

OF OUR LADY APPARITIONS AND IARIAN SHRINES IN THE WORLD

Apparition of the Blessed Virgin in RE



ITALY, 1494

he event, which will forever mark the history of Re, is the bleeding of an image of the Blessed Mother after a sacrilegious and profane act. Today, in reparation for the sin committed, rises a majestic Shrine

in which is conserved the miraculous image.

The evening of the 29th of April 1494, Giovanni, nicknamed "Zuccone" (Chump) the evening of the 28th of April 1494, Grovanin, flexibation 2 Justice Challep's together with his friend Comolo were playing 'piodella' (a stone-throwing game of accuracy) in the little square in front of the church of the village of Re. The game called for each player, upon his turn, to throw his stone, a rock, toward a wooden drum, called "wizard" upon which each player had previously placed a coin. The game ends when the wizard is hit and the coins fall to the ground: they were the prize to the player whose rock was closest to them. Giovanni, infamous for his explosive character, that evening had already lost a significant amount of money, so that in losing again his ire was unleashed even more and he launched his "piodella" toward the image of the Blessed Mother, painted on the nearby church, striking her on her forehead. Reproached by his friend and remorseful of his action, Giovanni knelt in front of the image and asked for pardon. Then two of his friends, gripped by a sense of fear, ran away. Around eleven o'clock that night, two men passing in front of the church noticed an unusual glow under the portico, as if a lighted candle was there. Even they, taken by fear, quickly distanced themselves. After sunrise an elderly man by the name of Bartolomeo was the first to discover the phenomenal occurrence: in his devout gesture of touching the image of the Blessed Mother and of kissing his hand, he noticed with astonishment that it was wet with blood. He looked at the Madonna and saw that from the wound on her head flowed a rivulet of blood and he rushed to call the rector of the church, Don Giacomo. The church bells rang for an elongated time and the news traveled quickly throughout the valley. People hurriedly came and crowded under the portice of the church; with their eyes fixed upon the blood-soaked image, they implored in a loud voice: "Have mercy, have mercy." For the whole day and the following night many people remained at the site of the miracle to pray with lit candles in hand. After midnight the stream of blood increased and pray with lit candles in hand. After midnight the stream of blood increased and dripped to the ground, emanating an intensely pleasant and fragrant scent "impossible to describe." The blood on the pavement was absorbed with "white cloth napkins" and the priest then collected and conserved them. The effusion of blood continued intermittently for twenty days until the 18th of May and lessened as a wound does as it slowly heals. Upon each emission of blood, the event was announced by the ringing of the bells; to that summons, the people rushed by day and by night. That which happened cannot be considered a legend, because it is well-documented in two parchment scrolls contemporary to the era of the facts. These were authenticated and signed by Daniele Crespi and Angelo Romano, the magistrates of Valle Vigezzo, and the first parchment was also countersined by four notaries. The sacretic dimage is werearded in a Shrine dedicated.

countersigned by four notaries. The sacred image is venerated in a Shrine dedicated to the "Madonna of the Blood."











































