In the year 1105, the Blessed Mother appeared in the church of Arras, in France, during an epidemic of the plague and of the Miel des Ardennes (the burning illness), and she delivered to the Bishop a lighted candle, promising that whoever would take a drink of water that had come in contact with that candle would have been cured and would not have become ill. It happened like this: the candle did not extinguish nor did the candle consume itself until the epidemic ended. In remembrance of this miraculous occurrence a church was built in honor of “Our Lady of the Holy Candle” or “Our Lady of Ardennes”.

During the epidemics of 1105 two wandering ministrals of the region were condemned to death because each one had murdered the brother of the other. One night both of them had a vision. The Virgin Mary appeared to them saying: “Go to Arras, both of you, to Bishop Lambert of Cullers and go with him to visit the sick in the Cathedral. A woman dressed in white will descend from the choir loft and will give you a candle. All ill people who drink the water that has come into contact with this candle, and who then pour some of the water over their wounds, will be cured”.

At the end, the Virgin posed a condition: the two ministrals, however, would have had to reconcile between themselves. The two went to Arras in search of the Bishop. He became aware that these two hated each other unto death and in no way could they have collaborated with each other in order to deceive him. The Bishop reconciled them, so the three went together to the Cathedral and passed a night there in prayer and penitence. The following day was Pentecost Sunday, the 28th of May 1105. At the first crou of the rooster that morning the Virgin, dressed in white, descended from the choir loft and lighted a candle which she handed to the ministrals. They let fall a few drops of melted wax into the Holy Water that was offered and given as drink to all the sick - who were then immediately restored to health.