

Our Lady of Banneux,



ĐTC gửi sứ điệp cho Đức Giám Mục giáo phận Liège (Bỉ) nhân dịp mừng kỷ niệm 50 năm Đức Mẹ hiện ra tại Banneux.

Vatican- 21.08.99 - Ngày 22 tháng 8 năm 1948, cách đây đúng 50 năm, Đức Cha Louis-Joseph Kerkhofs, Giám Mục giáo phận Liège (Bỉ) chính thức công nhận việc Đức Trinh Nữ Maria hiện ra tại Banneux. Nhân dịp kỷ niệm 50 năm công nhận tính cách siêu nhiên của sự kiện lạ lùng này, ĐTC gửi sứ điệp cho Đức Cha Albert Houssiau, Giám Mục Liège. Trong sứ điệp Đức Gioan Phaolô II gọi lại niềm vui được cử hành thánh lễ tại Đền Thánh Banneux trong chuyến viếng thăm mục vụ tại Bỉ đầu tháng 5 năm 1985. Sau đó ngài nhắc lại việc Đức Mẹ hiện ra tại Banneux năm 1933, ít năm trước đệ nhị thế chiến (1939-1945). Đức Maria hiện đến như sứ giả của Hòa Bình. Ngài mời gọi cách riêng các vị có trách nhiệm về các dân tộc hãy trở nên những người xây dựng hòa bình và những người giáo dục của dân, bằng việc mời gọi mọi người lo lắng đến người anh chị em mình, cách riêng những người bé nhỏ, hèn mọn, những người bị khinh chê, và những người bị đau khổ, vì tất cả là con cái yêu dấu của Thiên Chúa. ĐTC viết tiếp:

Ngày nay, bốn phận chúng ta là cầu nguyện, để Đức Maria rất thánh, Đấng Trung Gian các ơn Chúa, luôn luôn canh phòng và quan tâm đến các con cái của Người, để Người bầu cử cho nhân loại ơn quý giá về hòa hợp và hòa bình.

ĐTC còn viết thêm như sau: Những vụ hiện ra tại Banneux mời gọi các tín hữu học hỏi về ý nghĩa các đau khổ. Ý nghĩa này chỉ tìm thấy trong Mầu Nhiệm Thánh Giá mà thôi. Đứng trước những đau khổ, không thể giải thích được theo phương diện loài người, tín hữu Kitô tự nhiên quay về với Thiên Chúa, vì chỉ mình Người có thể giúp họ chịu đau khổ và sống ý nghĩa của đau khổ và là Đấng nuôi dưỡng niềm hy vọng cứu rỗi và hạnh phúc vĩnh cửu. Như tôi đã viết trong Thông Điệp về Giá Trị của Đau Khổ (Salvifici doloris), tất cả những ai hiến dâng đau khổ của mình, sẽ góp phần cách mầu nhiệm vào việc nâng thế giới lên với Thiên Chúa và thông phần cách riêng vào công việc Cứu Chuộc. Nhân dịp kỷ niệm 50 năm công nhận chính thức việc Đức Mẹ hiện ra tại Banneux, Chúa Nhật 22.08.99, tại Đền Thánh Đức Mẹ tại đây, Đức Hồng Y Jan Schotte, người Bỉ, Tổng Thư Ký Thượng Hội Đồng Giám Mục thế giới, cử hành thánh lễ trong thể cùng với nhiều Giám Mục, Linh Mục, để tạ ơn Chúa về ơn trọng đã ban cho dân tộc Bỉ và cho cả thế giới.

Sau đây là vài điểm cần biết về Banneux:

Trong lúc xảy ra đệ nhất thế chiến 1914-1918, người dân Banneux dâng xã mình cho Đức Trinh Nữ rất thánh - Để ghi nhớ biến cố này, sau thế chiến, xã được gọi là "Banneux Notre-Dame". Ít năm sau, vào đầu năm 1933, Đức Trinh Nữ hiện ra tám lần với em nhỏ tên là Mariette Becco. Điều cảm động là Đức Trinh Nữ đã không quên rằng xã Banneux đã được hiến dâng cho Người. Tại Banneux, Đức Maria đem đến cho thế giới một sứ điệp, như mỗi lần Người hiện ra, rất phù hợp với Phúc Âm. Trước hết Mẹ nói với các người nghèo khổ: "Ta là Trinh Nữ của các người nghèo khổ" ("Je suis la Vierge des Pauvres"), rồi với các người khác, Mẹ Maria nói: "Ta đến để nâng đỡ sự đau khổ của nhân loại". Sứ điệp của Banneux cũng là sứ điệp chung cho cả Giáo Hội, cho cả thế giới, bởi vì Đức Trinh Nữ nói: "Nguồn mạch an ủi, nâng đỡ này dành cho tất cả các dân tộc" và Đức Maria mời gọi chúng ta, một lần nữa, cầu nguyện: "Cầu nguyện nhiều! Từ giã con!" ("Priez beaucoup! Adieu!") (Mariette, là người được Đức Mẹ hiện ra tại Banneux).

I AM THE VIRGIN OF THE POOR

from Marypages

Banneux, Belgium 1933

In 1933 the Blessed Virgin Mary chose one 11 year old child in Banneux to be Her instrument. Mariette Beco was born in Banneux on the 25th March, 1921 and was the eldest of a family of seven children. Her family who was quite poor. Their home was just over a mile from the church, which was in a swampy area. Just on the other side of the road the large pine forests start, which continue until they reach the Eifel.



In 1933 the Blessed Virgin Mary chose one 11 year old child in Banneux to be Her instrument. Mariette Beco was born in Banneux on the 25th March, 1921 and was the eldest of a family of seven children. Her family who was quite poor. Their home was just over a mile from the church, which was in a swampy area. Just on the other side of the road the large pine forests start, which continue until they reach the Eifel.

Banneux, Sunday the 15th of January:

There is snow on the ground and Mariette Beco is sitting at the kitchen window looking out onto the small garden. It is seven p.m. and she is looking for her brother Julien who should have been home a lot earlier. Whilst so doing, she is also looking after the baby in its cradle. Theirs is a Catholic family, although they never go to church or pray; in spite of which Mariet has religious tendencies. She once found a rosary on her way to Tancremont and always carries it with her. While she sat staring into the darkness, she suddenly, saw just a few meters away from her a young lady who seemed to be all light and was very beautiful. She called out: "look mother it is Our Blessed Lady, She is smiling at me". Immediately she took out her rosary and started to pray, continuing to stare at the apparition. The Lady made it very clear that She wanted Mariet to go to her and Mariet stood up to go outside, but her mother who has not seen anything and suspects that it is a witch. Prevents Mariet from opening the door and in fact, puts the lock on firmly. Mariet returns to the window, but the Lady has disappeared.

Banneux, Wednesday the 18th of January:



In the evening Mariette Beco manages to go into the garden. Despite her fears of dark she goes outside into the front garden and starts to pray her rosary, kneeling down in the dark. She suddenly stretches out her arms and Our Blessed Virgin Mary appears in the distance, looking very small above the woods. A few metres away from the Lady, she stands still praying and she sees Our Lady who appears to be praying, gently moving Her lips silently. This lasts for about 20 minutes. Then Mary motions her to follow Her. Mariette Beco does this and comes out onto the main road. Obeying Our Blessed Virgin, Mariette Beco kneels down three times on this road and prays for a few moments. Thus they arrive at a small stream that was running

slowly out of the high road side. Our Blessed Lady stands above the edge of the road and Mariette kneels down beside it. Mary said: "Stretch out your hands into the water". Mariette does this very carefully puts her hands into the water, then Our Blessed Lady said; "This stream is especially for me." She then said farewell to Mariette Beco with the following words; "Good night and we'll meet again". Whilst She was elevated, Her face remained turned toward the child.

Banneux, Thursday the 19th of January:

On this day Mariette, with her father's old overcoat over her head to protect her from the severe cold, went outside. She knelt down having walked a few paces through the snow, to pray. Her father was with her in the garden. After a couple of minutes, she stretched out her hands and cried out; "There She is !!" All remained silent until Mariette Beco said: "Who are you beautiful lady?" Our Blessed Virgin answered her by saying:



Our Blessed Virgin led her along the same path as the on the previous occasion to the stream. Mariette Beco said; "last evening you said; 'this stream is especially devoted to Me, why devoted to me?" Whilst saying this she pointed towards herself. The Blessed Virgin smiled and said: "This stream is for all nations...for the sick!". Mariette Beco repeated these words with a very clear voice and spontaneously, said:" Thank you! Thank You!!" Then Mary said: "I shall pray for you, goodbye for now".

Banneux, Friday the 20th of January:

Mariette is not very well, but this does not prevent her from going outside at 7 p.m. She commences to pray the rosary and after a few moments calls out: "there She is" she then says; "beautiful Lady, what are Your wishes?" and Our Blessed Virgin answered: "I would like a small chapel built" Mary then spread out Her arms horizontally without moving them from Her chest, and with Her right hand She made the sign of the cross by way of a blessing over Mariette for this task. Due to sickness and cold Mariette Beco lost consciousness. Her father and their neighbour carried Mariette Beco inside where she quickly regained consciousness and went to sleep peacefully.



From the 21st of January until the 11th of February Mariette continued to pray her rosary in the garden each evening, despite the cold. Our Blessed Lady did not appear and Mariette Beco is the only person who continues to believe in Our Lady of the Poor who she so much wants to see again.

Banneux, Saturday the 11th of February:

Mariet Beco was on the road with a few other people. It is not until near the end of the second rosary that the people see her stand up and kneel down at the familiar place and thus reaching the stream. She dipped her hands into the water and made the sign of the cross. Then Our Blessed Lady said: "I have come to relief the suffering, I shall see you again soon". Then Our Lady disappeared as usual above the pine trees. Mariet stood up, ran towards the house and wept. She did not understand what the Virgin had told her. "I come to relieve suffering." She did not understand the meaning of the words "to relieve."

Banneux, Wednesday the 15th of February:

The Blessed Virgin appeared for the sixth time in Banneux. Mariet is delighted and says: "The Chaplain has instructed me to ask You for a sign". To which Mary answered: "Have Faith in Me: I shall believe in you". She then entrusted Mariette Beco with a secret. Finally She said: "Pray a lot, goodbye for now". After this even the Chaplain has to 'believe'. The older and more important people become, the more difficult it seems to become to simply believe!!



Banneux, Monday the 20th of February:

It was bitterly cold; even so Our Blessed Lady appeared at the end of the second rosary. She led Mariet to the stream and smiling sweetly, She said to Mariet: "My beloved child pray a lot" Then very seriously, She said. "Goodbye for now." Mariet now has to wait until the second of March before Our Blessed Lady appears during the third rosary for the eighth and last time. Our Lady is very serious and She says: "I am the Mother of The Redeemer - Mother of God". From the seriousness with which She says this it is certain that this is importantly related to FAITH. Is it then so difficult to Believe in the great power of The Mother of God?

Banneux, Thursday the 2nd of March:



Ten days later Mariette Beco saw the Blessed Virgin Mary for the last time in Banneux. Torrential rain had been pouring down since three p.m. Mariet Beco went out, it was 7. pm. She was reciting her third rosary when the rain suddenly stopped. She remained silent, stretched out her arms, got up, took a step forward and knelt down. At home, Mariette Beco revealed the message entrusted to her by Mary. "I am the Mother of the Saviour, Mother of God, Pray much. Adieu."

Banneux was investigated from 1935 until 1937 by an Episcopal commission, after which the evidence collected was submitted to Rome. Meanwhile growing numbers of pilgrims

came to the shrine, and in May 1942 Bishop Kerkhofs of Liege approved the cult of the Virgin of the Poor. In 1947 the apparitions in Banneux themselves received preliminary approval, with this becoming definite in 1949. Like the children at Beauraing, Mariette Beco married and had a family, being, like them, content to remain in the background.

"These apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Banneux are fully approved by the Holy See: 1949"



Source Banneux

