



100 metres from the 'Casetta' there was the 'buca', the shelter. Chiara and her companions ran there sometimes even 11 times a day at the sound of the siren. They took with them only the Gospel which contained words to be lived with all the people around them.



It was possible to reach it from Via dei Cappuccini. On 7th December 1943, in agreement with her confessor, Chiara gave herself to God for ever. In this way the foundation stone of the future Focolare Movement was laid.



In the sacristy of the Church where the Blessed Sacrament was kept, Chiara and her companions asked Jesus to teach them how to bring about unity. It was the last Sunday of October 1945.



During the autumn 1944 together with her first companions, she found accommodation in this apartment. It was called the 'Casetta' and became the first focolare.



Here, since October 1942, in the nearby Sala Massia the 'Saturday meetings' were held. Chiara communicated her first discoveries and got to know her first companions. During those years the first Focolare community began.



At no. 19, Via Belenzani is the Headquarter of the Borough of Trent.



After 11th September 2001 the children of the 'Crispi' school took an active part in order to make of Trent the city of peace by living the 'dice of love'. The 'Schmid' and 'Zandonai' and many other schools also took part in this. The garden was built based on their project.



This was one of the most poor districts in the town. Chiara and her friends went there every day with heavy suitcases full of many useful gifts. Their aim was to solve the social problems of Trent.



In 1945 Chiara, certain of the words of Jesus: 'Whoever listens to you listens to me', went to see Archbishop Carlo De Ferrari in order to submit to him the life that was beginning to grow. The Bishop gave her his full support.



Once, after a request from a poor person, Chiara and her friends entered this church and asked: 'Jesus, give us a pair of shoes size 8 for You in that poor man'. Coming out of the church, Duccia Calderari gave Chiara a packet: it contained a pair of shoes size 8.



This is now the Cultural Centre. On the morning of 14th May 1944, Chiara was looking for her brother Gino, a medical student, who among the ruins and the dead whispered to her: 'You see? All is vanity'.

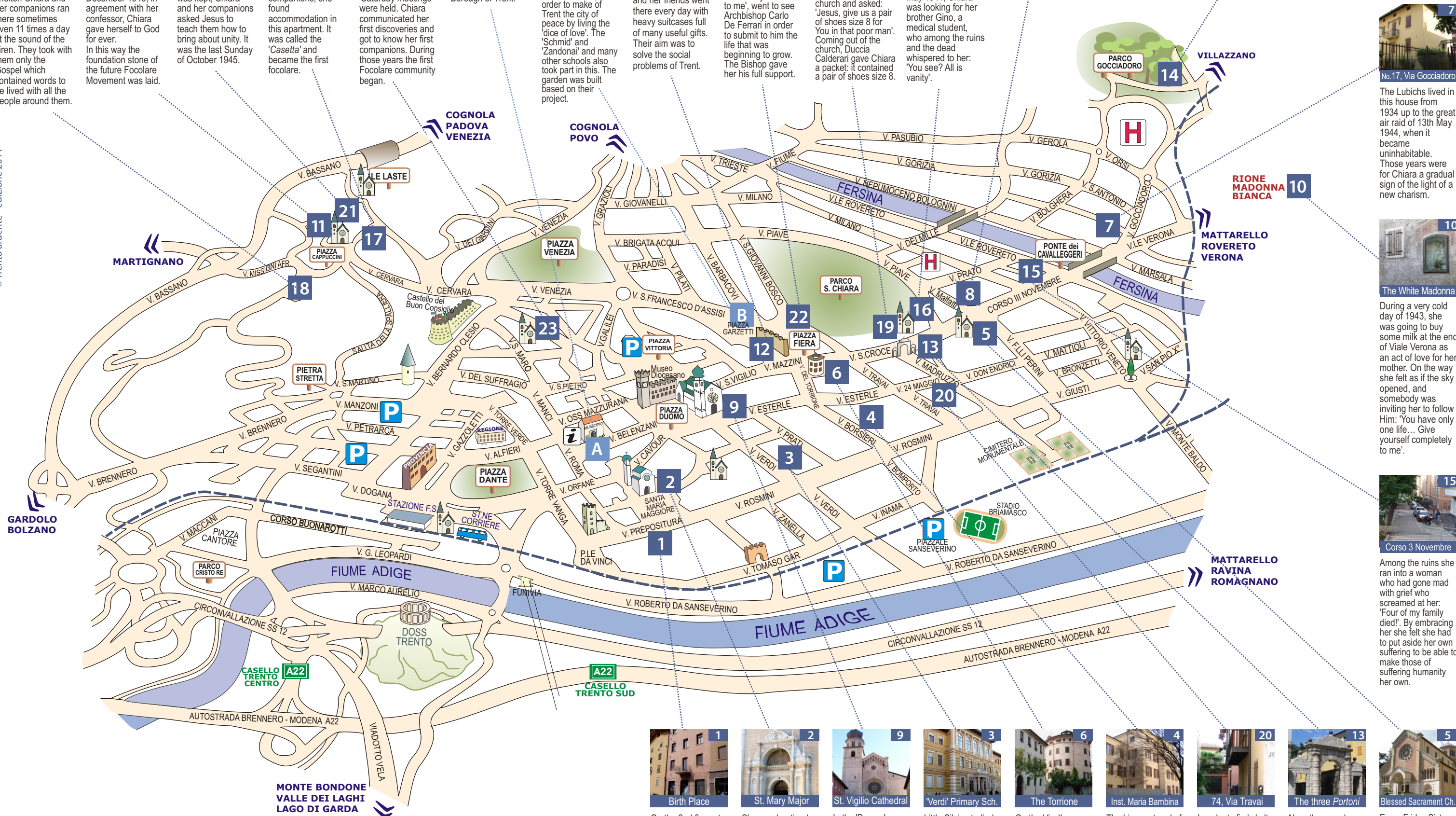


At no. 2, Via Malfatti she went to the teacher training College from 1934 to 1938. When she was 18 years old she went to teach in Val di Sole. During the war (1941-1943) she taught at the Opera Serafica (Cognola).



On 13th May 1944 one of the most dreadful air raids took place. The Lubich family spent that night in the open air. For Chiara that was the night of 'stars and tears'. On the following day her parents left the town but she remained in Trent. One thought gave her light and strength: 'Love conquers all'.

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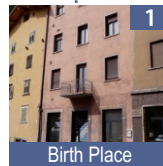
The Lubichs lived in this house from 1934 up to the great air raid of 13th May 1944, when it became uninhabitable. Those years were for Chiara a gradual sign of the light of a new charism.



During a very cold day of 1943, she was going to buy some milk at the end of Viale Verona as an act of love for her mother. On the way she felt as if the sky opened, and somebody was inviting her to follow Him: 'You have only one life... Give yourself completely to me'.



Among the ruins she ran into a woman who had gone mad with grief who screamed at her: 'Four of my family died!'. By embracing her she felt she had to put aside her own suffering to be able to make those of suffering humanity her own.



On the 2nd floor at no. 41, Via Prepositura, Chiara Lubich was born on 22nd Jan. 1920. She was the second of four children. Her family lived there until 1930 - 1931.



She was baptised in St. Mary Major with the name Silvia in the same church where several sessions of the Council of Trent were held.



In the 'Duomo' synthesis of the faith, culture and history of the Trentino people she felt at home. She loved sitting at the back of the Church on the right, on a bench beneath a narrow window where she studied her beloved philosophy.



Little Silvia studied at 'G. Verdi' Primary School which today houses the Sociology Faculty of the University.



On the Via // Torrione the young girl Silvia had some understanding of the Christian life that prepared her for the future.



The big courtyard of Via Borsieri no. 4 attracted many young girls to play, among them there was Silvia. Sister Caroline formed them in the love and knowledge of God.



In order to find shelter from the bombs, they met even here, in a dark cellar. By candlelight they read in the gospel: 'Father... may they all be one'. They were convinced that they were born to put that passage into practice.



Near these arches in Via Santa Croce, Chiara and her companions met quite often.



Every Friday Sister Caroline's little group went to no. 26, Corso 3 Novembre for the adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist. 'Give me your light and your warmth' was the prayer that little Silvia prayed to Him.

A journey through Trent in the footsteps of Chiara Lubich

The chronology of the history is shown by the numerical order