

DANIELE CORBETTA

REBEL FOR LOVE

DON GNOCCHI ON THE RESISTANCE

For the first time we have a book that tackles without preconditions the issue of the role played by the blessed Don Gnocchi during the years of resistance. A period of Italy's history which is in many ways heroic, but also controversial. Those were years in which the greatest minds of the country and the most generous hearts paved the way, sometimes paying with their lives, for a better Italy that inspired one of the most modern constitutions in the West. Certainly among these were resistant Catholics, who spent their lives to restore freedom, dignity and a sense of the state to the citizens that had been oppressed and humiliated by a brutal dictatorship. It would be enough to simply remember the "white" partisans of the OSCAR network, the organization Visconti di Modrone, the Green Flames, and the police that remained loyal to the legitimate government, among whom the activities of the resistant Don Carlo Gnocchi, "rebel for love", were carried out that cost him an arrest and prison in San Vittore by the German SS. His anti-fascism was undeclared and not exhibited, rather it lived as the scope of testimony in the name of evangelic

humanism and the Christian faith. An anti-fascist experience as a spiritual direction and free of any ideology, created from the idea of living in a priesthood that was not separated but attentive to the social and institutional affairs of its people. This valuable book does justice to many contradictory judgments, expressed often without adequate knowledge of this delicate but important period in the life of Don Carlo Gnocchi, which instead has been the premise for the creation of the Work of charity that today bears his name.

THE AUTHOR

Daniele Corbetta (Inverigo 1943) studied with Mario Apollonio, Giuseppe Billanovich, Emanuele Severino, Sante Graciotti. He has dealt with the twentieth century and Slavic studies, writing on Italo Svevo and the Russians, Clemente Rebora, Piero Jahier. He has taught Literature in the training colleges of Lecco and Erba and in the commercial technical institute of Erba. He is a member of the Istituto di Storia Contemporanea P.A. Perretta, Como, of the national network INSMLI, for which he has coor-

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