



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

# Apparitions of the Virgin Mary in NGOME

## AFRICA, 1955-1971

The Shrine of Ngome is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, who revealed herself with the title of "Tabernacle of the Most High." Here Sr. Reinolda May, a nun of the Benedictine Order of Tutzing, had ten visions from the 22nd of August 1955 to the 2nd of May 1971 in which the Virgin Mary appeared and spoke to her. The site quickly became a very popular place, and in 1990 was recognized by the diocese as a "Place of Prayer," where pilgrimages and prayer gatherings are permitted. Ngome is one of the most popular pilgrimage sites in South Africa.

Here are some quotes cited from the messages that Our Lady gave to Sister Reinolda:

"Shortly after Holy Communion, Mary was in front of me, very nearby. She appeared to me in spirit. I was brought into another dimension. Mary manifested herself in a marvelous light, more beautiful than the sun. She was dressed entirely in white, with a flowing veil that enveloped her from head to feet. Upon her chest a large Host was in repose, surrounded by a brilliant crown that irradiated life. She was a 'Living Monstrance.' Mary was on top of a globe; her hands and feet were not seen. It seemed that I entered into a cloud, guided by Mary, far from the Earth. I had kept my eyes closed but for many days I continued to see much light, for I had been so very much affected by the beauty and the luminosity that I had witnessed. Mary said: 'Call me Tabernacle of the Most High. Even you are a Tabernacle, you must believe that, I desire to be named with this title for the glory of My Son. I wish for other similar Tabernacles to be prepared. I mean human hearts. I desire for the altars to be more frequently surrounded by people in prayer. Be not afraid. Make it known.' To whom?" Be not afraid. Tell it to your priest.'" (22 August 1955)

In October of 1955, on two separate occasions, Sr. Reinolda had other similar visions: "It occurred right after Holy Mass. It involved the same figure, in the same place, who repeated the same requests but this time added: 'Let these words be known to everyone. Be not afraid. You are an instrument of God.' Then Christ emerged from the great Host and united Himself to me."

On the 15th of March in 1956, Sr. Reinolda again saw the Virgin Mary: "After the Holy Mass, Mary was in front of me (concerned) and said to me: 'My daughter: I know your anxiety.' She bent down and moved me closer to her. 'You asked for a sign?' **Not for me, for the others, so that they will believe. They do not believe me.** 'I desire that a Shrine be built for me in the location in which seven springs of water meet. Their waters will flow in abundance. Many people will come closer to God.' When I asked: 'Where is this place found?' - without saying a word the Blessed Mother made a hand gesture, majestically indicating upward, in a certain direction. This rendered me very happy and I felt enormously reassured. 'Be not afraid. Make it known. It is my work. I will see you again.'"

Three months later, on the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, during the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, Sr. Reinolda had another vision. Mary did not declare any message, nevertheless she revealed herself in a simple, yet profound, way. She emerged from the tabernacle and came near me, as a living tabernacle.

On the 15th of March 1957, Mary gave her this message: "I have come to render you stronger. I will make use of your simplicity. Be completely humble.' She paused for a moment and, drawing me near to her, said: 'I want to save the world through the Host, my fruit. I am one with the Host, as I was with Jesus at the foot of the cross... Horrendous things are in store for all of you if

you all will not convert.' I asked: 'Us?' 'Yes, if the religious do not convert and if the world does not convert.' **'Mother, give me only one sign.'** 'You will be only love and eagerness. All the people who hear and believe my words will receive a sign from me. Make known my words.'"

Two months later, on the 24th of May of 1957, Mary appeared to her in order to comfort her and clearly heard were the following words: "Do not lose your fortitude!" In December of 1957, during a visit to Ngome, Sr. Reinolda had the clear sensation that it was to be the place in which Our Lady wished her Shrine to be built, the place where the seven water springs meet. On the 17th of April of 1958, as an order, Mary said: "Go to your place. Hurry up, the hour is late. I must forcefully hold back the currents of Grace because you do not make any effort to help me. I am asking you to help me, my chosen one." **'What must we do?'** 'Be Hosts. Prepare the Hosts for me. Hosts that place themselves completely at my disposition. Only an ardent sea of Hosts can repel the hate of the unfaithful world and detain the enraged hand of God the Father. Do not tire. I find consolation in revealing myself to you. I will never abandon you.' **'Where is the place of the springs?'** 'On your property, on the mountain.' With a movement of the hand Mary indicated, for the second time, the same identical direction. 'Be not afraid. Hurry to make it known.'"

On the farm of the Benedictines, one of the classrooms of the school was used as a chapel. A picture was painted of Mary, Tabernacle of the Most High and hung in the room until a chapel was built. On the Sunday of Pentecost in 1958 the chapel was consecrated and opened to the public. After the eighth encounter, twelve years passed before Our Lady brought another message."

"The 23rd of March of 1970 was the second night after a horrible apparition of the devil. I was awakened from sleep. All around me was light. 'Mary, Tabernacle of the Most High' was next to me. She took me into her arms and consoled me by saying: 'I know your anxiety. I am close to you. I will not abandon you.' And before leaving she said: 'Look to the other side.' And there was Saint Michael the Archangel in his battle gear and with spear in hand. To his right was a cherub dressed in white with arms folded. After two minutes they disappeared and with them the vivid light. It was a great consolation for me."

"On the 2nd of May of 1971, during a visit to Ngome, shortly before leaving, I went again to the chapel with a small group of women. A catechumen had lamented because she wanted to be a believer but one of her neighbors insulted her and they argued. I prayed out loud with the women and asked Mary to help that woman and to convert the man who was giving her problems. Suddenly, I realized that the picture had come to life. She came forward and her face was immensely beautiful. Emotional, I cried out: **'Look at Our Lady!** I am sure that the women also saw Mary. I personally was so touched that I quietly distanced myself. The man who had caused the problems asked the priest to pardon him and ever since then the peace returned."

Among the many healings is remembered that of the lady Monica Simelane, already taken for dead on account of abdominal tuberculosis and an infection due to a c-section delivery, who while praying and venerating the image of Our Lady 'Tabernacle of the Most High' was instantly cured, and that of Sister Desilla, ill from cancer of the skin at its worst stage, continuously bleeding so badly that she needed to be hospitalized, who while looking at the image of Our Lady of Ngome instantly was healed.



Our Lady appears to Sr. Reinolda with the title of "Tabernacle of the Most High"

Image of the Blessed Mother as she appeared to Sr. Reinolda

The Shrine of Ngome

Interior of the new Shrine

Source of the new shrine

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