

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

# Apparition of the Virgin Mary in LUMARZO



ITALY, 1583

**T**he Shrine of Our Lady of the Woodland is located in Pannesi, in the township of Lumarzo a few kilometers from Genoa, Italy. According to tradition, it stands where the Holy Virgin Mary appeared to the deaf mute Felice Olcese, of Pannesi, while he was gathering mushrooms in the forest. Our Lady asked the young man to have a temple constructed in her memory and honor, even giving him indications on its shape. In that moment, the young man immediately gained his hearing and speech. According to the wishes of Our Lady, he gratefully promised the construction of the temple and everyone from the town took part and particularly in the fraternity dedicated to Marian devotion.

Although the date of 1583 is engraved on the stone attached above the door of the sacristy, the year of the construction is still controversial today. The shrine has three naves with a rectory, three altars of which the main one is flanked in marble. The one on the left is completed by a picture acquired in 1813 and dedicated to the Most Holy Name of Mary the Virgin, the one on the right completed by an icon acquired in 1812 from the fraternity of Our Most Holy Name of Mary depicting Mary and Pope Innocence XI.

The statue of Our Lady is carried in procession during the Feast of the Assumption and on the anniversary of the Name of Mary which is celebrated the first Sunday after September 8. The Feast of the Apparition is on May 19, a date that has deep roots in the profane rural festivals born in the 1400s. Outside the shrine, there is ample green space and a splendid fountain with flowing spring water.



A fresco that depicts the apparition



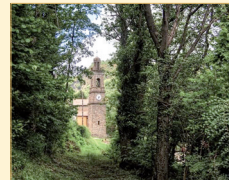
The Shrine of Our Lady of the Woodland



A complex wooden statue behind the main altar that recalls the moment of the apparition



The pulpit



The beautiful woodland that surrounds the shrine



One of the statues dedicated to Our Lady



A commemorative plaque