



The Light of MARY

„To bring Jesus - the Light of Mary - to every human heart“

LM PRAYER GROUP NEWSPAPER

**PRAYER
REQUEST
FOR THE
MONTH:**

we pray for

**PRIESTS,
BISHOPS
AND
THE HOLY
FATHER**

**IN THIS EDITION
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MESSAGE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE

August 25, 2012, Medjugorje

„Dear children!

Also today, with hope in the heart, I am praying for you and am thanking the Most High for every one of you who lives my messages with the heart. Give thanks to God's love that I can love and lead each of you through my Immaculate Heart also toward conversion. Open your hearts and decide for holiness, and hope will give birth to joy in your hearts.

Thank you for having responded to my call.”

MESSAGE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE

September 2, 2012, Medjugorje

„Dear children!

as my eyes are looking at you, my soul is seeking those souls with whom it desires to be one – the souls who have understood the importance of prayer for those of my children who have not come to know the love of the Heavenly Father. I am calling you because I need you. Accept the mission and do not be afraid, I will strengthen you. I will fill you with my graces. With my love I will protect you from the evil spirit. I will be with you. With my presence I will console you in difficult moments. Thank you for your open hearts. Pray for priests. Pray that the unity between my Son and them may be all the stronger, that they may be one.

Thank you.”

WITH HOPE IN THE HEART, I AM PRAYING FOR YOU

By this message, the blessed Mary, Queen of Peace, again encourages and invites us, hoping to assure our hearts of her closeness and presence. The strongest message that Our Lady gives us is her apparitions, which have lasted for more than 31 years. The duration of Our Lady's apparitions shows her endurance and patience. The apparitions also speak about the faith and hope that Our Lady puts in us.

In spite of the numerous invitations and messages throughout the past years, in this message she says that she has not gotten tired of us and she is not leaving us. Hope has not died in her heart. In her earthly life she experienced tests of her hope. Even though she was God's Mother,

she was not spared of trials and crosses. From the moment of the Annunciation until the Ascension to heavenly glory, she lived life filled with tests, crosses and incomprehension. Still, her heart sang, *"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord..."* (Luke 1:46).

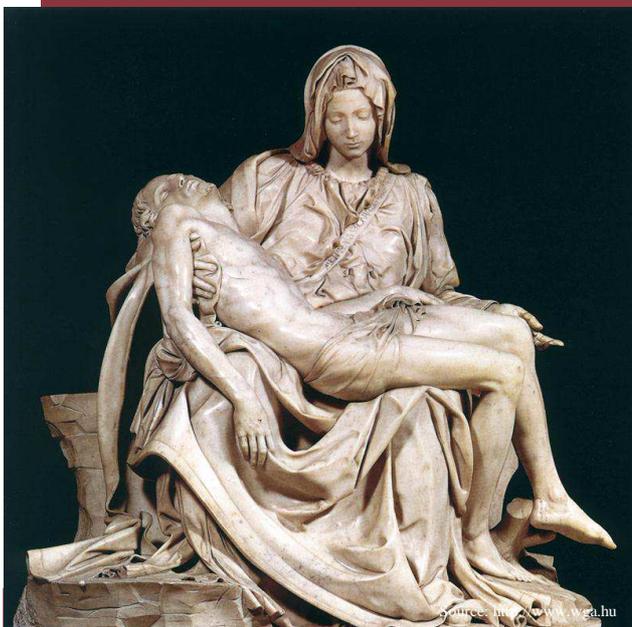
She was, and still is, the Mother of hope and faith, *"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled"* (Luke 1:45). She continued to be the Mother of faith and hope in the hardest moments of her life. She believed the Lord when he called her to become his Son's Mother. She entrusted her entire life into two phrases, *"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord"* and *"May it be done to me according to your word"* (Luke 1:38). God needed Mary's "yes" to descend to us. In fact, entire mankind was waiting for the Mary's "yes". Our Lady voices her "yes" to God for our sake and in our name today also.

Hope has not died in Our Lady's heart even when she stood under her Son's cross on Calvary. In her life she experienced God's almighty power and love. And she wants to give her personal experience to us as well.

Mother Mary comes to us with hope in her heart. She believes and hopes that we will accept her words in our hearts to experience the fullness of life, which God wants to grant us through her.

May hope and faith that *"all things work for good for those who love God"* (Romans 8:28) never die in our hearts. Let us allow Our Lady to lead us by her Immaculate heart to the fullness and depth of Christian life.

Father Ljubo Kurtovic



**...Hope has not died in
Our Lady's heart even when
she stood under her Son's
cross on Calvary...**

...Dear children! Thank you. You are my hope. You are my joy. I call you, live my messages with joy... (January 1, 2010)

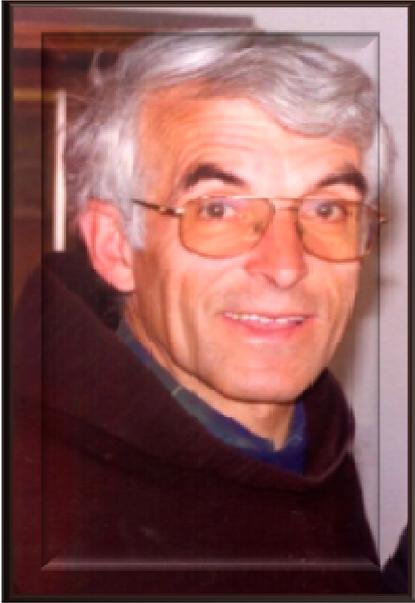
...Pray without ceasing and live the messages which I am giving you for I am doing it with great love toward God and toward you... (January 1, 1987)



...Today, I call you to become my witnesses by living the faith of your fathers. Little children, you seek signs and messages and do not see that, with every morning sunrise, God calls you to convert and to return to the way of truth and salvation. You speak much, little children, but you work little on your conversion. That is why, convert and start to live my messages, not with your words but with your life. In this way, little children, you will have the strength to decide for the true conversion of the heart... (25. septembra 1998)

...I desire, little children, for each of you to fall in love with eternal life which is your future, and for all worldly things to be a help for you to draw you closer to God the Creator. I am with you for this long because you are on the wrong path. Only with my help, little children, you will open your eyes. There are many of those who, by living my messages, comprehend that they are on the way of holiness towards eternity... (January 25, 2009)

In this month of September
let us pray for
PRIESTS, BISHOPS AND THE HOLY FATHER.



„IN THE SCHOOL OF LOVE“

Holiness in freedom and love

“Dear children! You know that I desire to lead you on the way of holiness, but I do not want to compel you to be saints by force. I desire that each of you by your own little self-denials help yourself and me so I can lead you from day to day closer to holiness. Therefore, dear children, I do not desire to force you to observe the messages. But rather this long time that I am with you isa sign that I love you immeasurably and what I desire of each individual is to become holy. Thank you for having responded to my call.” (October 9, 1986)

Faith is an act of the reason and of the heart. Love is an act of the heart and a product of the heart and reason. Therefore, no one can be forced either to love or to have faith. The fact remains, however, that every person must have faith in something in order to live, and everyone needs to be loved in order to endure life. Freedom is a gift from God. By giving us freedom, we could say that God limited His Almightyness and conditioned it by human freedom. So, then, those who accept love and faith in freedom begin on the path of holiness.

Holiness means, first of all, an inner, spiritual healing from sin and its consequences, and a constant growing into the image of God. The one who grows towards the plan which God has impressed on His heart becomes holy. Man can resist this plan, but this spiritual growth will stop. Man brings damage and evil on himself when he resists the call to holiness. Since it is part of his very nature, it remains a mystery why a person does not immediately accept, and with enthusiasm, the call to holiness.

Mary is holy. She was conceived without sin, and, with the power of grace by her cooperation with mercy, she accomplished complete holiness because God’s will was fully realized in her life. She wants us to follow the path of inner freedom from sin, which is the first step towards holiness.

Small denials, sufferings and struggles are important until we begin taking bigger steps towards the deepness of God’s love. Then the love of God becomes the main motivator of the human force on the path to holiness, because holiness means walking closer to God.

Mary stays with us through her apparitions because she loves us. She does not force us because she does not want slaves, but free children. Her love is such that she leaves it to us to pray daily so that we may become holy. While she is calling us to denials and to the way of holiness, it seems that in her deep concern for our freedom, she is apologizing that she does not want anything by force. May her immeasurable love find more and more hearts which are ready to respond.

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, virtue with knowledge, knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with devotion, devotion with mutual affection, mutual affection with love. If these are yours and increase in abundance, they will keep you from being idle or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Anyone who lacks them is blind and shortsighted, forgetful of the cleansing of his past sins. (2 Pt 1:5-9)

CONCLUSION

Many times in our life, we encounter terms such as baptism, confirmation, marriage or first holy communion. We often associate them with our best clothes or white dress, maybe a bishop, festive lunch and then a wristwatch, a gold chain or bracelet and so on. More mature people will perhaps remember that it concerns acceptance of a sacrament, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and so virtues.

Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that human virtues are firm attitudes, stable dispositions, habitual perfections of intellect and will that govern our actions, order our passions, and guide our conduct according to reason and faith. They make possible ease, self-mastery, and joy in leading a morally good life. The virtuous man is he who freely practices the good. Since,



as St. Gregory of Nyssa said, “*the goal of a virtuous life is to become like God*”, no work cannot be and is not as arduous and connected with so many failures as work within ourselves and our salvation. We are often impatient, annoyed and lazy; we feel depressed because we do not see results of our effort; at times we lack the strength to fight on... However, when talking about virtue, it is necessary not to give up, but to go on with God's help with our decision and attitude of “I will not give up”.

Human (cardinal) virtues - prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance – are rooted in the theological (divine) virtues, which adapt human abilities to be able to take part in God's divine nature. Because, divine virtues immediately relate to God. They make Christians able to live in a relationship with the Trinity. Their source is one God in three persons. They are the basis for Christians' moral actions and they strengthen us in spiritual and Christian growth. God puts them into believers' hearts so that we are able to do as his children, and gain eternal life. Divine virtues consist of faith, hope and charity. Human virtues acquired by education, by deliberate acts and by a perseverance ever-renewed in repeated efforts are purified and elevated by divine grace. With God's help, they forge character and give facility in the practice of the good. The virtuous man is happy to practice them.

compiled by br. Milan

Resources:

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*
- *Bible*

PRAYER GROUP „CHILDREN OF MARY” IN MOLDAVIA

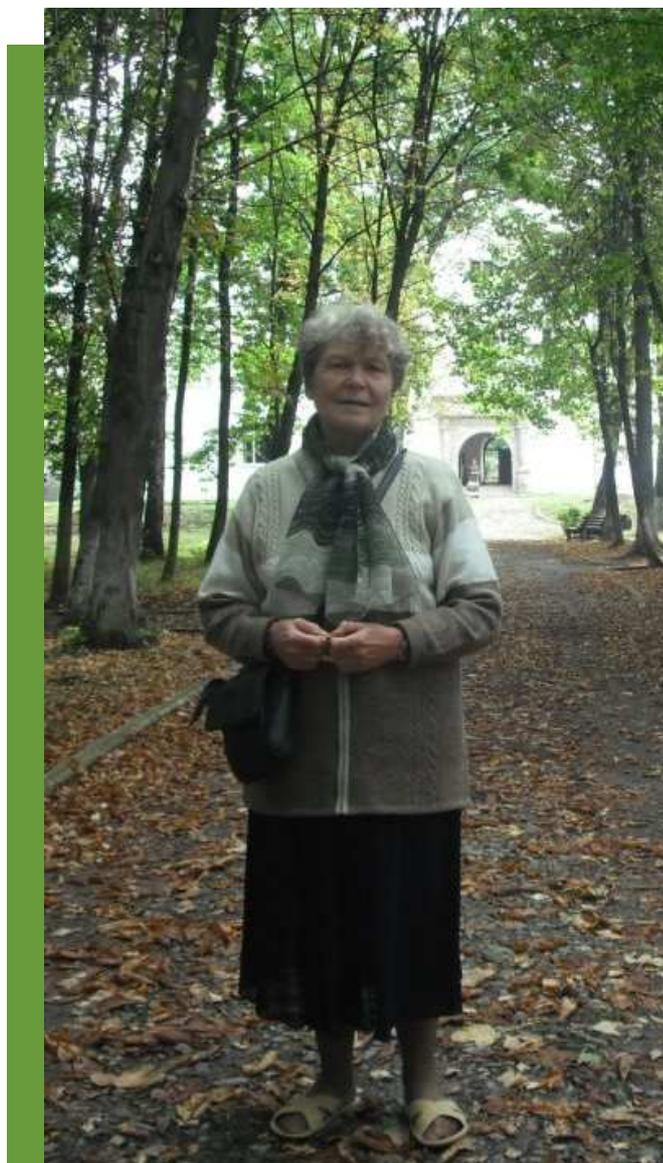
Praised be Jesus and Mary! My name is Valentina, I am 65 years old and I come from Kisinev, Moldavia. I want to share with you about my prayer group “Children of Mary”.

I heard about Medjugorje for the first time in 1989. At that time I worked with my husband at the church in one village. Once a priest from Riga (today’s archbishop of Kiev-Zhitomir diocese), at that time a seminarian studying in Riga, Peter Malcuk – brought us a brochure from Medjugorje with the messages of Our Lady. It was during the time of former Soviet Union, the boundaries with other countries were closed and we had not heard of Medjugorje until then. But this little booklet with the messages touched the lives of the whole village. A priest allowed the messages to be read before the evening holy masses, which were attended almost by the entire village. It was a breeze of fresh air for us – we all listened to the words of the messages and understood them as words from heaven. In that time the persecution of believers ceased and every word soaked into our souls as water into sand; the prayers became more and more passionate. During the following years we did not receive any news about Medjugorje. Therefore, we thought the apparitions were finished.

My husband and I moved to Kisnev in 1995, and in 1998 we moved to a town in Poland, Bielsko-Biala, to study at the Theological Institute of the Family. During our stay with a lovely family, Marian and Tereza, I learned the apparitions of Our Lady were still going on. They gave me a book written by Sr. Emmanuel called *Words from Heaven*, where there were the messages of Our Lady and the history of apparitions. As I was reading it, I cried that Our Lady had been with us for so long, waiting for our response, and we did not know anything about it. Hedviga Musjal, the sister of the

lady we lived with, shared with me about Gods’ closeness which she experienced in Medjugorje. It encouraged me to visit this place. But my desire was not real – I did not have a permanent job, it was impossible to find a part time job and my husband was ill.

To be even closer to Our Lady, I asked our monsignor – apostolic administrator, Anton Kos, to receive a blessing for our prayer group “Children of Mary”. Our first



meeting was held in August 1998, which was attended by about 30 people. We read the Bible, the reading for that particular day, and shared what it revealed to us. We were astonished and happy to see the variety of thoughts we had on the same scriptures. Then we prayed the rosary together and offered it on different intentions. Later, we prayed prayers from Medjugorje, the Angel of the Lord and sang various songs. At the end, we read the messages of Our Lady.

After some time, the entire prayer group desired to visit Medjugorje. We spoke about it with our priest and decided to try to find sponsors who would help pay for the trip. We sent out letters signed by our priest to a couple large enterprises, but from each of them we got a negative response. In one letter it was written that the company was interested in helping people who were really in need. There were many such people in 90's, so that God would hear our prayers here in Moldavia. Here our search stopped – however, Moldavia was and still is the poorest country in Europe.

Gradually, the number of people in our prayer group decreased. Out of the original 30 people, only 10-12 remained. Planning the prayer meetings was the main problem – we held them after the second Holy Mass (the first was in Polish and the second in Russian language). Thus, those who came for the Holy Mass in Polish had to wait until the end of the second Holy Mass. It was very time consuming because the members of our prayer group were mostly elderly. Within the following years, several prayer

groups were established – in 2000 a Legion of Mary, in 2005 a Hagiotherapy and Holy Spirit Renewal. Our prayer group “Children of Mary” did not have a priest. However, our bishop came to a few our prayer meetings and he liked the way we prayed. Several times we helped the children from a foster home. The latest news is the establishment of the prayer - “live rosary” of St. Pantelejmon. We pray for the sick from our parish and all the sick people in Moldavia. We also began praying the “live Way of the Cross” for a rebirth of Moldavia.

My husband then passed away. I tried to go to Medjugorje several times. Two times I did not have enough time to get the required documents to leave the country. The third time the Romanian embassy did not allow me to visit Romania where the nearest embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina was, in order to get a visa. Besides that, when traveling to Bosnia, one needs to have at least 500 Euro on their bank account, which for retired people, is too much, since the monthly pension is between 50-90 Euro. This makes a trip to Medjugorje almost impossible. But, our prayer group still exists; it prays and praises God and Our Lady.

One Medjugorje missionary from Austria, Gottfried, visited our prayer group a few years ago. After the spiritual retreat he held, we established another prayer group of five members. Prayer meetings are every Saturday, but I am not able to participate in them since I broke my leg and I cannot go to church. We ask you to pray for us so that we can serve Our Lady, our Mother.

Valentina, Moldavia

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We invite you to participate in:

MEDJUGORJE

- **13th International seminar for married couples: September 19 – 22, 2012**
- **Prayer, Fasting and Silence Seminar: [Contact](#)**

The Light of MARY

„To bring Jesus - the Light of Mary - to every human heart“

WHO ARE WE?

The Light of Mary is a prayer group, which members want to walk on the path of holiness, led by Our Lady in this special time. Through witness of their lives, in the spirit of the Gospel and messages of Our Lady they want to bring Jesus - the Light of the world, to this world; to renew the life of faith in their parishes.



„Dear children! Today also, joy is in my heart. I wish to thank you for making my plan possible to become reality. Each of you is important therefore, little children, pray and rejoice with me over every heart that has converted and become an instrument of peace in the world. Prayer groups are powerful, and through them I can see, little children, that the Holy Spirit is at work in the world. Thank you for having responded to my call.“ (June 25, 2004)

FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

We usually meet in prayer on the first Saturday of each month.

If possible, the prayer meetings are held on this day. We pray three rosaries, attend Holy Mass, Adoration and read reflections from the newspaper. We all pray for the intentions given in the newspaper, for the period of a whole month.

NEWSPAPER „THE LIGHT OF MARY“

Through our newspaper we unite in prayer with our brothers and sisters from prayer groups mostly from the eastern countries – Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldavia, Belorussia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, but also Pakistan, India, Slovakia, Czech Republic, USA, Germany, Austria.

Our newspaper is published monthly since December, 2004. The new issue is sent via email a few days after the Virgin Mary gives Her message on each 25th day of the month. Voice Medjugorje is published in Russian, Ukrainian, Slovak, Lithuanian, Lithuanian, German and English language.

PRAYER GROUPS SM

Prayer groups usually meet in prayer every week. If possible, the meetings are held at church. Program of each meeting is simple, the prayer consists of rosary prayer, reflection on the Bible and messages of Our Lady, sharing, prayer for the intention of Our Lady, for the needs of the neighbors and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady.

IN OUR LIVES WE ATTEMPT TO FOLLOW THE MESSAGES OF OUR LADY:

- to pray three rosaries a day
- to fast every Wednesday and Friday
- to confess monthly
- to attend Holy Masses, often receive Holy Communion and adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament
- to pray for the priests and Church
- to meet in prayer groups at least once a week, according to agreement of the members
- to help and serve our neighbours in a specific way

If you want to join us in prayer or receive our newspaper, please send an email to: gospa3@gmail.com

Light of Mary

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MEDJUGORJE

LIVE STREAMING FROM MEDJUGORJE

on internet

We would like to inform you about the possibility of watching a live stream evening program from Medjugorje.

It is available at

www.medjugorje.hr.

[In the upper menu click at "Multimedia", then "Live streaming Medjugorje" (in the left side menu). To view the content of this page, you need to be registered user. You can register for free through the following web page </en/user/sign-up/>. If you are registered user, you can log in through the following web page </en/user/log-in/>.]

We wish you a blessed time of prayer with Medjugorje parish.

ON MEDJUGORJE IN VARIOUS LANGUAGES:

SLOVAK:

www.gospa.sk

CZECH:

www.medju.com

RUSSIAN:

www.medjugorje.ru

UKRAINIAN:

www.medjugorje.com.ua

LATVIAN:

www.medjugorje.lv

LITHUANIAN:

www.medjugorje.lt

ENGLISH:

www.medjugorje.net

GERMAN:

www.medjugorje.de

In conformity to Pope Urban VIII' Decree and the directives of the Council Vatican II, the editor declares not to have the intention to precede the judgment of the Church about the supernatural character of facts and messages related on this pages. This judgment belongs to competent authorities of the Church, to whom the editor submits himself fully. Words like «apparitions, miracles, messages» and similar have here the value of human witness.

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You can find our newspaper „The Light of Mary“ at **www.gospa.sk** in various languages, section „CASOPIS“.