

Love wins



Servant of God

LUCIA SCHIAVINATO

Musile di Piave, Italy
31.10.1900

Verona, Italy
17.11.1976

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Lucia Eleonora Schiavinato was born in Musile di Piave , Italy, on October 31st, 1900.

She received her education at the Catholic Action, the most prominent Italian catholic organization. She always felt a strong predilection for lonely older people, abandoned children, people with physical and mental disabilities, even those with a severe condition.

She took care and put some of them up, founding the residential care home called Piccolo Rifugio. The first house opened in S. Dona` di Piave, Italy, on Little Christmas Eve, 1935. Later on, more houses opened in Italy, specifically in Roma (1955), in Ferentino and in Vittorio Veneto (1957), in Verona (1960) and in Trieste (1962).

In the 1957, in Campocroce di Mogliano, Italy, the Servant of God opened the first women's rehabilitation center, called Villa Madonna della Neve, with the aim to provide support services to ex- prostitutes.

In the 1964 she took off to Brazil, where she offered her service to the local Churches of Bahia, Maranhao, Amazonia and Acre .

She showed a special love for the lasts: the "alagados" from Savador de Bahia , the lepers, the indios.

Mamma Lucia spent the last month of mission in Brazil in the Grajau` (Maranhao) leper colony. At the beginning of May, 1976, she had to go back to Italy as she started to show symptoms of a serious disease: an intestine cancer.

On November 17th, 1976, she ended the ride of her life, to become part of the victory of Love over death.

The cause for her Beatification and Canonization was started by the Diocese of Treviso, Italy, on March 8, 1999. On August 15th of the same year, the Secular Institute she founded in 1954, was approved as an Institute of Pontifical right.

SOME OF MAMMA LUCIA'S THOUGHTS

1. Love always wins. Sometimes with death... Where could love ever fail? It couldn't, never and in no place. The external doing may fail, the most active apostolate may fail, but the fruit of love, which sustained them, will never fail.
2. I sing hymn of life to God: everything He gave me, everything He took off me, everything He left me, everything I won't realize and, though, I wish I would... "I'm in your hands" and everything is nice, is right and desirable to me. Here there is the source of everlasting joy, to share with all my brothers.
3. The more I love, the more my steps will keep enlightened
4. My dear infirm friends, put yourself in a very high place, where God put you, with your illness, over there before the Ostensory. You are between Heaven and Earth, risen to the cross as Christ was once, and always on the altar, to intercede on His behalf.
5. The goals achievable with the only human means, without the prior need of Providence, lose their supernatural mark and results. Providence is infallible; it miraculously and always keeps appointment with faith.
6. Even if you fill up a tiny space in the universe, you may fill up a huge space in Love.
7. No one should shoot his eyes or content or deceive himself for his mediocrity: those who don't fully experience charity, will cause scandal and damage to others.

PRAYER TO THE FATHER

For the beatification of the Servant of God Lucia Schiavinato

Oh Father,
Your *LOVE WINS*, braving through our reserves
anticipating all our needs.
We pray to You on behalf of Your Servant
LUCIA SCHIAVINATO,
Who devoted her all life to CHARITY.
You deeply assimilated her
to the Eucharist Christ,
VICTIM of expiation for our sins,
making her a tangible sign
of Your TENDERNESS
towards poor, suffering and neglected people.
Give us the joy of venerating her in the glory of the Saints
and to keep her as a MODEL of Christian life.
Through Her intercession, give us the grace
we ask YOU with great faith.
For Our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Glory be to the Father...

With ecclesiastical approval.

Curated by the Postulation for the Cause of Beatification,
care of Secular Institute "Volontarie della Carita'"
Via Dante, 9 – 30027 – S. Dona` di Piave.