THE APPEALS OF OUR LADY
APPARITIONS AND MARIAN SHRINES IN THE WORLD

Apparitions of the Virgin Mary in MILAN

ITALY, 1938-1945

Sister Maria Pierina De Micheli (1890-1945) nurtured the feeling of reparation that grew inside her from the time she was a child; a feeling that ended in complete sacrifice of herself with the passing of years. At the age of 12, she was in her local parish, (Church of Saint Peter in Sala, Milan), on Holy Friday, and she heard a distinct voice say to her: **"Is no one to give me a kiss of love in the face to make amends for the kiss of Judas?"** On May 16, 1914 she donned the religious habit of the Daughters of the Immaculate Conception in Buenos Aires. On May 31, 1938 Our Lady appeared for the first time to Sister Maria Pierina De Micheli: she had a scapular made of two little white flannel pieces joined by a string. On one flannel side the image of the face of Jesus, surrounded by the inscription: "*Illumina, Domine, vultum tuum super nos*" (Light us with your face, oh Lord), while the other side had a picture of a Host surrounded by a sun burst with an inscription around it saying: "*Mane nobiscum Domine*" (Remain with us Lord).

The Virgin tells her: **"This scapular is a defensive arm, a shield of strength, a token of love and mercy that Jesus wants to give the world in these times of sensuality, and hate against God and the Church. They tighten the diabolic nets to rip faith from hearts, evil overflows...A divine remedy is necessary and it is the Holy Face of Jesus. Everyone who wears a scapular like this one and who visits the Holy Sacrament every Tuesday to make reparation for these offenses, receive His Holy Face during the Passion, and receive the Eucharist every day, will be fortified in their faith, ready to defend it and overcome every difficulty - internal and external. Besides this they will have a peaceful death, under the amiable watch of my Divine Son."**

On November 21, 1938 Jesus presented himself, to the religious girl, dripping in blood and with great sadness he told her: **"Do you see how I suffer? Yet, I am understood by so few. There are so many ungrateful people apart from those who say to love me! I gave my heart as a delicate object of my great love for mankind and I give my face as the delicate object of my suffering for the sins of men: I want to be honored with a feast on the Tuesday of Lent, meaning the Tuesday that comes before Ash Wednesday, a feast preceded by a Novena in which all the faithful make reparation with me, united in participation of my suffering."** The fellow nuns were witnesses to only some facts, Pierina had asked Jesus to lead a secret mission for the salvation of souls, while the desire to sacrifice herself grew. Jesus, again on another occasion told her: **"Every time you contemplate my Holy Face, I will pour my love into hearts, and through my Holy Face one will obtain the salvation of so many souls".**

The nun, however, in obedience to her confessor, disseminated the medal and not the requested scapular. So, later in a vision on April 7, 1943, the Virgin Mary told her: **"My child, be assured that the medal is a replacement for the scapular with the same promises and favors."** The adoration of the medal of the Holy Face of Jesus was approved by the Ecclesiastics on August 9, 1940 with the blessing of Blessed Cardinal Ildefonso Schuster, a Benedictine monk who was very devoted to the Holy Face of Jesus, and who was at the time the Archbishop of Milan. Overcoming many difficulties, the medal was coined and started on its path.

A picture of the apparition

A picture of the medal with the Holy Face of Jesus. On August 9 of that year the religious girl obtained permission from the diocesan administration of Milan to coin the medal of the Holy Face of Jesus. Since she was privy to means she got the job of coining the medal underway. One morning she unexpectally found in her night stand an envelope with the necessary funding to realize the project. Obeying her confessor she went forward with the medal and not the scapular. However, in fear of not following the directions as received, she turned to Our Lady who told her: "My child, be assured that the scapular can be replaced by the medal with the same promises and favors, there is only the need to spread it more. Now I have my heart set on the feast of the Holy Face of my Divine Son. Tell the Pope how much it means to me"

Mother Pierina was beatified in the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome on Sunday May 30, 2010. The celebration was presided by Monsignor Angelo Amato, the Prefect of the Congregation of the Causes of the Saints

The chapel in which the main apparitions took place

The parish in Milan, the Church of Saint Peter in Sala, where twelve year old Blessed Maria Pierina de Micheli had the first location of Jesus

The crucifix that Blessed Pierina had when she was 12 years old, spoke to her on Holy Friday saying: "Does no one give me a kiss of love on my face to make amends for the kiss of Judas?"

The hair shirt worn by Blessed Pierina de Micheli by way of mortification for sinners

In witness to the demonic attacks, that got even more intense, and intensified her devotion and her tiring work of spreading the Holy Face of Jesus, various objects that bring back the sign of evil are exhibited. The fight against the "enemy", as she calls him, would accompany her throughout her whole life. In her diary, dramatic testimonies are recorded. Mother Pierina writes: **"The enemy is rabid and has disturbed and disturbs in so many ways. Many times during the night he has thrown to the ground and through the hallways and down the stairs: the medals, ripping the pages, threatening and trampling"**

The building in Milan that hosts the nuns "Daughters of the Immaculate Conception of Buenos Aires", in which the Blessed one had her visions

The servant of God, Sister Mary de Saint-Pierre, a Carmelite from Tours, France: (1816-1848) lived the love of God and the Virgin by spreading the devotion of the Holy Face of Jesus. One day, while praying, she heard Jesus lament that he wanted reparation for so much evil. She was in the habit of practicing the Stations of the Cross, kissing the ground at every station. One time, engrossed in prayer, she heard the voice of the Lord: "I am looking for some "Veronicas" to clean and honor my Divine Face that has few worshipers. My name is cursed everywhere. Even children curse me. Cursing is the sin of the devil. With this the sinner pronounces his own condemnation. It is a poisonous arrow that continues to wound my heart...With my Holy Face you will perform miracles...through my Holy Face you will obtain salvation for many sinners. Through the offering of my Holy Face, nothing will be refused to you. If you only knew how much my Face will please my Father?"

On February 7, 1947 the servant of God, Sister Maria Consetta Puntuna, saw a picture of the Holy Shroud of Turin that shed blood. The blood gushed like a spring and stayed at boiling point for around three hours. Jesus told Sister Consetta that He performed this miracle for the sins of the priests and of all men. The same phenomenon happened again on February 28, and for a third time on March 4. "The Holy Face has bled three times", Jesus would say to Sister Consetta. In every one of these phenomena Our Lord ordered: Pray! Make amends! Compensate! Jesus also said to Sister Consetta: My delightful daughter! I want you to spread my picture very far. I want to enter into every family, convert the hardest of hearts. Take me to the hospitals of recovering people, in the schools and preschools. Talk to everyone about my merciful and infinite love. I will help you to find new apostles. They will be my new electives. The predestermined of my heart will have a special place within it. I will bless them and their families and I substitute myself to run their affairs. I want my Divine Face to speak to the hearts of everyone and I want the picture to be marked on the hearts and souls of every Christian"

On February 10, 1932, the mystic Mother Fora de Santis, founder of the Shrine of the Holy Face in Naples, was in her little bedroom praying, the rosary between her hands, when she suddenly saw an immense light come from the picture of the Holy Face of the Lord that manifest itself and said to her: "Fiora, look at this Face that is so offended and injured, love it and make it loved"

The Blessed Mother Maria Pia Mastena, founder of the Religious Congregation of the Holy Face was a mystic soul. She wrote this herself during this period: "When I start to pray, sometimes even on the street, during lessons at school, while I'm talking with people, suddenly I feel dressed by a spirit that penetrates me all over". One day Jesus told her: "I have pulled all of you into me, your being is lost within me, like you have asked me to do so many times: others see you, but you, try to talk with them, you do not hesitate, because I am alive and react in you". In 1934 Jesus told her "The Way of the Cross" and in the sixth station he referenced the Holy Face of Jesus: "Give me your heart, oh bride...it is there where I long to see the picture of my Holy Face carved: marked on you, you will receive new beauty, new splendor and your heart will widen and enflame and you will only want to see and contemplate my Holy Face, the face of your divine husband." In 1936 she wrote "the instament of Jesus" in which we present a short piece referring to the Holy Face of Jesus: "Have me always in your memory...Although far from the land where I leave you, I gift you the shroud where the impression of my suffering face, soaking in live blood...let this be your mirror where you look at yourself and by proxy you copy in yourself the features of your husband". She wanted to print the Face of Christ on the face of every man. The Face of Christ as a means to restore the face of mankind. The ardor of "reparation and reestablishment of the sweet Face of Jesus in souls ...Through my Holy Face the world will be saved!...The picture of my Holy Face will attract looks of complacency from my Heavenly Father upon the souls and He will yield to them mercy and forgiveness"

Tomb of Blessed Mastena in the cemetery of San Fior

Shrine of the Holy Face in Naples

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