

Teresa Neumann

1898 - 1962

PURGATORY

During her life, the famous German stigmatist and mystic Teresa Neumann (1898 - 1962) had experiences with the Souls of Purgatory.

The connections with the expiating Church were not limited only to visions of personal punishments; Teresa also saw some souls appearing who asked for help. In this way once she saw the Pastor of her childhood, Ebel, who said to her: "Pray also for me: I baptized you, I gave you First Communion. If I had punished you thinking you were inattentive, it is not my fault; I did not know yet that your behavior was caused by an extraordinary vision."

Teresa prayed much for him and soon had the joy of seeing him transfigured. In regard to this apparition, she recounted for the first time to Father Naber that during her First Communion she saw the Savior approaching her. This occurrence so disturbed her, that she behaved in such a strange manner, that she deserved the scolding of Father Ebel, who punished her in front of all the other children.

Many were the episodes in which the expiating Souls asked her to intercede for their liberation and subsequently appeared to thank her.

It often involved people who had been already dead for a long time and whom Teresa had never known. As a girl she called the souls of the deceased begging kittens. On November 2, 1928, Teresa was completely exhausted; she felt abandoned and alone. Twice a day,

morning and evening, it was permitted to her to visit Purgatory and observe the suffering souls. They appeared to her like luminous figures, but they were not yet pure. Even there she recognized many acquaintances, some of them asked her for help. On November 9, 1928 she had an ecstasy of the Passion of Good Friday and suffered pains for the liberation of a soul in Purgatory who, after being liberated spoke to her and rose to Heaven before her. On November 23, 1928 she had the usual ecstasy of the Passion of Good Friday. On that day Teresa was able to liberate from Purgatory the soul of the last Catholic Pastor of Arzberg, before Protestantism was introduced permanently. He said that he had to suffer for such a long time in Purgatory because of his tendency to drink and his carelessness in celebrating the Mass. Now however she could liberate him because he had maintained a childlike heart. The night after the Feast of Corpus Domini of 1931 her godmother Forster, who had died a short time before, appeared to her, saying that she felt completely abandoned, thus Jesus permitted her to come to Teresa, so that Teresa would remember the promise she made to pray for her and help her. Teresa noticed that in the apparition her godmother didn't have the sullen look that she had in life, but she seemed much more calm and serene, even if she was only a little luminous.

