



COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS REWARDED IN 2011 WITH
THE MEDAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

Municipality of Olgiate Olona Press release of June 10, 2021

OLGIATE OLONA, 62nd ANNIVERSARY OF THE PLANE CRASH STILL ESSENTIAL: MEMORY AND SOLIDARITY TO HONOR HISTORY AND RESPECT THE PRESENT

The present moment indicates the essentiality of existence and the priorities of public life, the memory of the past is alive first of all in people and in physical signs, and then also in external gestures.

As done in 2020 and considering the ongoing *Covid-19 Coronavirus* pandemic, also in 2021 the commemoration of the 62nd anniversary of the plane crash of June 26, 1959, in Olgiate Olona will be essential: no public ceremony, but signs of memory and solidarity to honor History (the plane crash and its protagonists) and to respect the present (communities and individuals affected by the pandemic).

On Saturday June 26, 2021, floral tributes will be laid at the memorial monument (whose area is taken care of by the Civil Protection) and on Maria Fermi Sacchetti's grave at the cemetery; at 9 a.m., in the Ancient Collegiate Prevostal church of Saints Stephen and Lawrence, a mass in suffrage for the seventy immortal lives will be celebrated (the latest of twelve celebrations in memory after the 60th anniversary of 2019); at 17.33, the bell tolling of the Prevostal church will remember the seventy immortal lives.

On Saturday June 26, 2021, the website *OlgiateOlona26giugno1959.org* – memory of the plane crash since 2013 with the patronage of the Municipality – will publish Mayor Giovanni Montano's speech and the text of international prayer in suffrage inspired by the passage from the Gospel of Luke evoked by Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini in Duomo church in Milan in the homily of the mass of suffrage for the one hundred and eighteen victims of Milan-Linate air disaster (October 8, 2001), in the year of the twentieth anniversary.

The twelfth edition of the educational project in memory of the plane crash addressed to the students in the eighth grade of *Dante Alighieri* school in Olgiate Olona has been postponed to the school year 2021/2022 by the promoter staff of the commemorative events of June 26, 1959, in any case bound to the conversation in the classroom in the presence of the students and their teachers in Literature: it has been a painful decision, but necessary in order not to compromise the feasibility, the formula and the outcome of the initiative, considering the teaching in times of pandemic that does not allow direct interaction between the protagonists, and the health emergency that in 2020 postponed the awarding of the most deserving works of the eleventh edition of the educational project.

Therefore, on Saturday June 26, 2021, the website *OlgiateOlona26giugno1959.org* will publish eleven works (one per edition) written by the students of Olgiate Olona from 2009 to 2020: the works remained anonymous – because not awarded as deserving, that is better interpreting the historical fact of June 26, 1959 and the spirit of the commemorative events -, but anyway significant.

The promoting staff of the commemorative events of June 26, 1959