scribende distraxit.
Reg.: Gabriel of Verona informs Capistran of the pope’s solicitude for the crusade against the Turks. He talks about nothing else; he is collecting money for the Crusaders, selling valuables etc.. This letter was part of the preceding one.

556. 1455-VII-15, Buda.
Ioannes Hunyadi ad IdC.
Inc.: Religiose vir. . . . Licet paternitas vestra votive sopponderit. . . .
Des.: plures dies parere et assignare potest.
Reg.: Hunyadi, governor of Hungary, at the request of Cardinal Szécsi, agrees that Capistran may delay his arrival at Buda.

557. 1455-VII-18, Roma.
Baptista Tagliacarne, Vic. Gen. Observantium, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende in Christo pater. . . . Paucis transactis diebus, per duos fraterns. . . .
Des.: nondum obtinere potuimus. Instabimus . . . totus angustiatus et tribulatus.
Reg.: The new vicar general lets Capistran know the renewed machinations of the Conventuals against the Observants. The minister general, James of Mozzanica, is trying to convince the pope that the alleged bull of Eugene IV, Ut sacra Ordinis Minorum religio, of January 11, 1446, which made the Observants practically independent of the Conventuals, should be declared null and void. He claims that it is a forgery, perpetrated by Capistran; the pontiff, for the time being, intends to follow the advice of Fr. James of the Marches.
558. 1455-VII-20, Roma.
   Callixtus III ad IdC.
   Inc.: Etsi devotionem tuam libenter videremus.
   Des.: exitum concupitum misericordier prestabat.
   Reg.: The pontiff orders Capistran to remain in Hungary and
   convince the authorities to take up arms against the
   Turks. The pope will do the same in Italy.

559. 1455-VIII-6, Gagliano.
   Leonello Accolzemara, Comes Celani, ad IdC.
   Inc.: Post tuas, pater optime, quas novissimas recepi litteras.
   Des.: si quid pro te possum, per litteras iubebis. Vale.
   Reg.: The count asks Capistran’s prayers for the safe
   delivery of his wife, Cobella. He intends to build a friary
   for the Observants in Celano. He informs Capistran that the
   king of Naples (Alphonse V) has started to build a fleet but
   that nothing is ready yet.

560. 1455-VIII-14, Sezthes(?).
   Nicolaus de Ujlak, Voyvoda Transilvaniae, ad IdC.
   Inc.: Reverende et devotissime pater. . . . Misimus erga
   devotam et reverendam. . . .
   Des.: quem e vestigio remittat ad nos cum bona relatione.
   Reg.: The Voivod sent Nicholas Bodo, the coadjutor of
   the bishop of Veszprem, to Capistran with a message asking
   him to give credit to his words and send him back with
   good news.

561. 1455-VIII-20, Eger (in Hungaria).
   Ladislaus de Hedervara, Episc. Agriensis, ad IdC.
   Inc.: Venerabilis in Christo frater. . . . In Dei clementia
   meritisque. . . .
   Des.: sufficieret ministrare auditores. Conservet Deus ... ad
   vota feliciter.

Reg.: The bishop asks Capistran’s prayers for one of his
relatives by the name of John, son of Ban Losonczi, who is
suffering from glaucoma. He urges Capistran to come and
preach in his church. The bishop will make sure that he
will have plenty of listeners. (A copy of this letter is found
in Budapest, Bibl. Univ., Collectio Karpinayana 2, tom. 48,
no. 93, p. 407, where it is dated: “feria IV post festum Beati
Regis Stephani anno Domini MCCCCLV.”)

562. 1455-VIII-29, Egres.
   Ladislaus de Gara, Palatinus regni Hungariae, ad IdC.
   Inc.: Venerabilis et religiose pater. . . . En misimus ad
   prefatum paternitatem. . . .
   Des.: per omnia placeat fidem adhibere.
   Reg.: The palatine sends a message to Capistran by his
   (Gara’s) familiar and asks him to give full credence to his
   words.

563. 1455-IX-8, Jofu.
   Ioannes Hunyadi, Gubernator Hungariae, ad IdC.
   Inc.: Venerabilis et religiose. . . . Quemadmodum
   mediabantibus aliis litteris . . .
   Des.: usque ad Hunyad cum honore conducant.
   Reg.: Hunyadi urges Capistran to come to Hunyad as soon
   as possible because plague threatens his present place.
   Hunyadi gave orders that Capistran be accompanied from
   Szeged to Temesvár and then to Hunyad.

564. 1455-IX-6, Csanád.
   Petrus, Episc. Chanadensis, ad IdC.
   Inc.: Orationes in Filio Virginis. . . . En transmisimus ad
   vestre sanctitatis conspectum. . . .
   Des.: maximis suspiriis vestrum praestolantur adventum.
   In Iesu Christi nomine valeat.
Reg.: The bishop sends the Provost Aquila with this letter to Capistran in order to learn the exact date of his (Capistran's) arrival in his diocese, especially in the town of Csanád.

**565. 1455-IX-13, Csanád.**
Petrus, Episc. Chanadensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Obsequium famulandi. . . . Vestre devotionis epistolae cum ingenti desiderio cordis nostri. . . .
Des.: non dedignemini et velitis. Valete in Iesu Christo.
Reg.: The bishop acknowledges Capistran's letter and expresses his joy over his approaching visit. Capistran and his companions will be housed in the episcopal residence. If he has a further desire, he may communicate it by Canon Paul, the bearer of the present letter.

**566. 1455-IX-14, Hunyad.**
Ioannes Hunyadi ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et religioso. . . . Litteras vestre paternitatis accepimus. . . .
Des.: cum ipsa Regia Maiestate constituamur in vicem. Valeat . . . in domino Iesu.
Reg.: Hunyadi regrets that he was unable to meet Capistran in Szeged. He has had to go to Brasov and Moldavia. Capistran, at his age, should not try to follow him across Transylvania. After his (Hunyadi's) return he will visit the king.

**567. 1455-IX-17, Csanád.**
IdC ad Dominicum Capranicam, Cardinalem Protectorem Ordinis.
Inc.: Reverendissime in Christo. . . . Significatum est mihi per fratres. . . .
Des.: magis ac magis exoro imploroque. Quam Christus . . . atque servorum.

Reg.: Capistran, having heard of the tribulations of the Observant family, begs the cardinal protector to save it. The cardinal should not give credence to Capistran's detractors. Finally, he recounts for the cardinal the vision he had while preaching on the feast of St. Bartholomew (August 24, 1455) in the city of Székesfehérvár (Alba Regalis).

**568. 1455-IX-17, Csanád.**
IdC ad Callixtum III.
Inc.: Beatissime pater. . . . Vehementissimum mihi inerat desiderium. . . .
Des.: ut in fine cum grege tibi credito ad vitam pervenias sempiternam. Amen.
Reg.: Capistran tells the pontiff that now he is in Csanád, no farther than fourteen miles from the Turkish army. He complains that the pope has not answered his letters. He informs him that the despot of Rascia (Serbia) made peace with the Turks. The whole of Christendom is in danger. He asks the pope to confirm the faculties and privileges he received from his predecessors, from Martin V to Nicholas V. He recounts the history of the Observant movement for the pontiff and asks him to save it.

**569. 1455-IX-18, Lippa.**
Cives Lippenses ad IdC.
Inc.: Orationes in domino debitas. . . . Quia his diebus certissime audivimus. . . .
Des.: essemus vobis colloquuturii.
Reg.: The authorities of Lippa, hearing that Capistran was nearby, on his way to Timisoara (Temesvár), ask him to come to Lippa, where there are many heretics and infidels.
570. 1455-IX-22, Csanád.
Inc.: . . . Aliquem patior a patribus conventualibus. . . .
Des.: ex quibus aliqui gloriuse a dominum transiverunt. . .
Reg.: This is part of a letter Capistran wrote to the vicar general of the Cismontane Observants. He complains that the Conventuals resent his establishment of eighteen friaries for the Observants in central Europe and the reception of more than six hundred candidates into the Order.

571. 1455-X-2, Hunyad.
Elisabeth, Conthoralis Ioannis Hunyadi, ad IdC.
Inc.: Orationes in dulcissimo Iesu Christo. . . . Notificamus paternitati vestre quod nurus noster. . . .
Des.: faciatis orate pro ea. Valete in Domino Iesu Christo.
Reg.: The wife of Governor Hunyadi asks Capistran to pray for her (future) daughter-in-law who is critically ill.

572. 1455-X-5, Orodea (Arad).
Praepositus et Capitulum Aradiensis ad IdC.
Inc.: Orationum suffragia. . . . Vestra noverit gratiosa paternitas. . . .
Des.: fidem adhibere. Valete in eo quem angeli videre desiderant.
Reg.: The provost and chapter of Orodea beg Capistran to come to their city and by his preaching confirm it in the Catholic faith. Their church has been burned down by the Turks. This letter was delivered to Capistran by a delegation.

573. 1455-X-6, Jenő.
Adalbertus de Losoncz ad IdC.

574. 1455-XI-14, Milano.
Maria Bianca, Ducissa, uxor Francisci Sforza, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendiissime pater, hic quaeritur. . . .
Reg.: According to A. Chiappini, the bishop is consulting Capistran about certain ecclesiastical benefices.
Ms.: Cap., c. 437 (130). Bn 484a, proc.

575. 1455-XII-6, Roma.
Callixtus III ad IdC.
Inc.: Diligentillo fratri Ioanni. . . . Fragrantis tue laudabilis famae. . . .
Des.: aliisque in contrarium facientibus quibuscumque.
Reg.: The pontiff praises Capistran's zeal for the Catholic faith and confirms and extends all the faculties and privileges he had received from his predecessors. He gives him permission to retain the friary of Judenburg for the Observants, in spite of Nicholas V's order to the contrary.
577. 1455-XII-7, Wien.
Cardinalis Ioannes Carvajal, Legatus Papae, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende pater noster optime. . . Maximam fiduciam habet. . .
Des.: et omnes Italicos praticavit. Omnipotens Deus . . .
conservare dignetur.
Reg.: The cardinal tells his friend that both he and the pope have great confidence in the efficacy of his preaching the crusade against the Turks. But the pontiff wants the legate and Capistran to coordinate their work. Therefore, Capistran should go to Buda for a conference with the cardinal.

578. 1455-XII-10, Roma.
Ludovicus, Camerarius Aquilegiensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et religiose amice. . . Recepimus litteras
vestras . . .
Des.: ad omnia vobis grata et commoda parati sumus. Bene
valete.
Reg.: The patriarch of Aquileia acknowledges Capistran’s letter, praises his zeal for the interests of the Catholic faith and exhorts him to persevere.
Ms.: Ges., f. 27r-v. Bn 488, copy available.

579. [1455]-XII-10, Roma.
Ludovicus, Patriarcha Aquilegiensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis ac devotionis pater. . . Quia semper vos
novimus in omni opere Deo Deo intentum. . .
Des.: et nobis cedat ad singulare solatium.
Reg.: The patriarch asks Capistran to come to preach the word of God in his patriarchate.
Ms.: Cap., c. 238; Ges., f. 28r-v. Bn 489, copy available.

580. 1455-XII-10, Roma.
Callixtus III ad IdC.
Inc.: Callixtus Papa. . . Legimus litteras tuas, proxime ad
nos missas. . . .

581. 1455-XII-14, Roma.
Iacobus de Marchia ad IdC.
Inc.: Crucifixo affixus, quia crucem dilexisti. . .
Des.: sit tandem in multa pace et in nostra salute, ut in
proximo audieris.
Reg.: James of the Marches relates the long and desperate fight he waged to save the Observant family and prevent the revocation of the bulls of Pope Eugene IV.
Ms.: Archivio Comunale di Monteprandone. Ed.: U. Picciafuoco, Monteprandone a S. Giacomo della Marca nel V
centenario della sua morte 1476-1976 (Monteprandone, 1976)
28-37; N. Dal-Gal, AFH 1 (1908): 95 ff., but the date
assigned there is 1449-XII-13.

582. 1455-XII-16, Roma.
Dominicus Capranica, Cardinalis Protector, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis pater. . . . Lator presentium, frater
Gabriel. . .
Des.: Paratus ad beneplacita vestra.
Reg.: The cardinal sends this note to Capistran by Fr.
Gabriel who will explain everything in person.
Ms.: Cap., c. 239. Bn 490, copy available.

583. 1455-XII-18, Alba Iulia (Gyulafehérvár).
Matthaeus, Episc. Transilvaniae, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerande. . . . Admodum oblectati fuimus gratissimis
et iucundissimis. . . .
Des.: tanquam dictis de proprio nostro ore emanatis.
Reg.: The bishop, after extolling Capistran’s virtues, miracles and zeal in promoting the Catholic faith, invites him into his diocese. He sends this letter by Nicholas Kapias [Kapa?], archdeacon of Kukullo, who will give more detailed information. Capistran should believe him as he would believe the bishop himself.

584. 1455-XII-25, Roma.
Ja. Lutin, Secretarius Apostolicus, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende in Christo pater. . . . Memor summe humanitatis. . . .
Reg.: The secretary has the highest praises for Capistran’s apostolic work. He sends this congratulatory note together with the letter of the pontiff.

585. 1455-??
Frater Fridericus ad IdC.
Inc.: Si late. . . .
Reg.: According to CRel (241, n. 401), Fr. Frideric with this letter informs Capistran of the discussions which took place at the Roman curia concerning the Observant family and of the interventions of Fr. James of the Marches and others.
Ms.: Cap., c. 401. Bn 495b (495b-1), proc.

586. 1455-?? Wroclaw.
Ignatius ad IdC.
Inc.: Quoniam certissime scio. . . .
Reg.: According to CRel (245, n. 431), the writer asks Capistran to write to Cardinal Carvajal concerning the administrators of certain benefices. This letter may belong to the second period of Capistran’s correspondence.
Ms.: Cap., c. 431. Bn 495d (olim 580), proc.

587. 1455?
Blasius Kürthi de Bácsmegye ad IdC.

ST. JOHN CAPISTRAN’S CORRESPONDENCE: PART III

Inc.: Orationum in Domino. . . . Notum facio harum serie vestrae paternitati. . . .
Des.: tam in corpore quam in animabus.
Reg.: The writer, paralyzed and afflicted with intestinal troubles, implores Capistran’s prayers for himself and for his family and asks him to assign him a confessor. Besides, one of his familiars swallowed a frog which is still in his throat. (Was this diphtheria, called “throat lizard,” torok gyök, in Hungarian?)

588. 1455-456.
Anonymus ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendissime pater . . . viam salutis. . . .
Reg.: The writer declares that he has decided to join the crusaders, therefore, he asks absolution from his sins, according to the papal bull.

589. 1456-I-6, Aracha (Aracsa).
IdC ad Barones Transilvaniae.
Inc.: Spectabilibus et magnificis . . . Frater Ioannes . . .
Fidedigna relatione cognovi vos. . . .
Des.: huic, tamquam mihi intende etc. Valetis.
Reg.: Capistran, after extolling their orthodoxy, asks the magnates of Transylvania to give proof of their zeal by burning down the churches of the schismatics and heretics (Rumanians, Serbs, Hussites), and expelling their priests if they do not want to be baptized. For now, he sends them Fr. Michael Szekely to whom they should listen as to Capistran himself.

590. 1456-I-16, Wien.
Ioannes Cravajal, Cardinalis Legatus, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende in Christo pater. . . . Petentes orationes vestras, notificamus. . . .
Des.: qui cum eo sunt. Omnipotens Deus... conservare dignetur.
Reg.: The papal legate notifies Capistran that King Ladislaus plans to go to Hungary before the end of the week. It will be good for the faith because he is very religious. Governor Hunyadi has already recruited an army of seven thousand. The help of the emperor, kings and other princes would be desirable. They all should be in Hungary by July with their respective armies. The pope appointed Louis, the patriarch of Aquileia to preside over the fleet. He is a very capable man.

591. 1456-I-18, Timisoara (Temesvár).
Ioannes Hunyadi ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et religiose vir... Die hesterna, ille perfidus Wladica... 
Des.: tamcelerrime recedere, ut possunt vestra paternitas cum ipso pervenire.
Reg.: Governor Hunyadi put the perfidious Wladica (John Capha) under arrest. He wants to turn him over to Capistran, and would like to know where he should be sent.

592. 1456-I-7
IdC ad Callixtum III.
Inc.: Beatissime pater... Cum essem inferioribus regni Hungariae... 
Des.: sed abscessus et alienus affectus... [remainder missing].
Reg.: This fragment concerns the heretic John Capha, consigned by John Hunyadi to Capistran. Capha claimed to be a bishop and had many followers but followed neither the Roman nor the Greek rite.

593. 1456-I-27, Bratislava (Pozsony, Pressburg).
Ulricus, Comes Cilae etc., ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et religiose... Quemadmodum serenissimus dominus noster... 
Des.: regi nostro et nobis complacentiam gratam facietis.
Reg.: The count urges Capistran to go to Buda to meet the king.

594. 1456-II-3, Buda.
IdC ad Ioannem Carvajal, Cardinallem Legatum.
Inc.: Reverendissime in Christo... Cum in ultimis Christianorum finibus... 
Des.: ad defensionem sue sancte fidei.
Reg.: Capistran informs the papal legate that he is in Pest. He interrupted his very successful apostolic work in Transylvania to obey the pope's orders. The pontiff sent him a brief, forbidding him to leave Hungary. Hunyadi is recruiting an army of seven thousand horsemen against the Turks but the other princes do not promise anything before July.

595. 1456-II-5, Roma.
Baptista Tagliacarne de Levanto, Vic. Gen. Observantium, ad IdC.
Inc.: Enarrare, pater, quae post recessum fratris Gabriellis de Verona... 
Des.: Cruciate negotium partibus his tepidum perseverat.
Reg.: The vicar general informs Capistran of the state of the Observants after the discussions with the Conventuals in the Roman curia. The question was decided by the bull Illius cultus in pace of February 2, 1456. Cardinal Dominic Capranica and Fr. James of the Marches had much to do with it.
596. 1456-II-6, Lippa.
Michael Szekely ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverentiam debitem . . . Aliis antea litteris, ex Deva
directis . . .
Des.: non ambigo multarum salus gentium. Valde cupio . . .
me committo paternitati eiusdem.
Reg.: Fr. Michael Szekely informs Capistran that he took
care of the business entrusted to him. He met Hunyadi in
Lippa but the governor did not commit himself. The
Rumanians are willing to convert if that is the will of the
king and of the barons. On the next day, February 7,
Hunyadi gave orders to his castellans to expell all the
priests unlawfully ordained by John Capha, from their
territories, unless they are willing to convert to the true
faith and listen to the teaching of Fr. Michael Szekely.
Although not strictly speaking part of Capistran’s
correspondence, this is found among his letters.

597. 1456-II-8, Lippa.
Ioannes Hunyadi ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et religiose vir . . . Ecce quasdam duas
litteras . . .
Des.: laboravimus et nunc laboramus.
Reg.: Hunyadi forwards to Capistran two letters which
arrived for him from the Roman curia. Further, he informs
him that he is collaborating with Fr. Michael Székely
concerning the matter Capistran is interested in.

598. 1456-II-8, Osijek (Eszék).
Ioannes de Korog, Banus Machoviae, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende et religiose . . . Petebat paternitas vestra
nos in eo . . .
Des.: plenarium credentiae fidem adhibere dignemini.
Reg.: The ban communicates to Capistran the news he had
learned from the king of Bosnia concerning the
preparations of the Turkish emperor for a campaign against
Smederevo (Szendrö) and Belgrade. The Christian rulers of
the region, like Skander Beg (George Castriota), are
making plans to resist him. The ban sends this news, which
Capistran had requested, by the parish priest of Capha,
Michael.

599. 1456-II-10, Lippa.
Michael Szekely ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendissime in Christo pater . . . Iterum
iterumque aliquid . . .
Des.: mihi certo de omnibus scriptis mittatur.
Reg.: Fr. Michael Székely, preaching in Lippa, tells
Capistran that the schismatics of Hunedoara (Hunyad) and
Deva would be inclined to convert and be baptized
according to the Roman rite but they are afraid of their
archdeacon, Peter. If they convert, they should not be
burdened immediately with tithes. Besides, they would
need competent priests and friars to instruct them.

600. 1456-II-?, Lippa.
Michael Székely ad IdC.
Inc.: Placeat vestrae paternitati . . .
Reg.: Fr. Michael asks Capistran to send him news about
John Hunyadi and the preparations for the crusade. The
letter should be sent to Hunedoara (Hunyad).

601. 1456-II-?, Buda.
IdC ad auctoritates ecclesiasticas et saeculares.
Inc.: Noveritis per presentes qualiter . . .
Des.: molestiam aliquam inferre presumat.
Reg.: This a is formula of reconciliation which the future
converts were expected to accept under oath. Very likely it
was used earlier with the converts from Hussitism.
Ed.: W 12: 104 f.
against the infidels to face martyrdom. He exhorts them to live a truly Christian life and take care of the friars of Capestrano.

606. 1456-III-24, Buda.
IdC ad Callixtum III.
Inc.: Magno dolore affectus est spiritus meus. . . .
Des.: inde prostermi et pessumdari sentiamus.
Reg.: Capistran heard with consternation from the papal legate, Juan Carvajal, that the pope was inclined to confirm the compactata of the Hussites. By no means should he do so. The Hussites cannot be trusted. They are Christians in name only.

607. 1456-III-24, Buda.
IdC ad Callixtum III.
Inc.: Beatissime pater. . . . Perabunde his preteritis diebus mihi declaravit. . . .
Des.: ad effusionem sanguinis, etsi centies per dies opus fuerit, servabo.
Reg.: Capistran thanks the pope effusively for his letter and for the two briefs which confirm the faculties and privileges Capistran had received from the previous pontiffs. He thanks the pope for his benevolence towards the Observant family and for the cross (of the crusaders) blessed by the pope and pinned on Capistran’s breast by the papal legate.

608. 1456-III-25, Osijek (Eszék).
Ioannes Korog, Banus Machoviensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Ad audiendum quae paternitas vestra. . . .
Reg.: The Ban sends a messenger to Capistran with certain news (very likely about the movements of the Turkish army).
Ms.: Cap. 460 (153), deteriorated. Bn 515, proc.
609. 1456-III-28, Buda.
IdC ad Iodocum de Rosenberg (de Rosis), Episc. electum Breslaviae.
Inc.: Reverende in Christo pater . . . Gaudio non parvo me replevit . . .
Reg.: Capistran congratulates the addressee on his election to the see of Wroclaw.
Ed.: AASS 552. Bn 517.

610. 1456-III-28, Brno (Brünn).
Prothasius, Praepositus Brunae, ad IdC.
Inc.: Prothasius salutem. Duo vix tolerabilia, colendissime pater . . .
Des.: qui tanti talem genuerunt parentes. Vale . . . et iterum vale.
Reg.: The provost of Brno thanks Capistran very effusively and with very florid language for his letter which helped him clear his name.
Ms.: Cap., c. 260. Bn 516, copy available.

611. 1456-III-29, Brno (Brünn).
Benessius de Boskowitz, Subcamerarius Moraviae, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendissime pater . . . Frater Petrus de Sopronio, confrater . . .
Des.: semper me pronom offeram et paratum . . .
Reg.: Boskowitz was glad to learn from a letter of Peter of Sopron that Capistran is alive and well in Buda, contrary to the rumors spread in Moravia. He also asks him to recommend him to Cardinal Juan Carvajal, whom he wishes to thank for the favors accorded to his brother Wenceslaus and to his son Protasius.
Ms.: Cap., c. 262. Bn 519, copy available.

612. 1456-III-29, Torna.
Margaretha, uxor Silvestri de Thorna, ad IdC.

613. 1456-III-31.
Iodocus Rosenberg ad IdC.
Inc.: Commisi nonnulla loquendi . . .
Reg.: Jodocus sends Capistran an important message by Canon Andrew of Prague.
Ms.: Cap., 421, deteriorated. Bn 520, proc.

614. 1456-IV-6, Kraków.
Ladislaus de Hungaria ad IdC.
Inc.: Orationibus a vestra paternitate . . . Reverende paternitati non lateat . . .
Des.: Orare non cessamus pro vestra paternitate et pro requies . . .
Reg.: The guardian of St. Bernardine friary in Cracow acknowledges receipt of Capistran’s letter. It arrived April 3, and was read in church on Good Friday. There was great rejoicing because there had been rumors that Capistran was dead. The friars of Cracow preach the crusade as best they can. The authorities of Cracow have more respect for Capistran than for their cardinal.
Ms.: Cap., c. 263. Bn 521, copy available.

615. 1456-IV-7, Buda.
IdC ad Aeneam Silvio Piccolomini.
Inc.: Reverende pater. Insomuit auribus meis letus nuntius . . .
Des.: opprobrium veritatis iaculis a te longissime alienetur etc.
Reg.: Capistran congratulates the bishop on his elevation to the dignity of cardinal, supposing it to be a fait accompli. But he finds it difficult to believe that Enea Silvio favors the confirmation of the compactata and the recognition of the heresiarch Rokytzana as the legitimate archbishop of Prague. God forbid! (Piccolomini was created cardinal on December 18, 1456.)

616. 1456-IV-7, Kraków.
Thomas, Episc. Cracoviensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis pater . . . Accidit casus in civitate hac . . .
Des.: ut tollatur scandalum in loco hoc, occasione huiusmodi sceleris exortum.
Reg.: The bishop asks Capistran to grant him the faculty to absolve certain persons from the crime of having killed some priests and clerics. The faculty given him by the papal legate, Juan Carvajal, was too vague.
Ms.: Cap., c. 265. Bn 522, copy available.

617. 1456-IV-10, Kraków.
Ioannes Sweitniczer, civis Cracoviensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis in Christo pater . . . Ecce iam a multo temporis decursu . . .
Des.: Rogo responsum consolativum.
Reg.: The writer, gravely ill, intends to bequeath a certain amount of money to the friars of St. Bernardine friary, but the friars are afraid to accept it without the permission of their absent vicar. Therefore, he asks Capistran to give them permission, being their general. Note that Capistran's term as vicar general ended in 1452 and St. Bernardine friary was founded in Cracow in 1453.
Ms.: Cap., c. 266. Bn 524, copy available.

618. 1456-IV-14, Wien.
Iacobus de Stubach, OP ad IdC.
Inc.: Se ipsum et si quid valet . . . Mittam ad regiam maiestatem . . .
Inc.: Venerabilis et religiose vir. . . . Receptimus nupere litteras vestras. . . . Intellexicus quanto ardore et sollicitudine. . . .
Des.: paratus ad vestra benplacita. Bene valecte.
Reg.: The patriarch, whom the pope appointed commander of the fleet of the crusaders, informs Capistran that the fleet is almost ready. Capistran should exhort the rulers of Europe to settle their disagreements and join forces against the common enemy of Christendom.

622. 1456-IV-29, Pécsvárad.
Petrus, Abbas Pécsváradensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis pater. . . . Audivimus ex veridicorum relationibus. . . .
Des.: quam alias in diversis locis. Eandem . . . longeve et semper ad vota.
Reg.: The abbot, hearing that Capistran is not far away, invites him with great insistence to come to preach in his church. Good preachers are rare in that part of the country. They have prepared an ornate pulpit.

625. 1456-V-3, Apáthy.
Raphael Herzeg, Archiepisc. Colocensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Sepe suppliciter rogavimus. . . .
Des.: quam toto affectu petimus et avide exspectamus.
Reg.: Another letter from the same archbishop to Capistran, written on the same day, in which he urges him again to come visit him in Bács where he could keep an eye on the Turks. He reminds Capistran again about the scarcity of victuals.

623. 1456-IV-29, Pécs.
Capitulum Ecclesiae Cathedralis Quinquecclesiensis ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis ac religiose vir. . . . Hunc venerabilem et egregium . . .
Des.: et petita producere ad effectum. Altissimus . . . feliciter et votive.
Reg.: The chapter of Pécs sends a message to Capistran through Denis, archdeacon of Tolna, asking him to give full credence to his words.
Ms.: Cap., c. 268. Ed.: Pettkó 42. Bn 529.

626. 1456-V-4, Roma.
Callixtus III ad IdC.
Inc.: Callixtus Papa III. Dilecte fili. . . . Continuo testimonio dilecti. . . .
Des.: indubie in mari adesse ponimus et ponemus.
Reg.: The pontiff was informed by Cardinal Juan Carvajal of Capistran's zeal in promoting the crusade. He praises him and exhorts him to keep up the good work. The pope himself attends to the arming of the fleet.

624. 1456-V-3, Apáthy.
Raphael Herzeg, Archiepisc. Colocensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerande pater. Littere vestre, nobis porrecte. . . .

627. 1456-V-6, Csanád.
Ludovicus et Matthaeus Maróth ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et religiose. . . . Ecce hunc Gregorium baccalaureum. . . .
Des.: tamquam nostris propriis.
Reg.: The writers send the parish priest, Augustine, to Capistran with a message about very important business. They ask him to give full credence to their messenger.

628. 1456-V-7, Buda.
Nicolaus, Secretarius Regis Hungariae, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverend pater, amice noster honorande.
Excellenti vestre reverende paternitati satisfacere.
volentes, scrissimus.
Des.: consecrationis nostre facere intendimus. Orationibus.
nos recommendamus.
Reg.: Nicholas, bishop elect, informs Capistran that at his request he gave orders to his castellans to free five prisoners. He regrets that his vicar neglected to put an alms box in the church.
Ms.: Cap., c. 468. Bn 534, copy available.

629. 1456-V-7, Siklós.
Nicolaus Zalai, Ioannes Carnatus et Petrus Castellani ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendissime pater.
Gesta miranda fame per mundum patentia.
Des.: feria sexta proxima post festum Ascensionis Domini, anno eiusdem 1456.
Reg.: The writers, who are in charge of the defense of the fortress, beg Capistran to visit them and preach the word of God to the citizens of Siklós. They are not permitted to leave their post.

630. 1456-V-14, Valpó.
Ludovicus et Matthaeus de Maróth ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et Deo devote vir.
Des.: fidem creditavam adhibere velitis tamquam nostris.

Reg.: The writers send the parish priest, Augustine, to Capistran with a message, asking him to give credence to his words. On May 23, they sent a similar letter by Gregory of Gyula to friars Bartholomew and George.

631. 1456-V-14, Buda.
Ioannes Carvajal, Cardinalis Legatus, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende in Christo pater.
Meminit vestra paternitas reverenda.
Reg.: The papal legate notifies Capistran that, trusting more in God’s help than in the strength of the army of the crusaders, he went down to Szeged, intending to go as far south as Pétervárads but that Hunyadi convinced him to return to the king in Buda. It would only encourage the Turks if they became aware of the weakness of the Christian army. Capistran’s help is needed to recruit more soldiers. The legate heard encouraging news about the gathering of the foreign troops, such as the fleet of the Aragon king and the militia of Skander Beg, etc.

632. 1456-V-15, Bács.
Raphael Herczeg, Archiepisc. Colocensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis pater.
Scrisperatis nobis ut novitatis vestram paternitatem avizaremus.
Des.: presertim in assumptione crucis.
Reg.: The archbishop lets Capistran know that the papal legate, Juan Carvajal, has returned to Buda. He again urges Capistran to visit his church. Many people of the surrounding provinces wish to see him and, if he comes, many will take up the cross.

633. 1456-V-15, Bács.
Raphael Herczeg, Archiep. Colocensis et Bashensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendissimus dominus Legatus e suo itinere regressus est . . .
Des.: contra fidei christiane adversarios. Veni, vir Dei, et noli tardare.
Reg.: Another letter of the same archbishop, dated as the former, with the same content, but somewhat abbreviated.

634. 1456-V-15, Telegd.
Laurentius de Telegd ad IdC.
Inc.: Debitam et condignam reverentiam . . . Deducatur in memoriam eiusdem . . .
Des.: fidem credulam adhiber velitis tamquam mee persone.
Reg.: Although the writer met Capistran in Buda and Lippa the previous, he did not tell him what was bothering him. He had made a solemn vow to make a pilgrimage to Rome as a penance, but he cannot afford the journey; he is also guilty of manslaughter. Finally, he recommends to Capistran a person who wishes to become a priest and asks him to give credit to the bearer of the present letter.

635. 1456-V-17, Palota.
Stephanus de Varsan, Vicarius vicariatus Hungariae, ad IdC.
Inc.: Salutatione premissa . . . Eadem vestra noverit paternitas . . .
Des.: libeat diutius post vestram divagare paternitatem reverendam. Vestra valeat . . . a Deo collatam.
Reg.: The writer notifies Capistran that he (Varsán) was elected vicar provincial of the Hungarian Observants. The friars are afraid that the new papal bull (Illius cuius in pace of February 2, 1456) will weaken their position vis-a-vis the Conventuals. Now the vicar intends to pay his respects to the king, barons and bishops, and later plans to visit Capistran.

636. 1456-V-18, Pécsvárad.
Petrus, Abbas de Pécsvárad, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis pater . . . Casum cuiusdam diaconi, iurisdictioni nostre subjici . . .
Reg.: The abbot would like to have Capistran’s answers to two of his doubts. a) Did a deacon incur irregularity for having celebrated solemn vespers in a surplice? b) Should a person, on the point of death, confess his sins to a layman if there is no priest available?

637. 1456-V-21, Marcali.
Ioannes de Marczalis, Iudex Cumanorum, ad IdC.
Inc.: Religiose vir . . . diligentissime, quatenus per eundem . . .
Des.: contra sevissimos Turcorum . . . anno Domini millesimo . . .
Reg.: This fragment of a letter concerns the crusaders and the Turks.

638. 1456-V-21, Pécsvárad.
Petrus, Abbas Pécsváradensis, ad IdC.
In.: Venerabilis pater. Magister Benedictus, noster et conventus nostri . . .
Des.: quatenus dignemini nos exinde reddere certificatos. Eandem . . . conservet ad vota.
Reg.: The abbot proposes to Capistran the case of Master Benedict, the notary of the monastery. Benedict, in his youth, held some ecclesiastical benefice but considered himself dispensed from reciting the divine office in virtue of a decree of the Council of Basle gave in favor of the Greeks. Is that decree valid?
639. 1456-V-23, Küllöd.
Ioannes de Tagliacozzo ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendissime ac gratiosissime.... Oculorum nimia passione. 
Des.: ma de di meno ho cacciato el denaro. Valeat.... cum uno oculo et maximo dolore capitis.
Reg.: John of Tagliacozzo asks Capistran what they should do with the ship, with the people (crusaders), and with themselves. John, the patron of the place, was called to Szeged by Governor Hunyadi. Rumor has it that he will be made castellan of Belgrade. Tagliacozzo has eye trouble and a very bad headache.

640. 1456-V-23, Buda.
Ioannes Carvajal, Cardinalis Legatus, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende in Christo pater. .... Recepi mus hodie litteram. 
Des.: si ex hoc non videtis impediri negotium Chrisiti. Omnipotens.... conservare dignetur.
Reg.: The papal legate received Capistran’s letter and realized that Capistran did not receive either of his two letters, the one sent from Szeged, the other from Buda. The legate intended to go to the border, but in Szeged Hunyadi persuaded him to return to Buda. Nevertheless, he sent his delegate, Francesco Oddi, the bishop of Assisi, to receive the crusaders. Carvajal would very much like to meet Capistran.

641. 1456-V-24, Váralja.
Paulus Herczegh de Szekcső ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et religioso vir. .... Quia nos his diebus proximitus. 
Des.: Nos enim ad ipsum locum Perecske erga paternitatem vestram reverendam accedemus.
Reg.: The writer, who met Hunyadi in Szeged, forwards Hunyadi’s letter to Capistran and tells him to notify him of his arrival in Perecske, where he intends to meet him.

642. 1456-V-25 [23?], Buda.
Ioannes Carvajal, Cardinalis Legatus, ad IdC.
Inc.: Ista hora recepi ultimas vestre reverende paternitatis litteras, in quibus monet. 
Des.: si tamen vestre paternitati videatur, committam. Omnipotens Deus etc.
Reg.: The cardinal received Capistran’s latest letter. He repeats what he told Capistran in his preceding letters. Hunyadi does not want Capistran to send any more crusaders before he advises him to do so. The cardinal thinks that Capistran should go to the south to animate and prepare the crusaders. Afterwards he should go to the king and to the emperor in Vienna. If Capistran cannot come to visit the cardinal, the cardinal is going to visit him.

643. 1456-V-26, Pécs.
Nicolaus, Episc. Quinquececlesiensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis pater. Sperabam pro consolatione mea hic reperire. ....
Des.: adiuvet meriti et dignitas auctoris et actus meos. Conservet.... saluti nostre.
Reg.: The bishop, who intends to celebrate his first diocesan synod in a week, asks Capistran to be present and help him with his great learning because he (the bishop) is ignorant in such matters.

644. 1456-V-28, Valpó.
Ludovicus et Mattheus de Maróth ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis in Deo. .... Ecce hos magistrum Gregorium et Dionysium de Némethy, castellanum nostrum de Karan....
Des.: fidem credulam adhibere velitis.
Reg.: The writers send a message to Capistran by master Gregory and Denis Németh, and ask him to give credence to their message.

645. 1456-VI-2, Buda.
Ioannes Carvajal, Cardinalis Legatus, ad IdC.
Inc.: Etsi Sanctissimus Dominus vestre paternitati scripserit, ne de Hungarie partibus . . .
Des.: ad resistendum Turcico furori. Vale.
Reg.: The legate tells Capistran that although the pope forbade him (Capistran) to leave Hungary, it would be very useful if he would go to Vienna and urge the emperor to send a German army against the Turks. The legate forwards a letter of Skander Beg.

646. 1456-VI-3, Diako (Bosnia).
Philippus, Episc. Bosnensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis pater . . . Rogamus tandem vestram paternitatem . . .
Des.: plenius dicent vestre paternitati.
Reg.: The bishop asks Capistran to return to Diako and visit his demolished residence which he has just started to repair. Gallus, chaplain of St. Michael, and the parish priest Francis, will tell him the rest.
Ms.: Cap., c. 290. Bn 552a, copy available.

647. 1456-VI-5, Buda.
Ioannes Carvajal, Cardinalis Legatus, ad IdC.
Inc.: Per proprium nuntium misi . . .
Des.: id etiam nos facimus diligenter. Omnipotens etc.
Reg.: The cardinal sent Capistran the apostolic brief and a copy of Hunyadi’s letter concerning the movements of the Turkish army by messenger. King Ladislaus left the country with the pretext of going hunting, but has no intention of returning. Capistran should urge the crusaders to go south; the cardinal is doing the same.

648. 1456-VI-8, Beograd (Belgrade).
Michael Szilgyi de Horoszeg ad IdC.
Des.: et ibi iam ulterius manere nequeunt.
Reg.: Szilagyi, the commander of the fortress of Belgrade, asks Capistran to exert his influence with the prelates and barons to build a church in Belgrade because the Turks have destroyed the former one. The need for a church is great because the Catholics are living among Manicheans.

649. 1456-VI-14, Buda.
Ioannes Carvajal, Cardinalis Legatus, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverende in Christo pater . . . Ista die restitute sunt nobis littere . . .
Des.: dubitantes non reperire qui eos recipiend. Omnipotens . . . dignetur.
Reg.: The cardinal’s messenger, unable to find Capistran, returned with the Cardinal’s letters. He sends the present letter by the messenger of Governor Hunyadi, who wants Capistran to come to see him. In Germany many people are taking up the cross but they don’t have a leader.

650. 1456-VI-14, Pétervárad.
Franciscus de Oddis, Episc. Assisiensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis et religioso pater . . . Quia credo vestram paternitatem scire . . .
Des.: paratus continue ad beneplacita vestre paternitatis, quam Deus conservare dignetur.
Reg.: The bishop has learned from a letter of the archbishop of Kalocsa and Bács that Capistran was coming to Bács. The archbishop told Oddi that he should also go to
Bács as soon as possible but before doing so he would like to hear from Capistran. He is willing to go unless the papal legate tells him otherwise.


651. 1456-VI-16, Geszth.
Ioannes de Geszth, Capitaneus Nadoralbensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Venerabilis domine . . . Diebus proxime lapsis, paternitate vestra in Külöd existente . . .
Des.: ad finem perfectum deducere velit vestra paternitas prenominata, quam Altissimus . . . per tempora exoptata.
Reg.: John Geszt, captain of the fortress of Belgrade, asks Capistran to intercede with the archbishop of Kalocsa and Bács in favor of Thomas, his chaplain, against whom the archbishop has a grudge.

654. 1456-VII-? Roma.
Callixtus III ad IdC.
Inc.: Callixtus Papa III. Dilecte fili . . . Iam clausis litteris nostris . . .
Des.: ut sentiant ardentem voluntatem nostram et inviolatam fidem.
Reg.: The pope sends Capistran (whom he calls a martyr) copies of the letters he (the pope) wrote to the various kings and princes, exhorting them to take up arms against the Turks in order to free Europe, Asia and the Holy Land from the perfidious Mohamed.

655. Sine die.
IdC ad cives civitatis Szabolcs.
Reg.: Capistran exhorts the citizens of Szabolcs to take up the cross. This letter, mentioned in the periodical Szazadok (1872) 391, is lost.
Bn 572, proc.

656. 1456-VII-3, Beograd (Belgrade).
IdC ad Franciscum de Oddis, Episc. Assisiensem.
Inc.: In questa hora ho recevuto . . .
Des.: ricomandandome alla sua reverendissima signoria.
Reg.: Capistran tells Bishop Oddi that the Turks already dominate the whole Danube and that they can reach Hungary with their ships. The siege of Belgrade is expected at any moment. Hunyadi battles the Turks every day but
help is needed urgently. The papal legate should convince the Christian princes to send their troops.


657. 1456-VII-21, Beograd (Belgrade).
IdC ad omnes christifideles.
Inc.: Universis titulo christianae militiae insignitis... Des.: nosque adhuc superesse XIII millia virorum.
Reg.: This seems to be pious forgery. Capistran and his companions tell all Christians that on the morning of July 21 they had a vision of a bright star with a luminous cross upon it. They interpreted this as an omen of victory. Thereafter the crusaders attacked the Turks, fighting from morning till late night. The Turks ran away, leaving behind everything: ships, arms, a great quantity of gold, etc. The following night, Governor Hunyadi also had a similar vision.


658. 1456-VII-22, Beograd (Belgrade).
IdC ad Callixtum III.
Inc.: Beatissime pater... Gloria in altissimis Deo, a cuius misericordia provenit... Des.: Hec scribo breviter et raptim, defessus, rediens ex pugna; cito scripturus magis distinque que facta sunt in particuliari.
Reg.: Capistran announces to Pope Callistus III the stupendous victory of the Christian army over the Turks. He promises the pope a fuller account.


659. 1456-VII-23, Novi Slakamen (Szalankemen).
IdC ad Callixtum III.
Inc.: Beatissime pater... Quas laudes et gratiarum actiones... Des.: quod est super omne nomen, Christi Iesu, qui... per tempora longiora. Ex Salanchemen... pars exercitus magni Turchi certitudinaliter est deperdita.

Reg.: Capistran describes in greater detail the battle of Belgrade and the victory over the Turks on July 22, 1456.


660. 1456-VIII-17, Novi Slakamen (Szalankemen).
IdC ad Callixtum III.
Inc.: Beatissime pater... Quia ubi aliud deficit, locum habet ius supplementi... Des.: iam ad beneplacitum imperet quid agendum. Quam dignetur... per tempora longiora.
Reg.: This is Capistran's third letter to the pontiff about the victory at Belgrade, supplementing his previous letters. According to George Brankovic, king of Bosnia, the Turks lost 24,000 men in the battle and as many perished on the way to Sofia. He urges the pope to send ten to twelve thousand horsemen from Italy, at his own expense. They should finish off the Turks now that they are weak. Hunyadi died on August 11 but Nicholas Ujlaki will be able to take his place.


661. 1456-VIII-25, Roma.
Callixtus III ad IdC.
Inc.: Callixtus Episcopus... Dilecto filio... Non dubitamus quin... Des.: in quo, dilecte fili, cooperare nobiscum, quod potes.
Reg.: The pontiff praises Capistran for his part in the victory of Belgrade and asks him to keep assisting the papal legate. He should exhort the prelates, barons and the people of Hungary to pursue the vanquished enemy.


662. 1456-VIII-25, Nürnberg.
Consilium Nurenergensse ad IdC.
Reg.: The authorities of the city of Nuremberg notify Capistran that they have decided to send troops against the common enemy of Christendom.

663. 1456-IX-16, Roma.
Callixtus III ad IdC.
Inc.: Dilecto filio. ... Quia his diebus proximis respondebimus abunde. ...
Des.: adhibeant fidem tamquam nobis.
Reg.: The pontiff tells Capistran that his letter about the victory at Belgrade arrived together with the young boy sent him by Capistran. He will confirm and extend, in a separate brief, all of Capistran’s faculties and privileges. He is sending him two hundred ducats by messenger. He is keeping the boy in Rome.

664. 1456-IX-16, Roma.
Callixtus III ad IdC.
Inc.: Ut uberius consolari valeas populos ipsos fideles. ...
Des.: pascere animas fidelium possis. Nulli ergo etc. Si quis etc.
Reg.: This is the brief by which Pope Callistus III confirms and extends Capistran’s faculties and privileges. He may also absolve, after imposing due penance, from cases reserved to the Holy See.

665. 1456-X-21, Ilok (Ujlak).
IdC ad socios.
Inc.: In Christo sibi carissimis fratris Ioannis de Tagliacotto. ...
Des.: quidquid humanitatis et gratie vobis contulerint, anime mee collatum esse. Valete ... et pro me indesinenter orate.
Reg.: By this letter, written two days before his death, Capistran orders John of Tagliacotto and his other companions to bring back all his books to the friary of Capistrano, after his imminent death.
Ed.: CRel 281 f.; San Giovanni di Capestrano e il suo convento, (L’Aquila, 1925) 190 f. Bn 569.

666. 1456-XI-17, Praha (Prague).
Venceslaus, Decanus Ecclesiae Cathedralis Pragensis, ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendissime pater. Tuas litteras recepi, quare gaudio. ...
Des.: gregem catholicam pavitantem invadant lupi rapaces etc.
Reg.: Obviously, the news of Capistran’s death has not yet reached Prague. Vincent, the dean of the Prague chapter, tells Capistran that he received his letter and he is ready to fulfill Capistran’s request. The devil’s disciple (Rokitzana) is as active as ever and tries with all his might to undermine the Catholic Church.

667. 1456-XII-10, Kraków.
Consules Cracovienses ad IdC.
Inc.: Reverendo in Christo patri. ... Hunc providum Eustachium, nostrae civitatis notarium fidelem. ...
Des.: plenam fidem credulum adhibere dignetur.
Reg.: The authorities of Cracow (unaware of Capistran’s death) send him a message by their notary.
Ms.: Cap., c. 303. Bn 571, copy available.

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