

## MOTHER MARIA ELEONORA GIORGI (1882 – 1945)



Angiola Giorgi was born at Scheggianico di Firenzuola on January 16, 1882. She was the daughter of Gaspero Giorgi and Maria Montefiori.

A local lady taught the young Angiola to read and write and her father taught her to do her sums – as they said in those days. As a young girl her parents sent her to work as a domestic in Florence for a gracious lady, Eleonora Zimmerman. After only a few months she contracted typhus and was at death's door. Our Lady appeared to her and assured her that she would be cured. She was further told her to dedicate herself to Our Lady. Angiola promised to do this and was cured of her illness. She then went back to her family in Firenzuola. Our Lady appeared again and reproved Angiola for not keeping her promise. This time Angiola spoke with her parents; her parents were upset – they had seen their daughter at the point of death.

They agreed that she should consecrate herself to God in an institute dedicated to Our Lady.

On October 18, 1902, she entered the Congregation of the Sister Servants of Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows, of Florence. On January 9, 1904 she was clothed in the Servite habit and took the name Sister Mary Eleonora of the Three Holy Kings. On December 30, 1905 she made her temporary profession. Ten years later, on December 30, 1915, she professed her perpetual vows.

During that period she had many diverse experiences: in 1906 she was a works mistress at Campi Bisenzio and then at Castiglione dei Pepoli in 1908. In August 1913 she became the superior of the Castiglione community.

After her perpetual profession she was appointed Superior in Calenzano (1917-1920). The First World War was raging at the time. She was sent to help the wounded in Via Giotto, Florence. After a brief period in Rapallo she returned to Castiglione in 1922 as Superior. She remained there until 1928 when she was elected Superior General of the Congregation even though she had no school diploma.

From 1928 to 1940, twelve years, she oversaw the Congregation and its work. She was a glowing example of holiness, impressive humility and an exceptional spirit of prayer.

At the end of her second six-year term as General she was appointed Mistress of Novices. She carried out this role until her death on November 6, 1945.

The canonical process began on May 28, 1965 and concluded on July 7, 1970. In conformity with the new norms of Canon Law further inquests were conducted until October 23, 2000.

In February 2006 we presented the *Positio super vita, virtutibus et fama sanctitatis* and are now endeavoring to prove the unexplainable nature of the miracle granted an eight-year old child in Finland (Leonardo Iegiani) through the intercession of Mother Eleonora Giorgi. We are preparing the *Positio super miro*.