

The Bogus Apparition at Tre Fontane

Pope John Paul II referred to Jesus' mother as "Holy Mary of the Third Millennium at the Three Fountains".

He was referring to the apparitions of Mary that allegedly happened at the three fountains on the outskirts of Rome called Tre Fontane.

In 1937, the so-called Servant of God Luigina Sinapi had a vision there. Mary appeared to her commanding her to go to Cardinal Pacelli with the prediction that he would one day be pope. He became Pius XII. This was a good guess for he was Secretary of State for the pope. Also, it's quite common for different Church dignitaries to be told by nuns that they got a revelation from Heaven that they will be pope. One of them has to get it right.

Mary told Sinapi that in a decade she would appear again in order to convert a man who would be planning to murder the pope.

Bruno Cornacchiola was born in Rome in 1913.

He got involved in Fascism believing it would lead to the end of the Catholic Church.

He claimed that a Lutheran in Madrid told him that the Catholic Church was the greatest force of evil ever and Bruno was inspired by this conversation to buy a dagger with which to kill the pope. He inscribed, "Death to the Pope," on it.

He returned to Italy and he said later that this was to bring his plan to kill the Pope to fruition. Catholic sources are clear that he never revealed this until after his reported apparitions of Mary at Tre Fontane.

He joined the Seventh-Day Adventists because they taught that the papacy was Antichrist and evil. He even joined the Communists because of their anti-Catholic agenda.

He beat up his wife and children nearly every day and bullied her to leave the Catholic Church.

She urged him to go to Mass for the Nine First Fridays and he said he agreed as she was so insistent. She said that she would leave the Church if he went along with this. They both attended the Masses and she left the Catholic Church.

He did missionary work for the Adventists and preached hatred against the Church and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

On Saturday April 12th 1947 he was at Tre Fontane planning things to write against the Blessed Virgin. His children who had been with him were not to be seen. He went in search of them.

He found his children praying O what a beautiful lady! in the grotto at Tre Fontane.

He tried to lift them but they had a supernatural weight about them that made it impossible.

He cried to God to help. Then he felt forced to kneel and someone touched his eyes with invisible hands. Then he saw the beautiful lady. He saw black clothing symbolising the priests refusing to wear the black. And he saw broken crosses under her feet indicating the lack of faith in Christ that many priests would be afflicted by.

Mary spoke saying, "I am She who is in the Divine Trinity. I am the Virgin of Revelation. You have persecuted me! Now is the time to stop, enough of this! Come and be part of the true Church, which is the Celestial Court on Earth. God's promises are unchangeable and will remain so. The nine first Fridays in honour of the Sacred Heart of My Son, which your faithful wife persuaded you to observe before you walked down the road of lies, has saved you. Go now and reconcile with the Church, and with the Holy Father. Live the Divine doctrine, practice Christianity, live the faith. The Hail Mary's that you pray with faith and love are like golden arrows that go straight to the Heart of Jesus. Go, pray much, recite the rosary, and pray for the conversion of sinners, for unbelievers and for all Christians".

She spoke to him for longer than 80 minutes. She spoke slowly to make sure he memorised what she had to say. And she used rhythm to help him remember it better. He could remember all she said afterwards exactly as she said it. The children saw her lips move but they heard nothing she said.

speaks of a vision of Mary. Mary is obviously confirming that ridiculous interpretation. The Woman of Revelation is not even described as a virgin.

The apparition preached the truth of the assumption of Mary, the doctrine that she was taken up body and soul into Heaven.

"Il mio Corpo non marcì, né poteva marcire, Mio Figlio e gli Angeli mi vennero a prendere al momento del mio trapasso..."

"My body could not perish and did not perish, My son and the angels came to claim me at the moment of my death." She is boasting that her body was unable to rot.

"Si preghi assai e si reciti il rosario quotidiano per la conversione dei peccatori, degli increduli e per l'unità dei cristiani. Le Ave Maria del Rosario sono frecce d'oro che raggiungono il cuore di Gesù..."

"Always pray and recite the rosary daily for the conversion of sinners and the non-believers and for Christian unity. The Hail Mary's that you say with faith and love are as many golden arrows that pierce the heart of Jesus". This is the only time she mentions Jesus. She is not interested much in bringing us to Jesus. The reference to arrows imply a wish to inflict pain on Jesus. The rosary according to her is intended to hurt him to make him give one what one asks! Believers answer that the arrows are golden arrows of delight. A revelation called the Golden Arrow takes that understanding.

"Con questa terra di peccato opererò potenti miracoli per la conversione degli increduli".

The Virgin's promise is ludicrous. "With this sinful earth I will perform great miracles for the conversion of unbelievers." If she would do that, then clearly there will be queues forty miles long for the soil. How could it last and what about the damage to the environment? Making the soil get used for magic is an admission of inability to make a magic spring.

"I want to give you absolute proof of the divine realty which you are experiencing, so that you will exclude any other motive for this encounter, evil motivation included. This is the sign: Every time you meet a priest in church or in the street, approach him and address him with these words: 'Father I must talk to you.' If he answers: 'Ave Maria! - My son, what do you want?', beg him to stop because he is the chosen one. Tell him what your heart dictates and obey him.

Bruno would have encountered a priest like that eventually. And as he had a reputation for apparitions of Mary, this increased the chance a priest would say that to him. This prophecy is based on good guesswork.

The following was easy to fulfil by manipulation, "In fact, he will direct you to another priest by saying, 'He is the one for you.' Afterwards you will go to the Holy Father, the Supreme shepherd of all Christians, and give him My message personally. The one that I will point out to you will take you to the Pope. Some people to whom you relate this vision will not believe, but let that not disturb you."

"In questo luogo voglio avere un santuario ed essere venerata con i nuovi titoli Vergine della rivelazione e Madre della Chiesa!"

In this place I want a sanctuary and I want to be venerated with the new titles of Virgin of Revelation and Mother of the Church.

Why would she emphasise getting the title of Virgin of Revelation? It was not exactly a title that would make Catholics or scholars buzz. And she already was known as Mother of the Church.

She said, "Science will deny God and will refuse His calls." She would have said an interpretation of science would do that. To say it will be science itself is really saying, "Those who check God's existence out scientifically will see he is to be denied".

Bruno scratched on the ground the following, "On 12th April 1947 the Virgin of Revelation appeared in this grotto to the Protestant Bruno Cornacchiola and his children and he was converted." Strangely he told the children to say nothing. Despite the fact that he allegedly beat them up all the time, they were not afraid to disobey him. They told everybody about the vision. Bruno was a very untruthful man. Had he wanted the events to be kept secret, he would not have been scratching the message on the ground.

The police interviewed Bruno and his family and thought their stories tallied in the main details.

Cornacchiola went on to claim a total of 28 further apparitions by 1986. The messages became disturbingly fanatical overladen with apocalyptic themes verging on glee. Also many great evils were forecast and never took place. There is not a single convincing prophecy from the lips of his Virgin.

The apparitions were impostures. Bruno was a religious fantasist. His association with the Adventists was insincere and he had been planning to get fame by fabricating apparitions all along. His sudden conversion was simulated. It was all a scam to get honoured as a latter-day St Paul. Bruno went to great lengths to promote the catechism and the Catholic faith. His motive was really his own fame. The holy woman Sinapi made a prediction that a man would be converted by a vision at Tre Fontane. Bruno decided that lie or truth, he was going to be that man. The proof is that his plot to kill the pope was not mentioned until after the apparition...

APPENDIX

In 1980 the Miracle of the Sun was reported at the shrine. Another one happened in 1986. A daily newspaper in Rome, Il Tempo, gives us the account. It shows that such wonders should not be used as proof that a reported apparition is supernatural and approved by God.

"Miracle" On Television: It Has Happened Again at Tre Fontane - Excerpts

At the Sanctuary, the sun's "pulsations" are recorded by telecamera. But the church remains extremely cautious. So many eyes saw it, but only the TV camera was able to record it in an apparently objective and incontestable manner: on the 12th of April last, at the Sanctuary of the Three Fountains on the Via Laurentina, the sun pulsated for a considerable time like a heart subject to violent emotion.

At the same time other incredible changes were observed on the sun's surface, all of them faithfully filmed by the machine of an amateur camera-man who happened to be on the spot at the time. As though in a surrealist vision, the sun at one moment turned bright red and at another emerald green. Its colors glowed and its rays were projected outwards so that gigantic shafts of light shone down from the sky onto the thousands of witnesses who had flocked to the hill.

It has become a long-established habit for Romans to gather here each April 12th. The crowd at Tre Fontane included both highly-placed ecclesiastics and personalities from the worlds of politics and the arts. Mass was celebrated, prayers were said, and people waited. Among them was that same Bruno Cornacchiola who with his three children, long ago in 1947, had had a vision of Our Lady that he had certainly not expected. At that time the grotto of the apparition had been foul-smelling, a place of ill-repute, and the hill itself a wilderness of stones and brambles. Today it is a pleasant place with smooth paths, flowering hedges, electric light and drinkable water as well, of course, as the votive tablets and other adornments of the devotion.

These are human manifestations, of course. But at Tre Fontane there have been in addition no lack of heavenly "signs", and these still continue. There have been miraculous cures, often occurring when the "holy" earth has been applied to the affected part of the sufferer's body. There has been a notable improvement in the morality of the "drop-outs" of the neighborhood, and, to top it all, the miracles of the sun, in accordance with a prophecy made in 1979 by Our Lady to the ex-tram-driver and former unbeliever Cornacchiola. Starting from the 33rd anniversary of Her own first apparition, there were to be - precisely as the Virgin of Revelation had prophesied - "many manifestations and graces, both inward and external".

We have to admit that this promise, great and binding as it was, was very precisely carried out. On the 12th of April, 1980, more than 3,000 persons saw, during the Mass and, more precisely, at the moment of the consecration, the solar disc change in shape and color and present the most extraordinary pictures.

"A few days before this year's repetition", said Pompeo Santorelli, the man who pointed his telecamera lens at the sun," some friends had invited me to go with them to Tre Fontane to shoot some film. It wasn't easy to free myself of family commitments, but I managed to do so. I loaded my TV camera and went to the Sanctuary. I had already filmed some shots of the crowd when, during the Mass, when people were beginning to call out that there was a miracle, I decided to swing the lens upwards. In doing this I was afraid of burning out the cathode tube of the camera, but I reasoned that if, in such circumstances, human eyes could focus on the sun without injury, then the camera would probably not be damaged either. "So I began to film the sun, but to start with on a slant. Then I focused directly on it, and while I was shooting there began the most extraordinary of all extraordinary phenomena: that of the pulsation of the shining sphere."

Signs and portents are, it is said, an alphabet in cipher behind which a message lies concealed. On the eve of dramatic events, the spasms of the sun will seem to many to have a prophetic significance, just as certain dreams have had. The difference this time is that this has been no "dream" - the whole phenomenon has been filmed by a TV camera - even if (and it is important to remember this) the attitude of the Church remains marked by the utmost reticence. - Il Tempo article by A.M. Turi

