

Lucia Mangano

1896 - 1946

PURGATORY

Lucia Mangano had several experiences with the souls in Purgatory, some of which she revealed to her confessor. In 1931, Lucia had a vision of Purgatory for the first time. In her own words: “An angel led me to a place full of fire. I was so terrified that I thought I was in hell; instead it was Purgatory. There in the midst of the flames I recognized a friend, deceased for a short time. He told me how much he was suffering and he asked me for prayers. As he shared with me an intense desire to see God, he sighed and he yearned with that desire.”

This is an account of an incident which she experienced on the 1st of November in 1934: “this morning I had a premonition to pray for the soul of a Pastor who had just died a year ago. From a spiritual revelation I experienced a sense of the beatific vision consoling that poor soul; at the same time, my common sense made me feel his soul’s sufferings. I suffered thus for that entire day. In my natural instincts I experienced a vivid desire for God – it seemed as if fire would engulf and burn my entire body. That evening – and with the grace of the beatific vision – I came to know that this soul had been released from Purgatory. At that moment all my natural sufferings had ceased.”

On the 2nd of November in 1934, Lucia shared a similar experience. “Tonight I thought that the natural

instincts of my soul would share the sufferings of the souls in Purgatory to fervently seek God. This fervent wish and desire felt as if a great fire would consume me and inflict great suffering upon me. At around 3 o’clock these feelings ceased and I felt as if a spear had pierced my heart to the point of death; had not that fire or desire not been extinguished I would have been unable to rise that morning. While all my natural instincts were in these painful situations, my spiritual instincts, centered on God, sent a gift to console those blessed souls. It was then that I understood that when a soul is finally received by God, it is so much more capable of freeing other souls in Purgatory.”

On the 15th of December in 1935, Lucia approached her confessor about the deceased Pastor and explained to him: “It is necessary to pray for the Pastor because I hope that during this Christmas novena, Jesus will take him to heaven.” The priest assured her that he would celebrate Mass for his repose on the following Tuesday, but Lucia insisted: “No, celebrate the Mass tomorrow since by then he may not need it. On the first day of the Christmas novena, in fact, Lucia knew that at the Angelus the deceased Pastor was released from Purgatory together with two religious of the Passionist Order.

