



The Light of MARY

LM Prayer group newspaper

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

MESSAGE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE

August 25, Medjugorje

to Maria Pavlović-Lunetti

**PRAYER
REQUEST FOR
THIS MONTH:**

we pray to God

**FOR THOSE WHO
MOVED AWAY
FROM AND FOR-
GOT GOD.**

“Dear children!

Also today I am calling you to be prayer. May prayer be for you the wings for an encounter with God. The world is in a moment of trial, because it forgot and abandoned God. Therefore you, little children, be those who seek and love God above all. I am with you and I am leading you to my Son, but you must say your ‘yes’ in the freedom of children of God. I intercede for you and I love you, little children, with an endless love.

Thank you for having responded to my call.”

MESSAGE OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

September 2, Medjugorje

to Mirjana Dragičević-Soldo

“Dear children!

My dear apostles of love, my carriers of truth, again I am calling you and gathering you around me to help me, to help all of my children who thirst for love and truth – who thirst for my Son. I am a grace from the Heavenly Father, sent to help you to live the word of my Son. Love one another. I lived your earthly life. I know that it is not always easy, but if you will love each other, you will pray with the heart, you will reach spiritual heights and the way to Heaven will be opened for you. I, your mother, am waiting for you there because I am there. Be faithful to my Son and teach others faithfulness. I am with you. I will help you. I will teach you faith that you may know how to transmit it to others in the right way. I will teach you truth that you may know how to discern. I will teach you love that you may come to know what real love is. My children, my Son will make it possible for Him to speak through your words and your actions. Thank you.”

**In this edition you
will find...**

Reflections for Prayers Groups	2-5
Messages on the topic: „To say their yes ...“	6
„Fast with the Heart“ Fra. Slavko Barbaric:	7
Year Consecrated Life	8-9
TESTIMONY- „You can't return back the same as you are going there“	10-11
Announcements, LM, Coordinators	12-14



Source: archive The Light of Mary

THE WORLD FORGOT AND ABANDONED GOD

(*Fra Ljubo Kurtović*)

In her message the Blessed Virgin Mary confirms what two well-known Popes have already noticed, both of whom connected the spiritual state of the world with the situation of bitterness and pain.

Pope Pius XII said: 'The main sin of our century is the loss of sensitivity to sin.' And Pope John Paul II follows with: 'This loss goes together with the loss of the sense of God.' It is no longer modern to talk about sin. The consequences of sin are blindness and deafness to God. Sin makes us fools, teaches the Bible. Today's culture enforces the impression that everything is possible without God. The consequence of this insensitivity to God is the frustration and dissatisfaction of many people.

The history of the people of Israel included many painful experiences. They passed through the experience of slavery, desert, losing the promised land, the devastation of Jerusalem and the temple. In suffering and pain they experienced that everything that

happened was the result of forgetting God. The Bible teaches us that forgetting God has disastrous consequences for both the individual and the nation. Liberation does not take place when we blame others, but when we take responsibility for our own actions. If a person does not come out of suffering richer with experience and knowledge, then it is a state of devastation and destruction.

A way out from the state of devastation takes place after repentance and forgiveness, which means liberation from the negative emotions that arise in the memory due to evil and enduring rejection. Once Israel is freed from oblivion and returns to the call, which involves carrying out God's

Let us pray:

Blessed Virgin Mary, you who knew how to keep all events and words in your heart, everything that you lived with your child, teach us also to be vigilant and open to God's action in our own lives. Mary, you lived your life with your eyes open and with a ready heart. You lived with faith and received all events – joyful and painful – knowing that God was leading your life and all events.

Pray for us, Mother of faith and hope, that we may learn to believe in simplicity of heart and to surrender. We want to pray with you and to persevere, in order to experience the conversion of heart which God gives to those who love him and trust him.

Amen.



...Mother of faith and hope, we want to pray with you and to persevere, in order to experience the conversion of heart which God gives to those who love him and trust him...

commandments, a new Exodus happens, a new liberation. God writes straight even when the lines are curved.

One can be tempted to think for various reasons that God has forgotten or abandoned us. It happened to the disciples while they were with Jesus in the boat. They were in danger due to strong winds

and the waves of the sea which threatened to overturn the boat. And Jesus slept in the boat. His disciples reproached Jesus that he did not care about them. The faith of the Jesus' disciples experienced a real

shipwreck as they ceased to believe in Jesus and in his power that protects them in even the most difficult moments of life.

Very often we go through similar situations and temptations in life and it seems to us that God has moved away or is sleeping. Especially when everything goes wrong. Or when life is calm and plain sailing it often happens that we forget God just then, because we feel no need or benefit of his presence. God, on the other hand, wants us to wake Him up in all our life situations and that we call on Him, and do not live as if he doesn't exist or that it doesn't matter to Him.

BE PRAYER

(Terezia Gaziova)

Mary is prayer. She is always focused on God. So many times we hear in her messages: ‘pray’. It is the most repeated invitation. At the beginning she invited us to pray with the heart, to pray the rosary, then three rosaries a day, then three hours a day, and later in her messages we find – ‘*may prayer be your life, may prayer be like the air you breathe*’. In the last message she invites us ‘*may prayer be the wings for an encounter*

does she turn the attention to herself. She invites us to meditate daily on the Gospel, to pray and to live the words of her Son.

In Medjugorje she tells us: ‘*I’m not important – let my Son be in the first place in your life. If ever you had the choice to attend an apparition or to go Holy Mass*’ – she said to the visionaries at the beginning of the apparitions – ‘*Do not come to me, but go to Mass, there Je-*



**...Let us thank Mary
for reminding us
where our treasure is
and where our
hearts should be...**

Source: archive The Light of Mary 2x

with God.’ That does not mean to do nothing and just to be closed in a room praying, or to ‘take off and sit on a cloud.’ In the school of Mary it means to begin and end the day with prayer, every job, discussion, each event – to simply like her, live every moment with Jesus.

To adore Jesus and serve him in the hungry, thirsty, abandoned, disappointed, those deceived by the world and in temptation day after day. Today we are invited to believe, to look, and to love God above all things, through Mary’s heart.

We can learn so much from Mary. She does not enforce herself, she follows Jesus. This leads us to Him. She looks at him, moment by moment; she is still in God’s presence. Mary meditates on the words of Jesus, her heart is with him and at the same time she is still with us, noticing our needs. Never

sus is alive in the Eucharist, give yourself over to him’. She has got only one goal and that is to bring us to Jesus. During the Evening prayer program, before the Holy Mass we pray the rosary. It is the time when many pilgrims go to confession. We listen to their testimonies about how Mary leads us to Jesus through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Suddenly, during the prayer of the rosary in Mary’s presence, we begin to understand the need to go to confession, to meet the merciful Jesus.

When we ask pilgrims who are leaving Medjugorje what has appealed to them the most, they reply that it was the Eucharist, adoration. Here Mary’s desire has become reality: ‘*I invite you to fall in love with the Blessed Sacrament*’.

St. Pope John Paul II confirms this: ‘*Devotion to Mary is a privileged way to find Jesus Christ, to tenderly love him and serve him faithfully. Whenever you*

think of Mary, she thinks of God for you. Whenever you praise Mary, she praises and worships God with you. Mary does everything in relation to God, she is looking at God, she is the echo of God and she calls and repeats: God. If you say Mary, she says God.'

St. John Paul II's beloved prayer was the rosary, which he compared to the window through which we look into God's world. And from this world, from the example that Jesus left us, we learn to be strong in difficulties, patient in adversity and to stand firm in temptation.

Mary never left nor forgot God. We are tempted to leave and forget God, to concentrate only on ourselves, deal only

with ourselves. Let us thank Mary for reminding us where our treasure is and where our hearts should be. She comes to help us. When we sincerely accept the program, we can be sure that we are on the right track. With Mary, Jesus becomes our only treasure.

Today she is calling us to prayer, to be just like her. To have a heart which is drawn to God, and at the same time present for the needs of others. Let us fall in love with Mary's lifestyle. Let us not be afraid to express our wholehearted yes to her, as did the great saints who uncovered the secret power of consecration to her Immaculate Heart. Let us repeat to her intimately St. John Paul II's words: 'Totus Tuus'.

***...there Jesus
is alive in the
Eucharist,
give yourself
over to him...***



Let us pray:

Mary, in the presence of the entire heavenly court, we choose you this day for our Mother and Queen. In complete subordination and love we entrust and consecrate to you our body and soul, its external and internal gifts and the value of our past, present and future good deeds. We give you full right to dispose of us and of everything that belongs to us, without exception, according to your good pleasure for the greater glory of God, now and in eternity. Amen.

(St. Louis de Montfort)

In this month of September

Let us pray for

FOR THOSE WHO MOVED AWAY FROM AND FORGOT GOD.



Source: archive The Light of Mary

to say their YES

„...Dear children! In this Lenten time of grace, I call you to open your hearts to the gifts that God desires to give you. Do not be closed, but with prayer and renunciation say 'yes' to God...“

February 25. 2006

„...I only wait for your "Yes" to present to Jesus for Him to fill you with His grace. That is why, once more, please accept my call and start to pray in a new way until prayer becomes joy to you...“

May 25. 1992

„...I invite all those who have said "yes" to me to renew their consecration to my Son Jesus and to His Heart and to me so we can take you more intensely as instruments of peace in this unpeaceful world. ...“

April 25. 1992

„...You be prayer, you who from the very beginning said 'yes' to my call. Witness God and my presence and do not forget, little children: I am with you and I love you...“

February 25. 2014

„...Say 'yes' to the Father with the heart and set out on the way of salvation to which He is calling you through the Holy Spirit...“

May 2. 2011

„...Awaken from the tired sleep of your soul and say yes to God with all your strength. Decide for conversion and holiness...“

March 25. 2001



Source: archive The Light of Mary

III. Fasting and its fruits in the prayers of the church

Continue...

“Lord, may our Lenten observance prepare us to embrace the paschal mystery and to proclaim your salvation with joyful praise.” (Tuesday, Fourth Week of Lent, opening prayer)

“Merciful Father, may the penance of our Lenten observance make us your obedient people. May the love within us be seen in what we do and lead us to the joy of Easter.” (Thursday, Fourth Week of Lent, opening prayer)

In the preface of Lent, the Church sings about the role of Jesus’ fasting, which also must be the same for us, Christians.

“His fast of forty days makes this a holy season of selfdenial. By rejecting the devil’s temptations he has taught us to rid ourselves of the hidden corruption of evil, and so to share his paschal meal

FAST WITH THE HEARTH

in purity of heart, until we come to its fulfillment in the promised land of heaven.” (Preface, First Sunday of Lent).

“Each year you give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed. You give us a spirit of loving reverence for you, our Father, and of willing service to our neighbor. As we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ, you bring the image of your Son to perfection within us.” (Preface, First Sunday of Lent)

“This great season of grace is your gift to your family to renew us in spirit. You give us strength to purify our hearts, to control our desires, and so to serve you in freedom. You teach us how to live in this passing world with our heart set on the world that will never end.” (Preface, Second Sunday of Lent)

***...may our Lenten observance
prepare us to embrace
the paschal mystery and
to proclaim your salvation
with joyful praise....***

“You ask us to express our thanks by self-denial. We are to master our sinfulness and conquer our pride. We are to show to those in need your goodness to ourselves.” (Preface, Third Sunday of Lent)

“Through our observance of Lent you correct our faults and raise our minds to you, you help us grow in holiness, and offer us the reward of everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Preface, Fourth Sunday of Lent)

What the Church has prayed, believed and what It has called the faithful to do is clearly visible from the above-noted prayers. It is not difficult to see the discrepancy between what is proclaimed and said about fasting today, and what is approved by the Church.

„THE ONE WHO RETURNS LOVE TO THE LORD“

(2.nd part)

I remember how much I suffered before my conversion. As a student I meditated much upon that if God did not exist, then everything was meaningless. All injustices will remain unpunished, all questions unanswered, all thirst unquenched, and so life is one big lie. And I often thought that if God really existed, everything would be different. Every good act would be rewarded. If God existed he would have answers to all my questions. And I imagined how great it would be. This was during the time of communism.

These questions haunted me for a long time, and then I met a priest who appealed to me and his explanations raised hope in me. So with a new strength I started searching for God. And when I prayed, with the youth prayer group in the town of Po-susje from which I come, I experienced such inner enlightenment, such brightness, that I said to myself: ‘You can never forget this! Whatever happened, I knew that I would never doubt. It was so intimate for me and it

meant a lot to me. And this carries me for my entire life. It was God’s love which touched me and until now it has been carrying me and leading me through life.

To forget God’s love is a big sin and to remember it is like a strong engine and a great grace. It is the source of everything. It is what motivated and still motivates all the saints – never forgetting God’s goodness and God’s forgiveness. They keep on coming back to this.

They say that St. Ignatius prayed at night and beat his chest saying: ‘Lord! How good you are, you love even such sinner as me!’ All his life’s strength came from this realization.

How much we priests are lucky that in any situation, even in a hopeless one, we are able to return this love. This is our greatest privilege: to have a chance to fully conse-



Source: archive The Light of Mary2x

Lord, please let me believe
that I am loved
and that I will look for,
remember and carry this love
in my heart...

crate ourselves to love! This is what God invites us to. God has chosen me so that I can testify to this love, to keep on looking at it and to return it. I want us to remember this well. So let it become our prayer too. Let’s pray to God for this grace: to see this love and to profoundly live from it. Even if I was the only person in this world, I want to feel it, remember it,



and look for it.

I heard that Pope Francis asks himself every morning: ‘*What have I already done for Christ? What am I doing now? And what could I do for Christ from this moment onwards?*’ In the light of what Jesus has done for me... I look at the merciful Jesus who forgave my sins, I look at forgiveness, at what he has done for me and I ask: ‘*How am I to return this love?*’

Prayer

O, good Lord, I want to look at my life with your eyes, to see it in truth. Please send your Holy Spirit to enlighten me with a true degree of justice, with a true degree of love, with a true degree of priestly service to you – so that I am not surprised when I come to heaven. I want to know it here and now. What can prevent me from knowing the truth? What am I to do?

Behold Lord, here I am, I want to go through my entire life – from the very childhood to my vocation, to my service, so that I don’t leave out any moment, so that everything is yours. Go through the years of my life Lord. Lord, I served many people, even many idols. My decisions were often

unconscious, as if I myself were not present. I seldom use my freedom to serve the most important – what fills my heart the most deeply, what makes me happiest. I want to zealously return love to you for as many hours and days as I used for nothing, Lord.

What do I actually do for you? I don’t know how much time I still have and how I will live through it, but I would like to return love to you with all my being. I want to see, Lord, my possibilities. What could I do for you? Later I will pray for the grace to do it, but now I beg you: show it to me, Lord – where do you come to my life and call me?

O, good Lord, pour out your grace on me so that I can feel it and reveal your love to me all over again. Let it become my mission, something which I don’t leave behind. Lord, please let me believe that I am loved and that I will look for, remember and carry this love in my heart., so that I am able to return it. Sometimes I am hindered by obstacles – as if I am afraid to change my life. But I am sure that I will not be happy if I don’t return this love with all my being.

Let this love move me. I want to be a priest who preaches your love; a priest of your love. So much I need it, so much I crave for it, and it cannot be otherwise. Amen.

Meditation:

**Father Ivan Mandurić, SJ.
20th International Seminar
for Priests in Medjugorje, 2015**

**„YOU CAN'T RETURN
BACK THE SAME AS YOU
ARE GOING THERE“**

I was twenty-eight years old when I first traveled to Our Lady Queen of Peace in Medjugorje. My name is Sandra, I am thirty-two now and I am from Slovakia, from the small city of Trenčianske Teplice. My mother's name is Ludmila. I do not have a father, or any brothers and sisters. When my godmother asked me if I would like to go to the Youth festival in Medjugorje, I was at the time working in Germany as a health visitor for a ninety-three year old man.

My mum was the bread winner of the family. She worked in many jobs at the same time and even whilst she was studying. That's why my father was the Heavenly Father and He still is.

When I was a child and I fell down or bumped myself, I knew why it had happened. I used to look up with a smile and say, *“I know.... I am sorry...”*

I received the sacraments, I knew who God is, I felt that God was speaking to me, but I didn't practice my faith. I did not understand the purpose of confession, or why I should go to the holy mass where the Eucharist was only a symbol.

In my heart there was despair, fear, anxiety, dirt, dust, wounds... And if the soul is not healthy then neither is the body; I had heart problems amongst other ones.

In spite of the fact that we did not have enough money to go to Medjugorje, we applied for the trip. A couple of days before our departure we found some Slovak money in a small bag which nobody had used for a long time. It had been forgotten. When we changed it into euro, it was the exact cost that we needed to pay for the trip, food and even gifts. Our Heavenly Mother provides.

Before the pilgrimage everything start-



Source: archive The Light of Mary

ed to fall apart – in my work, at home, with my health. But the Lord is stronger than all kind of problems in the world. And on 30th July 2011 at 3 pm we came.

Danka and Vladko – the leaders of pilgrimage trip – welcomed us with a hug. I was looking forward to the sea, sleep, special sea food. My concept of a pilgrimage looked like a vacation.

And so...

In the bus over the microphone I heard the sentence: *“You can't return back the same as you are going there.”*

We spent a day at the sea. In the evening we were coming to Medjugorje. We were walking to the grave of Father Slavko. Close to the confession booths I experienced inside my soul a very strong peace such as never before. I had a feeling like I wanted to just lie down there or that I could die. Or – be born for heaven. We continued to walk amongst all these people who adored Jesus. Young men were on their knees with the rosary in their hands. I had never seen this before!

The next day Vladko woke us up: *“We are going to Podbrdo!” “Hm... Ok, one time*

I will go there..."

I didn't know how to pray the rosary. I only "glued" together somehow the Our Father and Holy Mary... but bead by bead I was closer to the Mother of God. I saw her only from behind. She sat on a huge stone and in that moment God showed me my life as a movie. How I was dirty, sinful, such a life that I had lived, how I wanted to hold my cross alone. It was uncontrollable. I felt the greatest love go through me – such tenderness, goodness, the Mother of God. Tears were falling down my cheeks one by one. It was not possible to stop it. But this was not crying such as when you fall, this was a healing crying, crying from the depths of my soul. Tears which are going through the pipelines of your life and taking away all of this dirt, suffering and pain.

"Our Lady, if this is happening when I am ten meters away from you, what would happen if I come closer to you?"

I went down. I didn't see the face of Our Lady.

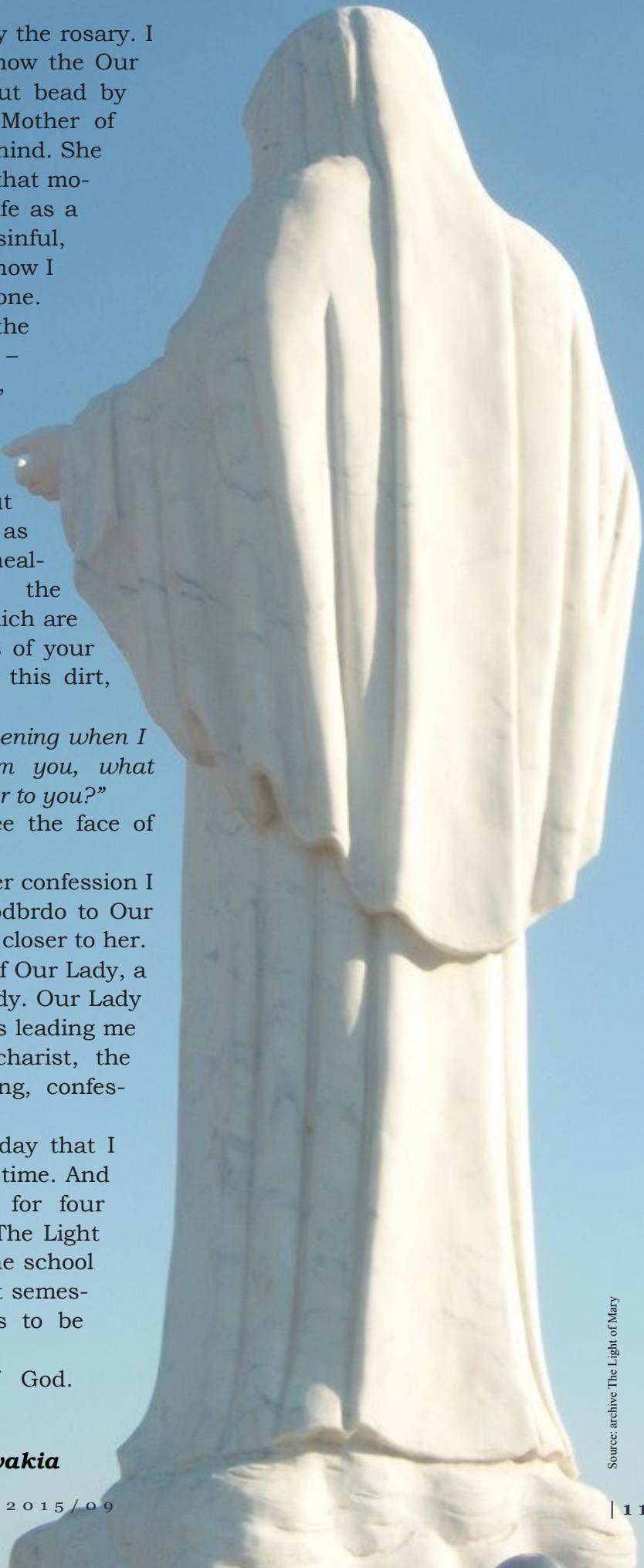
A couple of days later after confession I went again to the hill of Podbrdo to Our Mother and this time I went closer to her.

This was the first touch of Our Lady, a first aid for my soul and body. Our Lady touched my heart and she is leading me to Jesus through the Eucharist, the prayer of the rosary, fasting, confession, holy scripture.

It was four years ago today that I was in Medjugorje this first time. And now I have already lived for four months in the community The Light of Mary in Medjugorje, in the school of the love of Our Lady, first semester. I ask for your prayers to be able to succeed.

Thank you, Mother of God.
Thank you my Mother.

Sandra, Slovakia



ANNOUNCEMENTS



CONTINUOUS PRAYER OF THE ROSARY AND FASTING

for the intentions of Our Lady,
for the realization of her plans of peace

*In this prayer we become aware
that Our Lady is with us, that she
trusts us. This prayer is giving us
discipline, confirming our faith,
unifying us. We believe that God lis-
tens to every prayer and will bring
fruits at the right time. ...“*

*Prayer group
from Belorussia*

You can register at:

www.mir.com.hr



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 is 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.



Source: archive The Light of Mary 2x



„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



Prayer groups SM

Prayer groups usually meet in prayer every wee. 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.

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.

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.

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.

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

| 13 |

Websites about Medjugorje

KOORDINATOREN LM

RUSSIA

Ol'ga Knazjeva

tel.fax: + 7 3472 771 617

tel.mob: + 7 9174 643 735

olga_knyazeva@list.ru

knyazev@anrb.ru

UKRAINE

Duda Miroslav

tel. mob: + 380 505 026 414

posmishka@bk.ru

LITHUANIA

Danute Totoraytite

tel: + 370 52 343 330

mirija3@gmail.com

LATVIA

Mārīte Jēkabsone

tel. mob: + 371 29 496 878

bernadetster@gmail.com

Franciska Strode

tel. mob: + 371 26 300 819

franciska.strode@inbox.lv

MOLDAVIA

Vladimír Nadkrenicinii

nadkrenicinii@mail.ru

ENGLISH SPEAKING

Jaroslava Pytelová

jarka.pytelova@gmail.com

GERMAN SPEAKING

Lenka Marhefková

lenka.marhefkova@gmail.com

SLOVAKIA

Marta Uchalová

tel. mob: + 421 905 412 040

marta@maria.sk

CZECH REPUBLIC

Jana Prudká

jprudka@email.cz

MEDJUGORJE

The Light of Mary

tel.fax: + 387 36 650 004

tel. mob: + 387 63 682 620

gospa3@gmail.com

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



**LIVE STREAMING
FROM MEDJUGORJE**
www.medjugorje.hr



Website of the praygroup *The Light of Mary*

WWW.SVETLOMARIINO.COM

If you would like to support our mission *The Light of Mary*, you can contribute to the account:

Account No.: 33 2025 6607; Bank Code: 3100;

Bank Name: Volksbank Slovensko, a. s.;

IBAN: SK77 3100 0000 0033 2025 6607; SWIFT/BIC: LUBASKBX

God bless you

In conformity to Pope Urban VIII's 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.

Dear reader of the newspaper 'The Light of Mary'. We would like to inform you that distribution of this newspaper (unless additional changes) is permitted and welcomed. In the case of using the texts for another purpose, the editor of the newspaper claims right to give permit. Please, contact us at: gospa3@gmail.com.