



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

Apparition of the Virgin Mary at BERGAMO



ITALY, 1510

In the past it was believed that the oldest document bearing witness to the miracle was the report by the notary Gerolamo Ceresoli of 1646, but recently was discovered a document of 1511, one year after the apparition, describing the events and the reason for the construction of the shrine on the outskirts of Bergamo.

On April 25 of 1510, in the chestnut grove where the shrine is located today, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to two men, probably father and son, busy collecting leaves. Our Lady asked the two visionaries to recount the remarkable event to all the people of the nearby villages, and to report that the **Most Holy Mother of God specifically asked that a church in her honor be built in that isolated place.** To empower her message and to dispel every doubt about the actual presence of the Virgin Mary, suddenly the fruits on a large chestnut tree became ripe. For this reason the shrine is known as "Our Lady of the Chestnut". After hearing the news, the priest owner of the land, Giovannino Moroni, delighted for such an honor, gathered the elders of the area to whom he donated his property so that a church would be built there in honor of Our Lady. After obtaining the full approval of the diocesan bishop, they immediately began the work with the construction of an altar and, afterwards also of the church.



The apparition is depicted by an ancient mural preserved in a chapel a short distance from the church: two farmers are seen in an act of great reverence, one on his knees, the other one standing with his hands joined and with a rake at his feet



View of the Shrine



Surrounding Wood



Interior of the Shrine



Inside the Shrine there is a wooden sculpture depicting the apparition



Visive offering