

A TIME OF DOUBTS AND OF EVENTS

Translated from French by Deacon Andrew Usersa

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In 1966, Conchita and Mari Loli experienced deep doubts about their visions as Our Lady had predicted, but that did not stop the unfolding of events. At that time, Conchita was a student in a boarding school in Burgos (Spain).

Extract from a letter from Reverend Dom Robert Lamarzelle, written from the Abbey of Silos in Spain on April 5, 1967 (after the [negative] communique from the Bishop of Santander regarding Garabandal).

You wish to know what is going on exactly with Garabandal. It is very simple. By a letter of March 7, [1967] Cardinal Ottaviani [Prefect of the Holy Office now the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith], thinking that the Bishop of Santander had managed the situation of Garabandal with all objectivity, wrote to him that he was reporting back to him and leaving up to him the judgment as to the matter. That Bishop contacted the four seers at a moment when they were undergoing an extreme crisis of doubt as to the veracity of the apparitions. It is acknowledged that the Bishop did a lot of harm to Conchita in embedding her doubts. His interview lasted seven hours¹ and the Bishop was already a priori against that which he termed "these young girls' games." You are aware of the text of his communique. I think that to the eyes of God it has no value and it is a lie, because in all likelihood, the occurrences at Garabandal are supernatural. There have been miracles and conversions. We know some of the witnesses who were there from the beginning and who followed everything. The Bishop has never questioned them, and the same goes for those who have been converted. The only thing he knows about Garabandal is that which the four seers have told him at a certain moment when they no longer believed, by divine permission. No doubt, at that moment, they were sifted by Satan, as were the Apostles at the moment of the Passion.

Currently, three of them have regained their faith. Mari Cruz will not believe again until the moment of the Miracle.² In his official *Nota*, Bishop Puchol ended as follows: "Once more it is good to remember that the true messages from Heaven come to us through the words of the Gospel, the Popes, the Councils and the Ordinary Magisterium of the Church" (Santander, March 17, 1967).

You can see by his own words that he does not admit, a priori, the revelations that could have been made to young girls, such as Bernadette at Lourdes or Lucia at Fatima.



Conchita with her mother and Fr. Luis Luna on the way to Rome in 1966

Conchita was to have come to the Benedictine Abbey of Silos (of the Solesmes Congregation) with her saintly mother Aniceta. But the *Nota* from the Bishop has arrived. The result is that Aniceta, who is very prudent and wise, has decided to postpone her visit. However, last Sunday, Dona Luis came by for a second time. Dona Luis [Chon de Luis] is the lady in Burgos with whom Conchita spends each Sunday afternoon (in Burgos).

During Holy Week, Conchita was at Fatima with the school she is attending and where only the Superior knows her identity. The Bishop's *Nota* has not affected Conchita or the witnesses from the beginning as to the events of Garabandal. One hoped that the Bishop would have waited to see if a Miracle would or would not happen, but that hope was illusory.

The Bishop absolutely does not believe that Garabandal is something serious. In conversations with Dona Luis, objective books which I have read on Garabandal, what Conchita has said about this, all point to the fact that the awaited Miracle will be immensely large, commensurate with the culpability of the world, a world that merits an extremely big chastisement. The Warning that will precede it will be extremely painful, a thousand times worse than death. It involves, in addition to something visual and auditory that will terrorize one, the ability to see from God's light the offenses that each one has committed against God's infinite Kindness and Majesty, offenses which were in a way the cause of death of the Man-God, who is Love itself.

Last Sunday, one of the important witnesses of the events at Garabandal was here. He told us that Spain is more evil than France, although I am not so sure about that! In order to get the world on a healthy track, it is necessary that God intervene. He will manifest His love in an extraordinary way at Garabandal, perhaps on August 3 (feast of the Martyr St. Tarcisius, Martyr of the Eucharist, and not on the 19th as shown in the Martyrology [of the Catholic Church]).³ Then, let us wait and hope that the Warning purifies us to such a degree that it makes us saints for the glory of the Lord.



From left: Aniceta with Chon de Luis of Burgos a friend of Conchita and witness to the Garabandal apparitions; Cardinal Alfredo Ottaviani; and Bishop of Santander Puchol Montis who interviewed Conchita

1. Conchita wept when the Bishop dies in an automobile accident. During the interview, he asked her if she had a crucifix or medal kissed by Our Lady so he could venerate it. Conchita asked him why he would want to do it since he didn't believe. He replied to the effect that is case it is true.
2. This was thought at the time even by Conchita, but more recently Mari Cruz has testified to the truth of the apparitions (see January-February 2014 editions of this magazine.)
3. The letter writer was unaware that Conchita said the Miracle would occur in March, April or May.

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