

CAMERA THAT SHE BELIEVES WAS A SIGN FROM ABOVE

HEAVEN'S DOOR

THIS is the picture that shows what thousands believe to be the Blessed Virgin appearing in Ireland.

The image, captured on video, appeared to a crowd of 8,000 at Knock Shrine last Sunday.

But Breege Queenan, who shot the footage on a home movie camera, says she did not see it until she watched the video later on her TV.

"I have it on camera and the camera does not lie," Mrs Queenan told the Sunday World.

Psychic

"At first when I looked at the video I saw a woman's face, then when I looked at it a bit longer I could see her sitting in the sky, just above the sun and to the right of it."

The image is totally different to what Mrs Queenan saw last Sunday as she stood in front of Knock's old church, staring at the gable wall where the Virgin is believed to have appeared in 1879 along with St Joseph and St John.

The mum-of-two, who travelled 30 miles from her home near Boyle, Co Roscommon, was part of a large crowd who gathered at the shrine in the Co Mayo town after Dublin clairvoyant Joe Coleman predicted the Virgin would return.



BELIEVERS: Breege Queenan and her dad John Beirne



TRUTH IS OUT THERE: Our girl Gerakline investigates

By GERALDINE COMISKEY

The Ballyfermot psychic, who has had visions of Our Lady since 1986, said he had seen the Virgin three times in recent months - once in Dungloe, Co Donegal, and twice in the old chapel at Knock, where he claims to have seen her statue moving.

"The statue comes alive, she opens her arms, a lovely pink cloak comes around her, there are stars above her head, she turns into Jesus, then to Padre Pio and then back to herself. While the vision is happening, I can see nothing else in the chapel," he told the Mayo News.

He added that his friend, Keith Henderson, and others had also seen Our Lady at Knock in recent months.

Atmosphere

And Mr Coleman claims he was among 15 people who saw "crosses flashing in the sky" for about an hour at Dungloe's Kerryown shine a fortnight ago.

He predicted 50,000 people would flock to Knock shrine - though Mrs Queenan and others said the figure was closer to 8,000.

Mrs Queenan told the Sunday World: "Everyone was on a high. There was an amazing atmosphere and there was a

huge crowd outside the church - I'd say it was more than 5,000. You couldn't move in the crowd but everyone was very gentle."

Most of the crowd ignored parish priest Monsignor Joseph Quinn's plea over the tannoy to come into the nearby Basilica, where Mass was taking place as part of the annual pilgrimage organised by the Dominican fathers.

As the clock struck three, exactly as the psychic predicted, people started having visions.

"People saw different things," Mrs Queenan said.

"One man's hands turned orange and everyone was trying to touch him - he

was getting very frustrated. Some said they saw the Host in the sky. Others, like myself, saw the sun changing colour and dancing in the sky."

Mrs Queenan added that she "wasn't very excited" by that as she had seen it before in Medjugorje.

"But my video of it happening in Medjugorje was ruined - the sun glared on the camera lens.

Sceptical

"So this time I turned the camera on the glass wall in front of the gable, to film the sun's reflection."

She showed it to her two daughters, Annamarie (20) and Katy-Jane (17), who "saw it straight away".

"And my father [John Beirne], who's 92, saw it very clearly," she says.

"The only one who couldn't see it was my husband - but he's sceptical about that sort of thing."

Some locals in Knock were also ready to, well, knock it.

One man said: "I won't believe it until the Church officially confirms it. But that could take hundreds of years."

After last weekend's frenzy, Knock this week was a ghost town.

But thousands are expected to pour in on Halloween - when Mr Coleman predicts another apparition.

Mrs Queenan said she would be one of them.

"I'm taking a day off work for it. It's not every day you get to see Our Lady."

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