



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

Apparitions of the Virgin Mary in LA PRENESSAYE



FRANCE, 1652

In 1652 in La Prenessaye in France, the young girl twelve-year-old girl, Jeanne Courtel, a deaf-mute since birth, saw the Virgin Mary who healed her. The Blessed Mother told her that, in that area a statue of her, sculpted by none other than Saint Gallen 1000 years earlier, had been thrown into the pond. The sacred depiction was recovered miraculously intact on the 20th of August in 1652. Afterward, on the site of the apparition, a church was built where the statue was placed known by the name of "Our Lady of Eternal Aid." In total there were fifteen apparitions investigated and approved by the Bishop, Monsignor Denis de La Bard, of Saint-Brieuc. On the 11th of September 1652, he went personally to the site of the apparition, interrogated various testimonies under oath, and gave favorable approval. The Bishop then blessed the first stone of the Chapel requested by the Virgin Mary.

It was the 15th of August of 1652 when the Virgin Mary appeared to Jeanne Courtel while she was praying: **"Beautiful shepherdess, give me one of your sheep."** It was then that the young Jeanne spoke her first words: **"These sheep are not mine... they belong to my father."** The Blessed Mother then said to her: **"Return to your parents... and ask for a lamb for me."** **"But who will watch over my herd?"** **"I myself will watch over your sheep!"** the beautiful Lady reassured her. The young girl quickly went back to her parents, astounding everyone in hearing her speak: **"Papa, a Lady came to visit me and she asked me for one of your lambs."** **"Ah! My daughter, if this Lady knew how to give you back speech, then we will give her the whole herd!"** **"She also said it is necessary to search the pond in order to locate an image of her that sank centuries ago."** **"And what else did she ask you?"** **"She says to be the Virgin Mary and that we must build for her a chapel in the center of the village so that many pilgrims can come to give her honor."** **"If you speak the truth, we will go ask the Bishop for permission to build for her a Shrine."**



Stained-glass window in memory of the apparition



Simulated scene of the apparition



View of the Shrine



Exterior of the church



Portrait of Jeanne Courtel



Tomb where the body is conserved of the visionary Jeanne Courtel



Interior of the Shrine



Statue that portrays the Blessed Mother as she appeared to Jeanne Courtel



Crown of the Blessed Mother's statue



Jeanne Courtel goes to the Bishop to ask for the construction of the chapel in honor of the Blessed Mother



Images of the procession in honor of the feast of the Great Pardon that takes place on the 8th of September, where one can see a plenary indulgence



The miraculous font of water guarded where the Blessed Mother appeared