

The Servant of God Maria Consiglia of the Holy Spirit

1845-1900

Emilia Pasqualina Addatis

was born on January 5, 1845, in Naples, but by the age of four, had already lost her father and mother. From her youth she felt a deep yearning to help the disenfranchised and the abandoned, dedicating herself to those who are suffering.

From her childhood, she felt a strong calling to the religious life. But since, in the beginning, she was unclear about God's designs for her, she entered various monasteries before finding her true road, undergoing many agonizing trials.

On July 13, 1872, she founded a new religious Family, the "Hermits of Our Sorrowful Mother," who were warmly welcomed by Bishop Ammirante, who had been Emilia's confessor while pastor in Naples. The Sorrowful Mother was chosen by her to be the patron and protectress of the new Institute. A woman of deep prayer and spirituality, she received innumerable blessings from her Guardian Angel, who often appeared and prayed the holy rosary with her before the image of Our Lady of Good Counsel. At times, the Archangel Gabriel joined them in prayer. One day he arrived with a crown of roses which he placed on her head. Sister Maria Consiglia herself narrates that on different occasions the image of Our Lady of Good Counsel would come alive and at once, a vast crowd of Angels carrying countless roses would hasten to pay homage to the Virgin Mary.

