



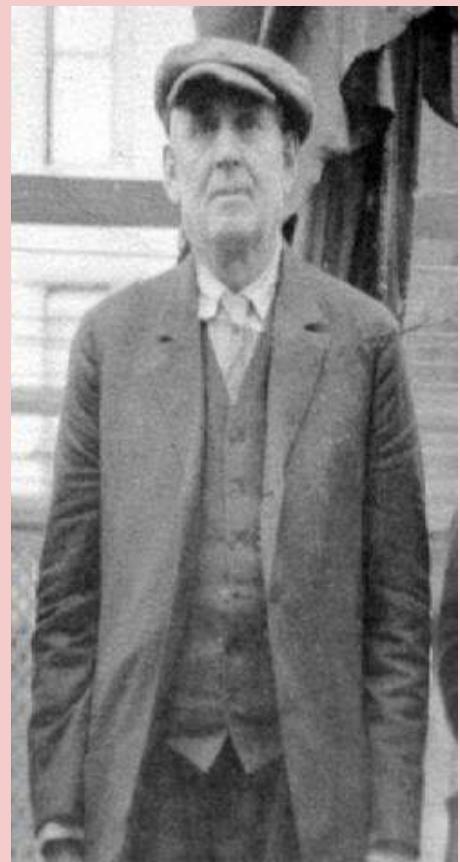
Our Lady of Knock

Who is she?

14 witnesses saw a heavenly apparition, who they claim was the Lady of Knock. The apparition occurred on that August evening for about two hours, between about 7pm and 9pm Even though it was raining heavily, the bright vision shone before the few people who came to notice the tableau before them: the Blessed Mother with hands raised and eyes uplifted, St. Joseph (with a “steel-gray” beard, turned toward his spouse) standing to her left and St. John the Evangelist (with a miter on his head and a book in his hands) to her right. And beside them, an altar with a cross and the Lamb of God upon it.



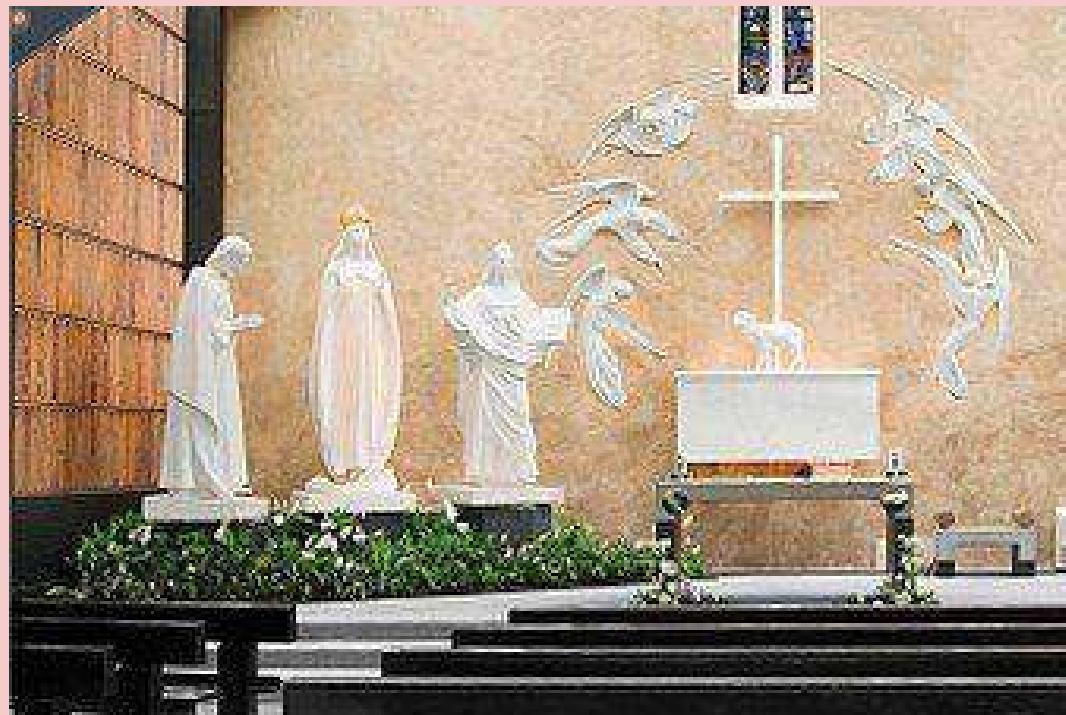
Where did her story originate?



Her story began in the Basilica of Knock, in County Mayo, Ireland. This is where the 14 witnesses saw the heavenly apparition in August. The Marian apparition at Knock is notable for many reasons. The first is that it occurred in an Ireland that was still feeling the social and political ramifications of the famine years of the 1840s. The second is that of all the Marian apparitions, this was the first and only time when Mary did not appear by herself. Lastly—and most notably of all—unlike the other apparitions, Mary did not speak one word. She was silent.

What does she do?

The Pope stated that Our Lady of Knock exemplifies the importance of prayer and hope as he officially designated the Knock Shrine as an international Marian and Eucharistic shrine. The 14 witnesses stopped and began to pray the entire rosary all together in the presence of their vision.



Her Song



If you can remember the song from the Saint Brigid mass, 'Golden Rose, Queen of Ireland, all my cares and troubles cease' that is referring to Our Lady of Knock. The hymn "Our Lady of Knock" was written by Fr. John MacGillivray, a Scottish Catholic priest, in 1879, shortly after the apparition at Knock took place. The hymn lyrics reflect the deep devotion and gratitude felt by Catholics towards the Virgin Mary, who is regarded as a powerful intercessor and protector.