



Mother Gesuina is one of ours, she walked along our roads, climbed our mountains, with the wisdom of saints, with the purity of the little ones of the Gospel, with the strength of women free and capable of making free, and now she is for us, the sign of hope we want to discover more and more.

To our time, marked with moral wounds, with experiences of solitude, with the fragmenting of ideals, Mother Gesuina appears as:

model of interiority:
her only desire was to be saint;

model of communion;
model of hospitality,
the force of living, of hoping, of loving
which were Christ's.

She indicates to us, now, the last reasons for living, what is most essential, always, in every time: the love of God, in whom all men are to be.



She found this love moreover in:

- the Crucifix: her force, hope, and consolation;
- the Eucharist: the living presence of Jesus, a friend;
- Mary Immaculate, mediatrix, mother, friend.

To realize our dreams, our hopes, our desires of justice, peace, and brotherly love, Mother Gesuina indicates this way to us:

to make concrete deeds of goodness every day, actions of love, forgiveness, devotion; in simplicity, serenity, perseverance, with that deep christian optimism which draws its sources from the belief that Jesus died and rose for us.

Mother Gesuina Seghezzi died in Bergamo on 30th March 1963. She is buried in the General House of the Ursuline Sisters in Bergamo.



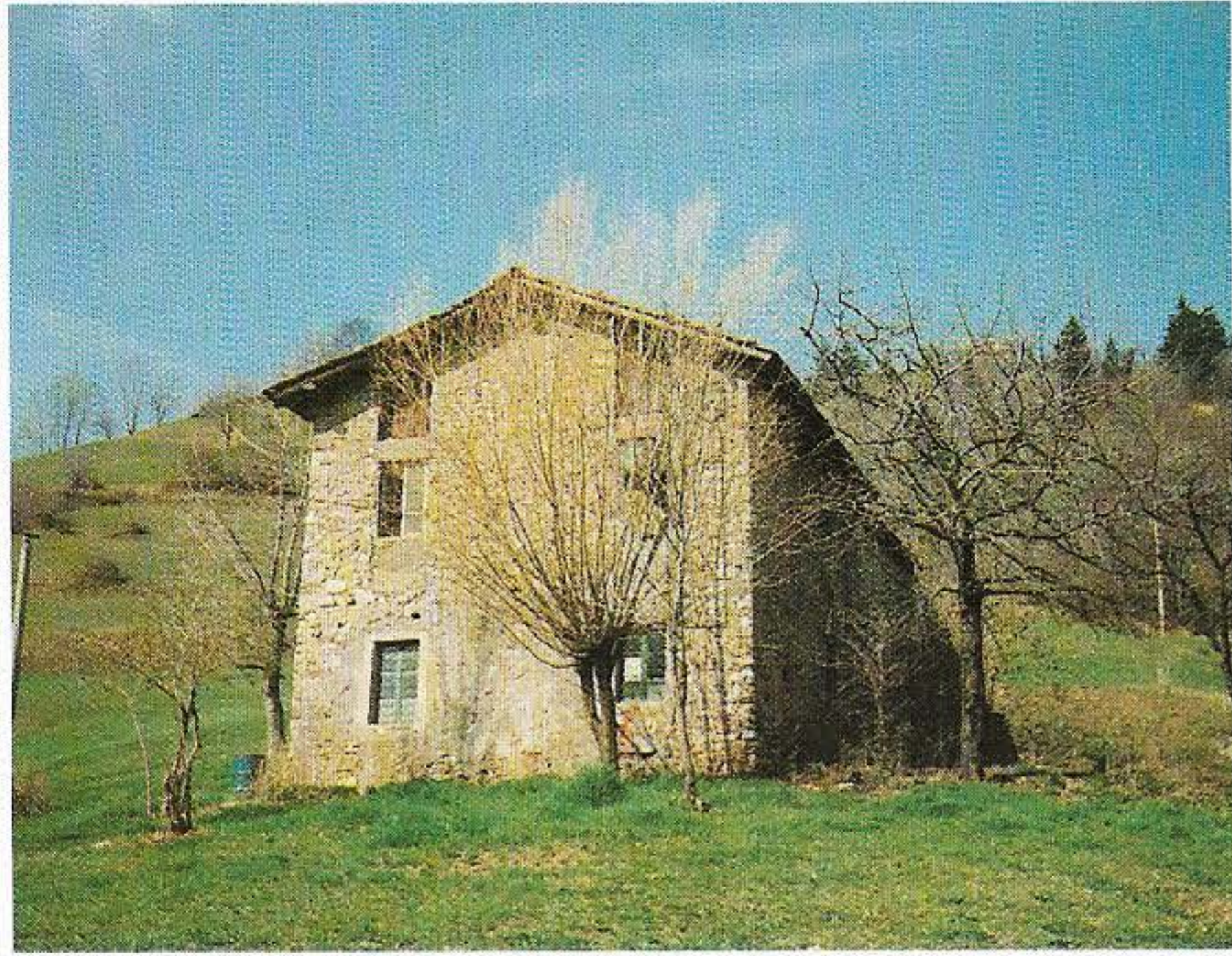
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The tenderness of God



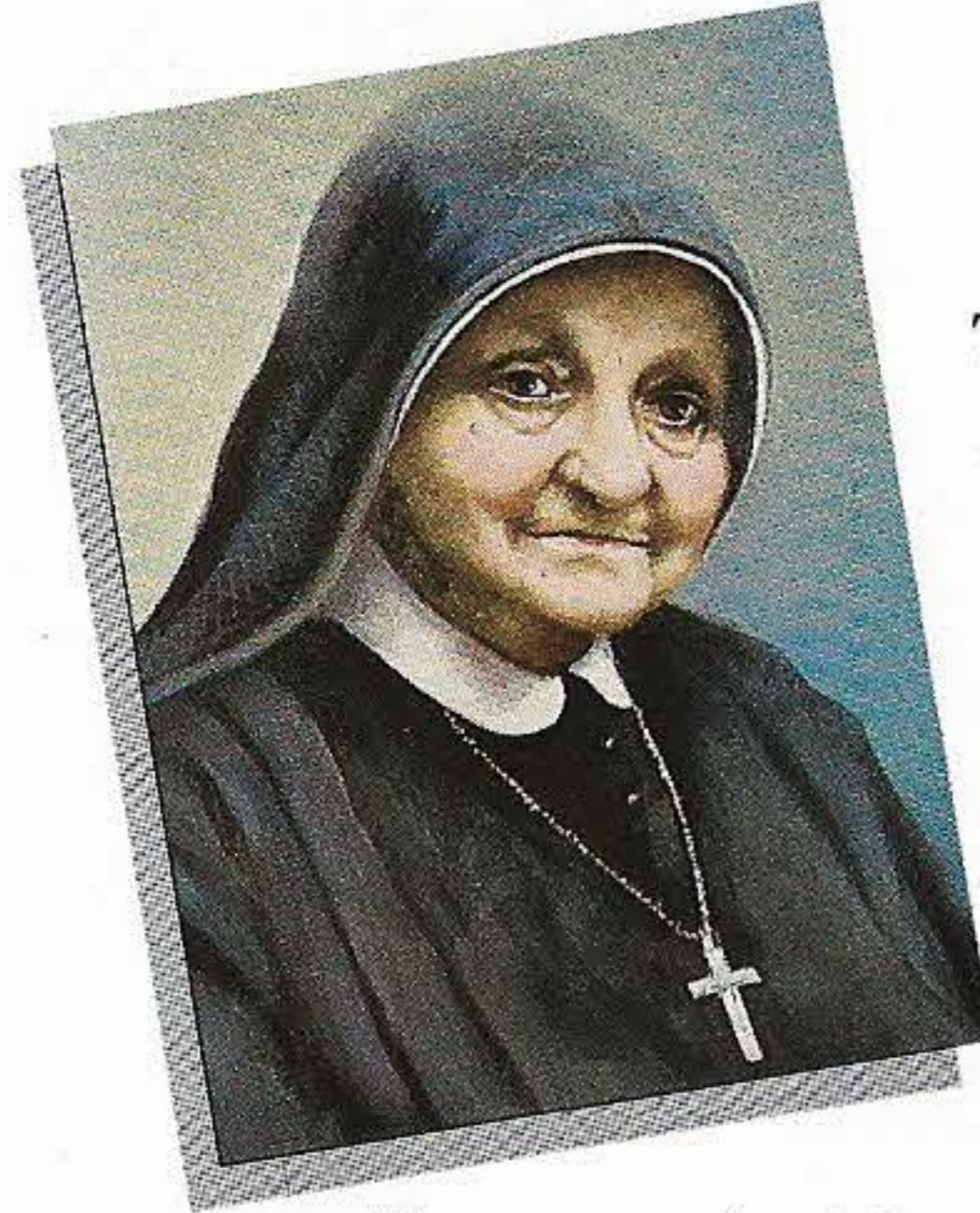
on the face
of a consecrated woman

MOTHER MARY GESUINA SEGHEZZI



Domenica Seghezzi was born on 18th February, 1882, Premolo (Bergamo - Italy). Her father Antonio and her mother Margherita Titta had given their family the richness of christian values.

Domenica had a strong character and a lively intelligence; she soon revealed the desire of completely dedicating herself to God, and agreed promptly, at the age of 12, to the parish priest's proposal, to consecrate herself to God with a vow of virginity. A profound serenity always characterized her life and facilitated the work of Grace which filled her inmost self with the christian joy, breathed upon her as a beautiful, silent mountain. Joy was manifested by her capacity of enjoying little things, like flowers, and the happiness of brothers and sisters. Domenica took part in the parish life and very soon became a guide for the girls put under her care, particularly in the Association of the Daughters of Mary. She was appreciated even at work in a textile factory of Ponte Nossa (Bergamo). She had keen human gifts potentiated by the christian values she had received from her family and from the parish.



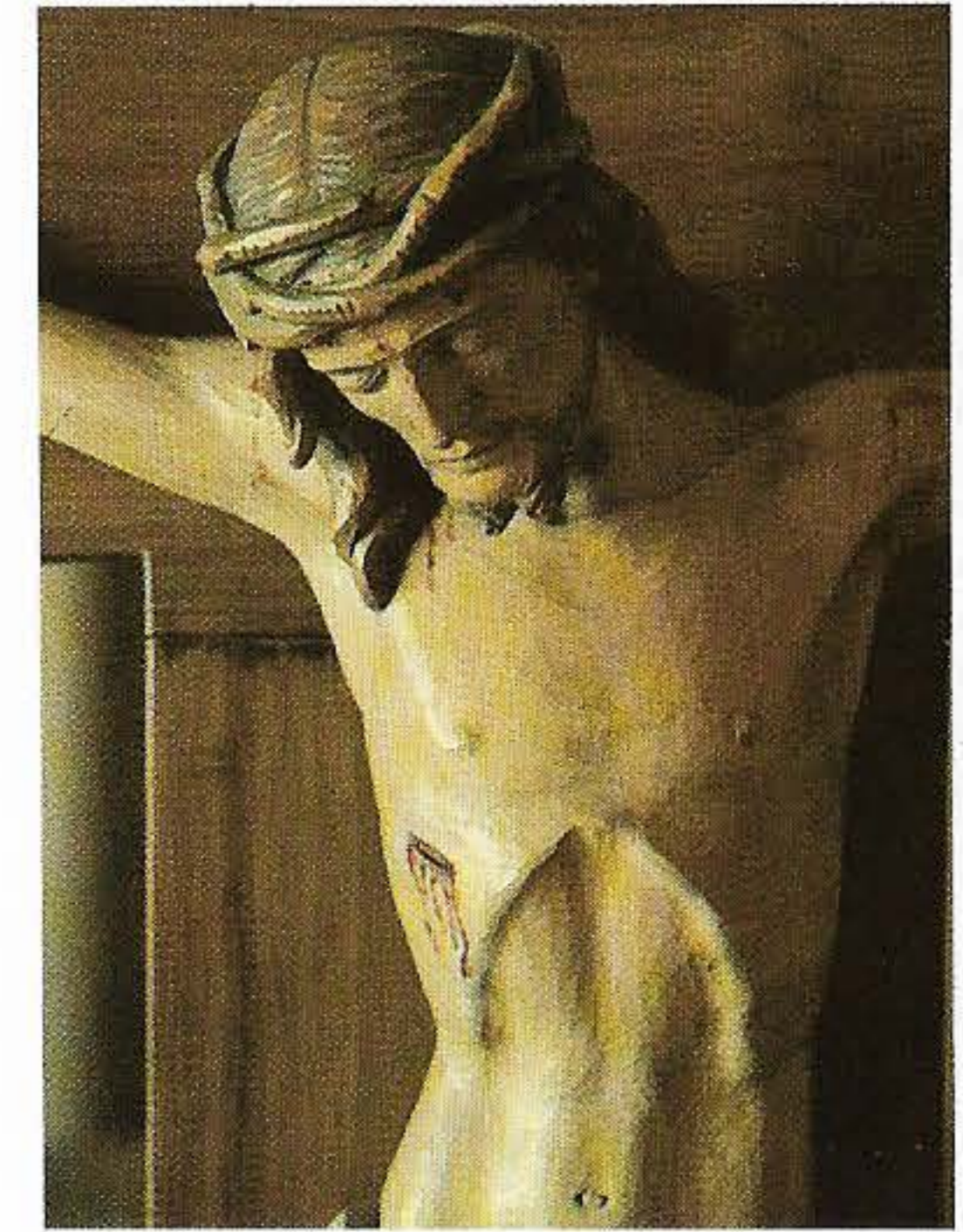
Transparent and bright, she knew how to adhere with decision and firmness to goodness. She knew how to discover and free in herself and in others; the more profound desires of an authentic life.

With those treasures of human and spiritual formation, she left Premolo to enter the Institute of the Ursuline Sisters, where she was given the name of Sister M. Gesuina. Her love, strength, and model was the Crucified Jesus. Sister Gesuina left everything in order to choose the most essential and worthy, the fulfillment of our dreams that makes us happy and fills our human hearts.

At the orphanage of Gandino, the girls under her care were touched by her kindness of heart, by her gifts of understanding their deepest needs, with the tenderness of a mother, being herself so simple and young.

In 1912, she had been chosen as a teacher of the Novices.

Her qualities of training and her deep love for consecrated life, were so luminous to arouse desires of sanctity.



Everyone she met was inspired with trust, hope and courage.

Mother Gesuina knew how to light up the way and indicate with great determination the will of God. What struck many parents - when they went to her either for the education of their children or to accompany their daughters entering the convent was an inner force, coming from her, that made them say, with the certainty of the simple folks: «She must be a saint».

For thirteen years, she had been General Mother of the Ursuline Sisters, and then Vicar until her death. During this period, she showed her whole personality and revealed her greatness.

The glory of God and the love for neighbours were her constant concerns.

She opened many religious houses in Italy and Africa, to improve and spread charity and relieve poverty.

Mother Gesuina built up deep relations between sisters and lay people. She loved the Church and prayed for the sanctity of priests and vocations.

And sanctity shone in her nephew, too, Father Antonio, who realized, in his life this manifestation to God and neighbours:

«All that I am is yours, as a gift».