



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

# Apparition of the Virgin Mary in ROGOROTTO



ITALY, 1951



On the 21st of June 1951, an extraordinary event came to upset the simple and tranquil life of the people of a farmstead of Rogorotto, part of Arluno in the province of Milan. On the ground floor of a farm building, in a little room, for 297 days, was resting the bedridden 39-year-old Luigia Nova (called Ginetta), former spinner of a textile mill in Arluno. In the hot summer afternoon also all of the people were at work in the fields, while the few remaining elderly were waiting to hear the church bells that would announce the death throes of this gravely ill woman. But to faithfully recount what occurred (which was then reported by many Italian newspapers of Milan, Bergamo, Florence, Rome, Turin and even by some Swiss newspapers) it is best to leave it to the words of the very same Luigia Nova.

In this manner, Luigia Nova, of the parish of Mantegazza and Rogorotto, resident of a street named for Saint Francis of Assisi, had written to Father Angelo on the 24th of June 1951: "Reverend Father, feeling myself able to write for the grace received on 21-June-1951 (and it was the feast of the Saint for whom I was named) exactly on that day I received the grace from our dear Madonna of the Poor, after a long and tormenting sickness that I was not even able to get out of bed for 297 days, precisely on the 21st of June, still squirming on the bed with very strong pains that I had to take morphine injections to allow my limbs to rest... while I was lying in a tranquil sleep with my hands across my heart, here it is that the Virgin of the Poor came to me in a vision, dressed all in white, with a white veil on her head and a sky blue ribbon around her sides and a rosary on her arm. Holding a small sky blue bowl that contained a zabaglione (a cooked custard with cream, egg, sugar and wine), with a teaspoon in hand, she placed it by the window and caressed my cheek and said to me: **"Daughter, do you believe in me?"** And I replied to her: **"I salute thee, O Maria."** And then she said back: **"Daughter, I trust in you!"** And I replied again: **"I salute thee, O Maria!"** And she uncrossed my arms and said to me: **"Daughter, I came to bring to you your healing!"** And she took me by the arms and had me sit up on the bed! (I that could not stay that way due to nausea and pains to my stomach and back which tormented me day and night!) And then she said: **"Get up and walk!"** And then she took the little blue bowl in her hand and then took the teaspoon with her thumb and index finger, she stirred the zabaglione a little and then my sweet Blessed Mother of the Poor put in my mouth two spoonfuls. And she said: **"Take this, Daughter, and drink!"** And I drank it with all of my faith and I felt able to digest it well. And I said to her: **"Thank you, Virgin!"** And then she took the bowl with her delicate hands and placed it again by the window... And then she began again: **"Daughter, pray for the whole world which is greatly afflicted, because they do not believe neither in me nor in my Divine Son, Jesus."** Then before she disappeared she gave me her holy blessing and I said again to her: **"Thank you, Virgin!"** And the Madonna of the Poor vanished, smiling. As soon as she went away, I awoke and found myself sitting on the bed, with hands stretched out on my legs and I immediately said to myself: **"My Jesus, have mercy! Madonna what charity you have done for me!"** To her sister, who returned from the fields, expecting to find her dying, she said: "Give me my shoes, because I can get up and go out!" Outside in the courtyard, she was surrounded by all the neighbors, incredulous and frightened because they thought she had gone insane but when they heard her recount with perfect lucidity, they saw her eat, move, and walk, everyone together praised and glorified the Lord for the blessing that had descended upon their town. On the 15th of July, in the company of about two hundred countrymen, she came personally to thank the Blessed Mother in the little chapel on the road named for the Armed Forces and she assisted at the solemn Hour of Mary, staying on her knees on the pavement, the whole time, without giving the smallest sign of weariness. On the 31st of August of the same year she went in pilgrimage to Banneux to thank the one who healed her, precisely at the site of her apparitions in Belgium. The Abbot Jamin and the Bishop of Liège had the opportunity to meet her and to hear from her lips the miraculous account of her healing. In December of that same year, accompanied by Father Angelo, she was received by Pope Pius XII who, in a fatherly and kindly fashion, wished to know and hear the whole account, in spite of the chamberlain attempt to rush her. In October 1951, Ginetta went back to work in the factory, welcomed with joy and emotion by her associates who, from that day forward, were always ready to ask her: **"Come on! Have us recite the Rosary... sing the litanies of the Blessed Mother!"** She lived always in prayer and in simplicity, spreading the message of the Madonna of the Poor, offering all of herself for priests and for the conversion of sinners. She had the gift of other "visits from the Blessed Mother" the messages of which she reported to Father Angelo. Every time that one would occur, if he had the chance to see her even a few hours afterward, he would notice how her face was transfigured and her gaze was so scintillating that it was not able to be sustained because of the luminosity that burst forth. In the courtyard of the farmstead, near the window of her room, was built a votive niche in memory of her healing. Ginetta expired in the air of sanctity on the 26th of April 1978, after having told her niece who lived with her for years and who attentively assisted her: **"Good-bye, Anna, I go to Paradise!"**

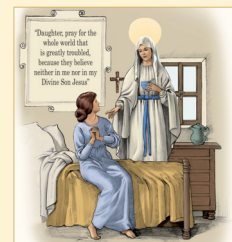


Image that illustrates the apparition



The arrival of the statue of the Blessed Mother of the Poor from Banneux, donated by Belgian mine workers to the Italian miners, which was placed, by the parish of the Madonna of the Poor in Milan, into the district of Baggio



The parish of the Madonna of the Poor in Milan



Interior of the parish church



Image that depicts the apparitions in Belgium



The Blessed Cardinal Schuster of Milan was always very devoted to the Madonna of the Poor



The Shrine of Banneux in Belgium