

Blessed Veronica of Binasco

1445-1497

She was born in 1145 at Binasco of a peasant family. At the age of 22, she entered the Order of Saint Augustine as a lay Sister in the Monastery of Saint Martha in Milan.

Here she will remain all her life, dedicating herself to household work and to begging. Faithful to the spirit of the times, she subjected herself to a hard ascetical discipline, even though she was of frail health. She had a mystical soul and had frequent visions. It seems that precisely after a revelation, she went to Rome, where she was warmly received by Pope Alexander VI. But her intense contemplative life did not keep her from fully living her status as a beggar in Milan and the surroundings for the material needs of her convent and those of the poor and sick. She died on January 13, 1497 after having received for five days recognition and an exalted salute of goodbye from all of the population.

Blessed Veronica had a great familiarity with the invisible world. Her Guardian Angel, whom she would always see under the guise of an adolescent attired in splendid garments, with a gleaming face, accompanied her throughout the whole Liturgical Year, explaining the prayers to her, helping her in the recitation of the Divine Office, and showing her the

liturgical celebrations of Heaven: "My daughter, look up and I will show you the processions that are being prepared in Heaven in honor of the feast of your Father, Saint Augustine. He is at the head of the procession and the two saints right behind him are Saint Nicholas of Tolentino and Saint William." At the end of these heavenly liturgies, in which she took part, he would always give her the Eucharist, saying: "My daughter, rise and come to receive the most august Sacrament which the Lord is sending you!"

