



THE APPEALS
OF OUR LADY
APPARITIONS
AND
MARIAN SHRINES
IN THE WORLD

Apparitions of the Virgin Mary at PELLEVOISIN



FRANCE, 1876



At Pellevoisin there is a beautiful Shrine in remembrance of the apparitions of Our Lady to Estelle Faguette, who at that time was a housekeeper for the dukes of Rochefoucauld. In 1875, Estelle was stricken by an incurable illness, and out of desperation she wrote a letter to the Blessed Virgin with great confidence asking that she would request her Son to grant her healing, so that she could continue to work and thus support economically her very poor elderly relatives. In response to this letter, the Virgin Mary appeared to her fifteen times, from February to December of 1876. On February 19 of 1876, Estelle was completely healed. Since 1877, the Archbishop of Bourges authorized the public devotion to Our Lady of Pellevoisin and the small room of Estelle was transformed into a chapel.

Particularly significant are certain words that Our Lady pronounced during her 15 apparitions. For example, on the occasion of the second apparition, the Virgin Mary promised her this: "Do not be afraid, I am here. This time my Son let Himself be moved. He will let you live; you will be healed this Saturday." Immediately, the visionary answered "But my Good Mother, if I could choose, I would prefer to die now that I am well prepared." Then the Virgin said to her smiling: "Ungrateful one, if my Son lets you have life, it is because you need it. What has God given to people on earth more precious than the gift of life? But in receiving life, do not think that you will be exempted from suffering. No, you will suffer and you will not be exempted from pain. This is what provides us merits during our life. If my Son let Himself be moved, it is for your great self-denial and patience."

In the third apparition the Virgin explained to Estelle: "I am all merciful and dear to my Son. Those few good works and several fervent prayers that you offered me have touched my motherly heart, above all the brief letter that you wrote to me in the month of September. What struck me the most was this sentence: 'see the sorrow of my parents, if I were to die they would be forced to beg for bread. Thus remember Mary what you have suffered when your Son Jesus was hung on the Cross.' I showed your letter to my Son, and said that your parents need you. In the future, try to be faithful. Do not lose the graces that have been given to you, and make known my glory."

In the fifth apparition Mary recommended to her: "If you desire to serve me, be simple and make sure that your actions always correspond to your words." Then Estelle asked Our Lady whether to serve her she had to change her status. The Virgin replied: "One can be saved in any condition; where you are, you can do much good and can spread my glory." After a short instant the Virgin Mary told her looking sad: "What grieves me the most is the lack of respect that people have towards my Son present in the Holy Communion, and the attitude of prayer that they have, when their spirit is preoccupied with other things. I say this especially for those who pretend to be pious."

On the occasion of the seventh apparition, Our Lady said to her: "My Son Himself has also souls who are more fervent and devoted to Him. His Heart has so much love for my heart that He cannot refuse any of my requests. Through me He will touch the most hardened hearts."



Depiction of the miraculous healing of the visionary



Estelle Faguette was born in Pellevoisin on September 12, 1843, for years she was sick with cancer, also stricken by tuberculosis and paralysis to one arm. From February 14 to December 15, 1876 received fifteen Marian apparitions. During the fifth apparition, on February 19, 1876, she healed suddenly and completely, as Our Lady had foretold her.



Stigmata of the Sacred Heart of Pellevoisin



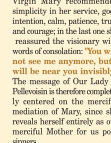
Room of Estelle where the Virgin Mary appeared, transformed into a small Chapel. A Shrine was built around the place of the apparitions, which is currently run by the religious community of Saint-John and it offers hospitality to whoever wishes to stay for a spiritual retreat



In 1983 the Archbishop of Bourges, Charles-Marie-Paul Vigneron, officially recognized as miraculous the healing of the visionary which took place in 1876



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Little Estelle with her parents



View of the Shrine