

Blessed Elizabeth Canori Mora

1774 - 1825

PARADISE

The Blessed Elizabeth Canori Mora, immediately after her death, appeared in resplendent light to her sister Maria as she was reciting her prayers before going to bed, and requested that Maria care for her daughters until they came of age. As Maria had no idea that her sister had died, she passed a sleepless and restless night and in the morning she hastened to her sister's house to discover the truth. The Blessed Elizabeth also appeared to the young woman, Marie Bianchi, bedridden as she was with illness awaiting her supper. She "observed in front of her Blessed Elizabeth, all resplendent in light who said: 'I am on my way to Heaven; you, however, must remember to confess that particular sin...that through oversight you had omitted.' Like lightning, the soul disappeared in a flash. The young women let out a scream and called her mother. She told her: 'Lady Elizabeth has just now gone to Paradise; tell me exactly what time it is.' 'My daughter, you are daydreaming, what you are saying is impossible.' " But Marie insisted crying and declaring as proof that the Blessed had revealed to her a sin which she had inadvertently forgotten to confess. The next day her mother and her sisters, after inquiring, were convinced that the vision of the Blessed had occurred exactly at the moment of her death. Other apparitions occurred in the town of Marino, near Rome; one is mentioned in which she

appeared to a lady friend and said: "If you wish to come where I am going, you must tread this thorny road and do what I advised you many times when I was alive. Do not doubt that I will never forget any member of your family and with that, she vanished."

Elizabeth Canori Mora was born in Rome on November 21, 1774 to Thomas and Teresa Primoli. The family was well off, profoundly Christian and very committed to the education of their children. The Canori couple had twelve children, six of whom died in early infancy. After a few years, when the harvests failed, the cattle died off and the creditors demanded payment - these circumstances changed their economic situation and Thomas Canori was forced to seek help from his brother who lived in Spoleto and who assumed the care of his nieces, Elizabeth and Benedetta. The uncle decided to entrust the care of his nieces to the Augustinian nuns of the monastery of St. Rita of Cascia. It was here that Elizabeth excelled in learning, developed a deep spiritual life and a penitential spirit.

When she returned to Rome, she led a worldly life for several years and was known for her beauty and refinement of manners. Elizabeth considered this period of her life as a "betrayal" despite the fact that her moral life was never compromised.



On January 10, 1796, Elizabeth married Christopher Mora, an outstanding young man, cultured, learned and religious who was thriving in his career as a lawyer. After a few months, Christopher Mora suffered a nervous breakdown and his delicate mental condition changed everything in their lives. Forced to earn her livelihood by the work of her own hands, she followed with the greatest attention her daughters and the daily care of her house, devoting much time to prayer, to the service of the poor and the assistance of the sick. She followed zealously the spirituality of the Trinitarian Order and became a Third Order member. She died on February 5, 1825.

