

MEDJUGORJE NOTES

WEB PAGE : <http://www.gospa.org.uk>

June 2008

20th Year

Number 171



Message from Our Lady - 25th June

Dear children! Also today, with great joy in my heart, I call you to follow me and to listen to my messages.

Be joyful carriers of peace and love in this peaceless world.

I am with you and I bless you all with my Son Jesus, the King of Peace.

Thank you for having responded to my call.

Message from Our Lady to Ivanka - 25th June 2008

"Our Lady spoke to me about the ninth secret."

She gave us Her motherly blessing

27 Years of Apparitions
Nearly 9900 apparitions
Hundreds of messages
Millions of pilgrims
Countless lives changed
Kralica Mira, moli za nos
Queen of peace, pray for us

Notes.

1. Between this edition of Notes and the next there is the **Feast Of Our Lady of Mount Carmel** on July 16th

2. I have included some early writings from 1989, which I hope you will find interesting.

3. I have been asked to add these details of the

**OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE ANNUAL
PILGRIMAGE & NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

at **WALSINGHAM** (in the grounds of the National Catholic Shrine) **Monday 25th August 2008**

led by **Fr Mario Knezovic OFM** (Director of Youth in the Franciscan Parish of Posuje, Editor of Radio Mir in Medjugorje and formerly writer of the commentary on messages from Our Lady)

12.45pm Gathering

1.00pm Praise, Rosary, Litany of Our Lady

1.45pm Talk by Fr Mario

2.45pm Break (Sacrament of Reconciliation)

3.30pm Holy Mass Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

Thoughts on the Message

Dear children! Also today, with great joy in my heart, I call you to follow me and to listen to my messages.

When I looked at this message, it was as if Our Lady was starting again: following Her messages and listening to Her have been central to the theme of what we are being asked to do ever since 27 years ago.

The main requests, or invitations are so well known that we do not need to have them repeated to us: to take another section from an archive in 1989 :

Then there are those who go to church regularly, perhaps are involved in church activities, and seem to be all that one would normally think of as being good followers of Christ, but are spiritually dead or asleep. A terrible term comes to mind - spiritual sleepwalking - and just like normal sleepwalking, it would be difficult to wake them, because doing so could cause them a severe shock.

Are we spiritual sleepwalkers ? Do we live our faith, or is it just "ticking over" ? One way of thinking about this - how long have each of us been a member of the Church ? two years ? ten years ? twenty or more years ? Has our faith grown and developed for these years, or is it still as it was two, ten twenty or more years ago ?

This condition is so insidious that we are not always aware of its presence, and this may well be the reason for the apparitions at Medjugorje. At Lourdes in 1858 Our Lady asked Bernardette to pray and to perform acts of penance; in Fatima Our Lady asked for the same, with added urgency, and at later apparitions in various parts of the world, Belgium, Italy and elsewhere. Perhaps

because we are so reluctant to wake up, to really act on these requests, Our Lady has now appeared at Medjugorje to point out to us exactly how we should reawaken our faith, through prayer, fasting, confession, reading the Bible, etc.

27/6/81 - "Mankind must become reconciled with God and between themselves. To do this he must believe, pray, fast and confess his sins."

-7/81 - "Convert before it is too late, while there is time."

6/8/82 - "If Christians went to Confession every month, reconciling themselves with God and with their neighbours, whole Christian communities would soon be spiritually healed."

Perhaps this is also the reason why there have been so many apparitions, and so many messages; the way of returning to God in this age is being spelled out in specific detail, and we are being asked to take them, practise them, and to live them.

30/10/86 - "Dear children, today I would like once again to ask you to accept and live with all seriousness the messages that I am giving you. For this reason, dear children, you must read, out of love for me, all the messages that I give. Dear children, it is for your sakes that I have stayed so long with you, so that I may be able to help you put into practice all the messages I give."

How can we help others to turn to God, to wake up, to realise all that God can do for them, if we do not LIVE the messages in our lives ? If we do not do this, how can we expect others to accept that there is anything of value in our faith, anything important, anything worth waking up for ?

19/9/85 - "..... It is not necessary for you to speak with words. For you, dear children, it is necessary only to live the messages and to witness with your lives. "

How can we expect those who are not believers, who have rejected God to accept that there is anything which they would find of value, if the only form of commitment to Christ is by those who are spiritually asleep ? It is these people that Our Lady has talked of very often, often in tears.

20/4/83 - "I want them to convert but they will not. Pray, pray for them. Do not wait I need your prayers and penance."

25/3/89 - ".... I call upon you, dear children, to heed my voice and live the messages I am giving

you. For years now you have been called to holiness. However, you are still far from having attained it."

Be joyful carriers of peace and love in this peaceless world.

We need to be able to show by our lives that there is love, peace, and it is worth seeking, and this can only happen if we respond as fully as we can to these wonderful loving invitations. Do not worry if you do not succeed as you feel you would like, as you feel you ought. We know that Our Mother is with us, and every effort we make is a cause of joy and blessing.

I am with you and I bless you all with my Son Jesus, the King of Peace. Thank you for having responded to my call.

Dear Mother, on this anniversary, help me to renew my efforts to follow you, to live my life as you are inviting me to, and to spread peace to all I meet by my life with You

From the Archives

Some Thoughts - August 1989 - No. 6

Success or Failure ?

Do you sometimes feel that you are not making any progress in awakening others to the urgent messages of Medjugorje, of peace, prayer and conversion ? Do you get frustrated because the local priest is not wanting to get involved ? Or local friends who are only interested up to a point, but will not become involved in prayer groups, or organising pilgrimages ? Do you feel that you are not a success in bringing the messages to others, as we have been asked to ?

We have to be very careful when talking of success or failure. Our Lord's life, on a human scale, was not a success : born in a barn, a refugee as a child in a foreign land, an obscure upbringing, then after only a few years, death as a troublemaker. In these terms, it does look like a failure.

Of course it was not. Jesus followed His Father's Will in all ways at all times, and this is the point. Mary, our Mother is not asking us to do anything else. We are being asked to do this by living the messages she has given us - to make them part of our lives, and we are being asked to do this by prayer, fasting, confession, and peace.

14/2/85 - "..... the whole parish is not accepting the messages and does not live them. I am sad, and I wish you, dear children, to listen to me and live my messages. Every family must pray family prayer and read the Bible."

21/3/85 - "Dear children, I want to give you the messages, and therefore today also I call you to live and to accept my messages. Dear children, I love you, and in a special way I have chosen this parish, which is more dear to me than others where I have gladly been when the Almighty sent me. Therefore I call you: accept me, dear children, for your well-being. Follow the messages."

We cannot know what we are being asked to do if we do not listen to God. Look at the message for last month

25/7/89 - "..... Little children, you cannot open yourselves to God if you do not pray. Therefore, from today, decide to consecrate a time in the day only for an encounter with God in silence. Little children, I do not wish to force you; rather freely give God your time, like children of God."

We are asked to dedicate a time to prayer, for listening as well as for talking to God. To quote a priest, Father Tom Leigh, "It should be 'Speak Lord, Your servant is listening', not 'Listen Lord, Your servant is speaking'", and so often we do not give time for listening.

-/-/- - "Often prayers recited aloud in a loud voice send Jesus away because MEN WANT TO WIN THROUGH THEIR EFFORTS. In that way there is no place for God. Prayers recited aloud are good but they must come from peace and from the heart."

What we are trying to achieve may not be what God wants of us. We have to be open to His will, to His plan and be quite prepared to drop all our preconceived plans, as Mary did at the Annunciation, in order to follow God's will. He wants to work in an unbelievable way through each one of us - we have been told so by Our Lady more than once.

28/2/85 - ".... Dear children, with love you will achieve everything, and even what you think is impossible. God wants this parish to belong to Him completely. And I want that too."

25/1/87 - " It is beyond your comprehension how great your role is in God's designs....."

What we must remember is that the limit to what God can and will do through us is imposed by us -

"I'm only prepared to go that far " - do we do this ? I'm sure that we are all guilty of this failing, this lack of trust. In this sense the only failure we can have is not following God's will, of not listening, not being open, of getting in the way.

One of the most striking things reported about Medjugorje is not that the six visionaries have seen Our Lady over such a long period of time, not that there are so many messages, but the effect of living the messages has had on the villagers. They are living the messages, living the Gospel in a way that touches the lives of all those who go there.

We, too, must be prepared to live these messages in the same way. Only then will those around us see what peace really is, what love really means, and will feel drawn to follow.

20/6/85 - "... When you take the messages to others try not to become completely empty. you should carry the messages with humility, with sincerity, never forcing others; you should live in such a way that the others will be moved, awakened with the desire to live like you and not to defeat you. "

This is the great challenge of Medjugorje ; we can only influence others if we are truly open to God, allowing Him to lead us in our lives. Only then will others see the difference in our lives of living the Gospel, and how they feel drawn will depend on their response to God.

23/1/86 - "..... If you pray from the heart, dear children, the ice - cold hearts of your brothers will be melted and every barrier will disappear. Conversion will be easy for those who want it. You must beg this gift for your neighbour."

25/9/86 - "Dear children ! I call upon you to help others, through the peace within yourselves, to recognise what peace is and to begin seeking it for themselves. I appeal to you, through your prayers and example, to help everybody destroy all that is evil in their lives and to unmask Satan's deceptions."

We must try to do this soon. There seems to be an urgency about this recent message

8/5/89 - (Apparition to Ivan's prayer group on the Hill of the Cross at 11pm.). "Dear children, this evening I want to tell you that I cannot go on giving you further messages if you don't live those you have already received. It is deeds that I want from you, dear children, not words. Pray, for only then will you be able to live my messages. I know how enthusiastically you hear my messages and rejoice over them. However, they remain nothing but words, whereas what I require from you are deeds. Once again your mother gives you this evening her love, her peace. Pray, pray, pray, my dear children ! I, your mother, will pray along with you. "

