

Ghislaine Pernak

## Pilgrimage to Spiri-Maria

Coming on pilgrimage to Spiri-Maria is like plunging in the vivifying water of baptism; it is receiving new strength.

It is setting our footsteps in those of Marie-Paule, as it was said during the Days of the Lady last September.

It is having the possibility of travelling the same road as she did, from her birth in the humble house at Lac-Etchemin until her departure for Heaven at the Residence of the Lady.

And, by extension, it is also to recollect oneself at the Cemetery Mary Queen where, when we stop at each grave surrounding her place of rest, it is as though we were rereading pages from *Life of Love*.

Coming on pilgrimage to Spiri-Maria is resting our soul next to the Blessed Sacrament where Him and Her lovingly look upon our wretchedness, for life outside the Work is so different, so noisy and so onerous.

In the indifference of the world that does not know the Lady, we are at great risk of losing confidence and hope. We may even risk letting His and Her voice be stifled as they call us to follow them.

Coming to Spiri-Maria, is living Heaven on Earth, breathing in the air of the Beyond.

Spiri-Maria is silence, whiteness, beauty; it is the purity and simplicity that uplift the soul with very little effort. Everything leads us to a sense of wonderment and adoration.

And the different elements that make up the sober adornment are a marvelous support for meditation.

Coming to Spiri-Maria is delighting in wonderful encounters and being able to talk about the goodness of God.

It is to converse with the One who brings us together: the Lady, Marie-Paule. Far from Spiri-Maria, in the milieus in which we live, in our family even, it is often very hard to mention the grand plan God conceived for our humanity.

Coming to Spiri-Maria is being carried away by a communion of souls and perceive at the same time the vibrations of an organ selection, accompanied by violins and trumpets and wonderfully interpreted by talented musicians, all of it making us quiver with joy and gratitude.

It is benefiting from conferences and homilies, in an upsurge that vitalizes us and even intensifies our attachment to the Lady's Work, to the Lady, to the new faith, to the renewed Church, etc.

Finally, coming to Spiri-Maria is also taking advantage of the coolness and purity of the woods like those where Marie-Paule liked to relax. A nice path allows one to take a pleasant stroll, along which one finds here a station of the cross and there a little statue of the Lady. Everything encourages prayer and recollection. And the little stream winding its way between the trees to end up in Etchemin Lake, also sings its hymn of thanksgiving.



Chapel Spiri-Maria



Cemetery Mary Queen



Station of the cross



Statue of the Lady next to the stream