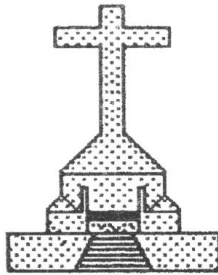


NUMBER 248 : FEBRUARY 2012 : FREE

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST



[www.medjugorjene.co.uk](http://www.medjugorjene.co.uk)

## OUR MINISTRY

To spread the messages of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Jesus,  
given through the visionaries in Medjugorje.

**PEACE CONVERSION**

**FAITH PRAYER FASTING**

**OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE  
PRAY FOR US**



**MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST  
ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE 2012  
Flying from Newcastle to Dubrovnic**

*Travelling in conjunction with  
Medjugorje Pilgrimage Ltd*

**8th SEPTEMBER - 15th SEPTEMBER 2012**

**Cost £499 - Insurance £20  
Single Room Supplement - £100**

*Spiritual Director - Fr Ciaran McDonnell*

**There are a limited number of places  
but a waiting list will be available**

**Please ring to confirm a place asap to avoid disappointment.  
Ring Kath Ash 01670 733358 or Marjorie Anderson 01670 818937**

*Don't delay to avoid disappointment.*

**Hope to see many of you at our Annual Day of Prayer  
at Sacred Heart Church on March 24th 2012  
*Further details on page 7***

## OUR LADY'S MESSAGE

*Given 25th January 2012*

### **Dear Children,**

With joy, also today I call you to open your hearts and to listen to my call. Anew, I desire to draw you closer to my Immaculate Heart, where you will find refuge and peace.

Open yourselves to prayer, until it becomes a joy for you. Through prayer, the Most High will give you an abundance of grace and you will become my extended hands in this restless world which longs for peace. Little children, with your lives witness faith and pray that faith may grow day by day in your hearts. I am with you.

**Thank you for having responded to my call.**

### **OPEN YOUR HEARTS AND LISTEN TO MY CALL**

In this month's message the Immaculate Heart of Mary is for each one of her children a place of **refuge and peace**. Mary desires intimacy with all of her children, and draws us closer to her Immaculate Heart so as to be, for each one of her children, a place of **refuge and peace** amidst this restless world.

When we persevere in prayer and become more constant in daily prayer, then prayer becomes '*a joy for you*' and we never regret the time

when we immerse ourselves in prayer so as to be in God's presence and live out of His presence drawing down upon ourselves and others an abundance of grace.

We must begin *anew* each day, forget what lies behind, and begin '**today**' to love God anew, to open our hearts and listen to the call of our Mother anew, who desires to lift us up on high, to the 'Most High' from whom comes every good and perfect gift.

As Mary's extended hands we become workers of peace and builders

of true peace for a world which longs for peace. Praying and working for peace with Mary and her Son, Jesus, means we will never labour in vain.

At times we may be sorely afflicted, tested, misunderstood or even attacked and oppressed, but all of these trials and ordeals will only serve to make us stronger in faith and witness to faith. Our faith will not die but rather grow strong in the Lord, and as we grow strong in the Lord we will witness more and more to the abundance of God's grace in ourselves and in others so as to give more thanks and praise to God.

Mary knows the importance of a life that gives witness to our faith and grows in faith, because without faith, without a living and active faith we will not be able to recognise the signs of the times.

Did not our Blessed Lord complain about the generation to which he spoke? He told us how blind they were, how incapable they were of perceiving the signs of the times, incapable of recognising the great love of God in their midst through various signs and wonders and above all His

compassionate heart for the poor and suffering of our world.

Mary concludes this month's message by reminding us that she is with us. Mary is with us in our battle, our daily struggle against sin, against evil and against the evil one.

Soon we will be approaching another season of Lent and maybe you might like to think about gaining more ground, more space for God in your life. Just as an army tries to gain more and more ground in battle, we too in our spiritual battle for good and against evil should decide for God, for the good so as to create more and more space for God and so for peace. A world without God will always be restless and lack peace.

Let us build anew our spiritual lives with God at the heart of all our family life and give a place in our homes to the Immaculate Heart of Mary next to the Sacred Heart of Jesus her Son.

I wish you all Grace and Peace.

*Fr Ciaran*

## Trust in the Father's Will

*When asking the Lord for something in prayer,  
we must not expect an immediate fulfilment of our will, of our requests*

**D**ear Brothers and Sisters, In our continuing catechesis on prayer, we now consider Jesus' own prayer, particularly in the context of his miracles of healing. Both the cure of the deaf man (Mk 7:32-37) and the raising of Lazarus (Jn 11:1-44) show us Jesus at prayer before cases of human suffering. His prayer on these occasions reveals not only his profound identification with the suffering but also his unique relationship with the Father.

In the case of the deaf man, Jesus' compassion leads him to introduce his prayer with a deep sigh (v. 34). In the case of Lazarus, he is deeply moved by the sorrow of Martha and Mary, and

weeps before the tomb of his friend. At the same time, **he sees the tragedy of Lazarus' death in the light of the Father's will** and of his own identity and mission.

**Jesus' example teaches us** that in our own prayers we must always **trust in the Father's will** and strive to see all things in the light of his mysterious plan of love. We too must join petition, praise and thanksgiving in every prayer, knowing that **the greatest gift God can give us is his friendship**, and that our example of prayer can open our hearts to our brothers and sisters in need and point others to God's saving presence in our world.

*Pope Benedict XVI*

**S**ilence becomes strength to bear the burden of the trial. Complaining, discussions, and talk of difficulty lessen our strength.

When faced with personal trials, before rebelling, before reasoning on the situation, we must sit in silence, and humbly wait for God to show us his plan, believing that we are always and more than ever in his hands.

*(From a hymn for martyrs)*

## MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST

[www.medjugorjene.co.uk](http://www.medjugorjene.co.uk)

**\*Pilgrimage** to Medjugorje 2012 You will note that our pilgrimage this year is **not in May** but in September instead. Unfortunately we were unable to book our usual dates and were also unable to arrange a flight from Newcastle. However we have been very fortunate to obtain 40 seats with Medjugorje Pilgrimage Ltd. (Flying from Newcastle to Dubrovnic) Bookings are going well but we urge you to book soon because of the limited number of places available. (*We will have a waiting list.*) See page 1 for further details.

**\*Please note that Fr Ciaran** will be holding an afternoon of prayer in February - see advert below.

**\*Date for your diary** The Medjugorje Retreat 2012 will be held from Friday 19th October to Sunday 21st October. Cost £101 per person. Booking forms will be available soon.

**\*Our Annual Day of Prayer** at Sacred Heart Church in March will be led again by Fr Noel Colohon. See page 7 for full details.



### MEDJUGORJE AFTERNOON OF PRAYER *led by Fr Ciaran McDonnell*

**Sunday 5th February 2012**  
**Sunday 4th March 2012**  
**4.00pm to 5.30pm**

*Rosary : Holy Mass*  
*Adoration of Blessed Sacrament*

**ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH**  
**WEALCROFT**  
**LEAM LANE, FELLING,**  
**GATESHEAD**



## A Leap Forward

*Echo of Mary*



**A**n important year (2011) is about to come to a close in Medjugorje: a year of festivities and celebrations, of balances and memories, of great numbers, such as the thousands of pages written and published throughout the world and the albums full of nostalgic photos; not to mention the river of pilgrims that throughout the year come to Medjugorje. It has been a year in which we all felt the urge to reconsider the dimension of an event that had the power to change the course of our lives. This has been a year of grace, a year in which to give thanks.

But now let us now think ahead, of expectation and hope. For Mary has given us also warnings in her messages, and promises for the future. Every day we need to work on our conversion; and this doesn't mean leaving behind only what we think is bad. It also means not clinging to the things that were good up to a short time ago and that are now no longer necessary because they have

already obtained their effect. Sometimes in fact, in the fear that grace is escaping us, we cling to it, anchoring ourselves to a past that is already behind us and we lose the lookout post alongside the "wise virgins" who await the arrival of the Spouse.

Mary is calling us from Medjugorje to return to God because salvation is urgent in a world that is bent under the excessive burden of the selfishness of some and the misery of many others. The media are trying to spread perturbation, a sense of instability that makes our ability to hope even more fragile, our ability to lift our gaze and understand that it isn't man who holds the key to the fate of humanity. This is why we must make the most of the grace received over these years from the Queen of Peace. Medjugorje is not just any event, but it is a turning point because **"God's gifts and his calling are irrevocable,"** writes Saint Paul to the Romans (11:29) and they always bear fruit – in proportion to our response.

***I do not call you here (to Medjugorje) only for yourselves,*** says Mary (see message to Mirjana of 2 November 2011). No, we cannot make our experi-

ence into a private fact, an occasion for ourselves, because – as Our Lady reminds us – we are not in this world just for ourselves, but to be a people in God’s family.

A people that lets itself be guided by Mary, to point out to the afflicted of this time, the pathway to return to God. **To be light for others, to be a mirror of immense love for those who do not know what it means to be loved, to ignite sparks of hope where there is despair** - will not be difficult if we ac-

cept to follow Christ by returning to a life of prayer and Sacraments which is asked of us at Medjugorje.

Mary can help us open our hearts to God. She has promised us that she is with us... so that we can make our experience of Medjugorje more than just a beautiful memory or collection of pilgrimages to boast about. Mary points us to the essential Gospel message of fraternal love. She is asking us to leap forward to **become a light and illuminate the way for others.**



## **ANNUAL DAY OF PRAYER**

*Organised by the Medjugorje Centre North East*

**Led by Fr. Noel Colahan**

**SATURDAY 24th MARCH 2012**

**SACRED HEART CHURCH  
NORTH GOSFORTH  
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE**

Rosary and Talk 10.15am

Shared Lunch

followed by Holy Mass

and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

*Coffee served from 9.30am*



**REPORT FROM  
SISTER EMMANUEL**

*of The Community of The Beatitudes*

*Her monthly unofficial news report is read by more than 2.5 million people*

**[www.childrenofmedjugorje.com](http://www.childrenofmedjugorje.com)**

**D**ear Children of Medjugorje, Praised be Jesus and Mary! On January 2nd, 2012, Mirjana received her monthly apparition at the Blue Cross, surrounded by an impressive crowd, who had come to start the year with Jesus and Mary. After the apparition, Mirjana gave us the following message:

**“Dear children,** With motherly concern I look in your hearts. In them I see pain and suffering; I see a wounded past and an incessant search; I see my children who desire to be happy but do not know how. Open yourselves to the Father. That is the way to happiness, the way by which I desire to lead you. God the Father never leaves his children alone, especially not in pain and despair. When you comprehend and accept this you will be happy; your

search will end; you will love and you will not be afraid; your life will be hope and truth which is my Son. **Thank you.** I implore you, pray for those whom my Son has chosen. Do not judge because you will all be judged.”

*Mirjana said that Our Lady was very determined.*

**Pain and despair?** The message entrusted to Mirjana on January 2 is overwhelming. Our Mother’s gaze penetrates right into the depths of our soul, she guesses all of our secrets and reaches within us with profound intimacy which escapes even us. What does She see? Pain, suffering, despair sometimes! But quickly, she gives us the key remedy that will never fail: **“Open yourselves to the Father”!** The Father of Heaven, is the security, is the unflinching and unconditional love, is the

depths of mercy. I believe the invitation of Our Blessed Mother is about our trust in Him. Jesus came upon earth to give us the Father, and to offer us to the Father. If there is an inner healing that we ALL have the right to, it is the healing of our image of the Father, an image that has been disfigured by Satan since the Fall. (Genesis 3), and often wounded by our painful experiences during childhood.

By this message, Mary invites us to open ourselves to that healing! So that we can speak with the Father as a child with the best of dads, in total trust, without guilt regardless of our failings, without fear regardless of our 'cowardness', without reserve regardless of our selfishness. The Father is so much above all of that! He is the Infinite Counsellor, the Supreme Encourager. He never reproaches without an infinite delicacy, He lifts us up and fortifies us in His presence. Discover the Father, practice his Presence, it is already a piece of Heaven in our hearts!

My friend in Cairo (Egypt) recites each morning the splendid prayer of Charles de Foucauld, "My Father, I abandon myself to you..." and among the terrible threats that shakes her country, I see that she remains at peace. (See page 18 for this prayer)

**Fifty reasons to be thankful!** We have a nice tradition at home. Would you like to share it? In January, we write to Jesus a letter of thanksgiving with 50 reasons for which we have to thank God and the Blessed Mother for the gifts, graces, presents, blessings, favours, pardons, insights (with persecutions), in short everything that Heaven gave us in 2011, and for the supreme good of being alive in this New Year of grace 2012. 50 reasons seem to be a lot, but you'll see that all you need is to put all your heart into it and you'll get even more than 50!

With the help of the Holy Spirit, go over the whole past year. It's an excellent exercise that makes us aware of the gifts of God, and it causes a fatal blow to bitterness or futile complaints. It is a real springboard for joy! We can also share with our close ones some of the points to encourage one another to discern the hand of God in our lives and to become fully aware of how much we are loved. The fruit of this sharing will be a greater unity and a greater respect.

**God's blessing.** For the feast of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, the Jews have a beautiful tradition: They offer one another a symbolic fruit, a pomegranate, (reminiscent of *The Song of the Songs*), and say, "May

God give you as many blessings as there are seeds in this pomegranate!" So, at the beginning of this year, I too wish you this great abundance of blessings for 2012! Above all, let's remain in deep communion with Pope Benedict who fights for the Church and counts on our prayers!

It is important to remember that all true blessings come from God and not from luck or chance. Luck does not really exist because God is master of all things and He leaves nothing to chance. Chance is a fabricated invention of man, and when someone tells me "Good luck", I answer, "God bless you!" Just like the seeds of a pomegranate have no space left between them, but are instead beautifully interwoven into each other, God leaves nothing to chance!

Medjugorje is a place of great blessings; this is no secret. But, by living the messages of Mary, abandoning sin and adjusting our lives to the Gospel, every one of us can become a blessing for others, and make of their work, their home, their life, a flood of blessings.

Priests are the ones who give the greatest blessings. The Gospa said, "***When a priest blesses you, dear children, it is my Son who blesses you. The blessing***

***of a priest is greater than mine. If priests knew what they give when they bless, they would bless day and night!***" In January, at Medjugorje, the Franciscans go to the homes of the Croatians to bless their houses and families. May all the parishes of the world resume this powerful tradition!

A friend from Kerala, a father of a family very close to God, told me that one time he was attending Mass but he had to leave the church quickly after Mass because of an important trip to another town. Since the mass lasted longer than usual, he first considered leaving before the end. But then he thought to himself, "No, I do not want to miss the final blessing!" and he stayed to receive it. Later on, as he was driving, he was caught in a very serious accident that involved many cars around him. It was a very bloody scene. But though he was in the accident, he was left completely uninjured, which was inexplicable!!

**Dearest Gospa**, when we look in your Heart, in it we see peace, tenderness, beauty... Please, come help us when the night is too dark and the pain too hard! Place us in the arms of the Father!

**Sister Emmanuel +**  
*Translated from French*

## Most Important Fact

**A**t Medjugorje, the fact that is most important for the pilgrims' conscience is Our Lady's presence. While they know they must await the Church's decision, they draw strength from this presence and each message which they perceive and believe in. As soon as someone learns about it, they begin to reflect, and say: 'Here is an extraordinary power of conversion. Here things are possible that would elsewhere be impossible!'

How so? God is everywhere. Our Lady works everywhere. Thanks to her divine maternity, She is Mother of the Church, of all men, of sinners. She is crowned Queen of Heaven and of earth. Why should her presence here be so efficacious?'

Once back home, pilgrims compare their experience of Medjugorje with the way they live their faith at home. They note the difference, and they understand why an unknown force is in action there. At Medjugorje the presence of God, of Jesus, of the Holy Spirit, and of Our Lady, is not a thought-up piece of news. It is an experience, a daily event.

In the diary of our pilgrim we read: 'At

**Medjugorje God is alive.** He speaks, listens, converses with each one and with his people. God comes and visits his people every day. And his people await Him, they listen to Him and receive his advice as a gift, and they live out his commandments. The one edifies the other, and they benefit of the help of all because of their resolute and irreversible adhesion to the living Lord.'

**God visits his people.** Never before had I perceived in such a way this revealed truth, this daily reality within history. God comes! This announcement has caused a sensation the reflections of which are clearly seen. At Medjugorje obedience to God is cherished as the light of the day and the bread on the table. Thus, God is truly at home, as would be the parent or child.

The people listen to their pastor, the pastor listens to the visionaries. The visionaries listen to Our Lady. Our Lady listens to and sees Jesus. Through Jesus, Mary, the visionaries, the pastor, the prayer of the people: God the Father is awaited, heeded, obeyed. Mankind has become family, has become brotherly. Christ has his body, healthy and beautiful, full of light, truth and grace!

At Medjugorje God is very present, very much heeded, that He is central in the decisions of meals, fasting, prayer time, the topics of our conversation, the way of true peace, the frequency of the sacraments; and out of love He imposes great respect, and hence deserves to be acknowledged in his right to have secrets, even regarding men.

The brighter Revelation is, the more we are able to adore the Mystery. And if

there is mystery, it is not out of divine jealousy or to exclude man from the joy of knowing, but to call man to the honour of believing and to the freedom of trusting as he surrenders himself up to God who loves him.

From: *MEDJUGORJE, Hope for the Third Millennium*, by Fr. Massimo Rastrelli S.J., Michael Edizioni, TV 2010, pp. 54-55

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### For the praise and glory of His Name

**M**ay the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church”.

We have repeated it countless times, perhaps without grasping its depth. We offer God a sacrifice: “Mine and yours,” the priest says. This is the moment of the offertory, it is the moment to bring God all the fatigue of our work, everything good that we have managed to do during the day. But that’s not all. Also the pain that we have experienced, the suffering that we have managed to carry with love, and put up with in silence for the good of others. This is the mo-

ment to ideally bring them to the altar as a precious gift. But that’s still not all. Also our mistakes, the burdens that we reluctantly carry, that perhaps distance us from grace; these too can and must be given up to God’s love. It is never too late to offer Him everything and all of our life.

We are called also to bring the worries for our future to the altar, our plans and desires, and this too becomes a gift to be transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. Yes, because they are part of our life and part of our journey of growth. And yet there is more. We must give God our sins and the pain that derives from them, these too are a sacrifice to

be lifted up to the Lord, so He can redeem and consume these sins, conquer them in us and in all those who experience our same weaknesses.

This brief moment is in the heart of every Mass, and is extremely important. People often end up reducing it to a pause between the homily and the consecration or the collection of money, but that would have no meaning if there were not the offering up of something spiritual.

All of this is gathered in the chalice. How much can the sacrifice of the entire assembly before God's immensity be worth? A drop of water. A drop that is added to the wine and that does not change its flavour, it gets lost, it is blended with it. And yet the wine is united with that drop of water that becomes Christ's Blood. Our little sacrifices, united with the Sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, acquire an immense value. They become part of His Body. They become part of that Blood that gives life to the entire mystical body.

And everything is multiplied and purified. I give myself and I am given God's life in exchange. God dwells

within me. Every gesture, every word, every piece of my life delivered in the Mass is transformed on the altar and concurs for my good, for the good of others, for our good and the good of all His Church. This good, however, comes later, it comes as a consequence and it is not the primary motive for the offering of ourselves to God.

So what we put on the altar is above all **for the glory of God**, for He is worthy of praise! So I don't offer myself up for something in exchange, or only to obtain good for my brother. My offering is for God, to give glory to Him, to respond to His infinite Love with all my being. And I repeat this at every holy Mass, I say it in an explicit manner with my brethren: "May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His Name."

*Francesco Cavagna*  
*Echo of Mary*

***"May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His Name, for our good and the good of all his holy church"***

## “Seek the Lord’s Face”

**F**rom *Echo of Mary #139*, we have taken the most salient points of an interview with Jelena Vasilj, one of the two young girls who experienced inner locutions during the early years of Medjugorje. The following excerpt is from an interview Jelena gave to Italian pilgrims in 1998.

### **On knowing how to ask forgiveness:**

“I think this must be the first step in a serious Christian life; that is, to ask for forgiveness. Our Lady then teaches us to pray the same way, so that when we are before God we ask pardon and mercy. This is the first step towards conversion.”

### **“Our Lady always puts prayer first,**

because our Christian life draws strength from the encounter with God. So, if there is not an encounter with God, it is very difficult to speak of a spiritual life, since it is not something we can do of ourselves.”

**On the Rosary:** “To pray the Rosary, I think, makes us similar to Mary, who ‘pondered all these things in her heart,’ said Luke (Lk 2:12, 2:51). I think that we too are called to keep

these mysteries in our heart, through the Rosary. The prayer of the Rosary is very beneficial for our spirituality. It is like a mini catechesis of our life of faith.”

**On the Sacraments:** “It is only through grace that we can walk towards perfection; therefore, with the Sacraments of Confession, and especially the Eucharist which is in particular the heart of our Christian life.”

**“Our Lady said we ought to seek two things:** first of all **the face of the Lord**. Many times we risk seeing only ourselves, to desire good and right things, but we do not see the person we have next to us. Therefore, Our Lady asks us to lift up our gaze, to look at Christ when we pray, so that our prayer is Christ-centred. The **second step is to seek the Lord’s will**, so that after an encounter with God, we should naturally ask: what do you want of me?”

**On silence:** “Besides the Rosary, Our Lady insisted on silence; to listen to others, not to remain inactive. This makes of us a gift for others. I think

that it is rather difficult to do for our human existence, because we tend to be protagonists, however, also the prayer of listening teaches us to adore, and to understand who the true Author of life is.”

**“Penance must be the travelling companion** of prayer; it becomes the prayer of the body. The word penance is barely present in our vocabulary today; we think that we suffer enough already and that there is no need for other forms of suffering. However, it

seems that penance, especially in a moment of laziness or spiritual sleep, is what gives us a shake to permit us to get up and move on.”

**On fasting:** “Our Lady insists on fasting, especially on bread and water. I think that this, too, is deeply meaningful. To live with this material bread in a certain sense becomes the expectation of that real bread which we receive in the Eucharist. So, I think that a eucharistic interpretation of this type of fast is right.”

## SEED OF THE FUTURE

**D**ear children, as a mother I am with you so that with my love, prayer and example I may help you to become a seed of the future, a seed that will grow into a strong tree and spread its branches throughout the world. For you to become a seed of the future, a seed of love, implore the Father to forgive you your omissions up to now. My children, only a pure heart, unburdened by sin, can open itself and only honest eyes can see the way upon which I desire leading you. When you become aware of this, you will become aware of the love of God, and it will be given you. Then you will give it to others as a seed of

love. **Thank you.”** *Message to Mirjana, 2 December 2011.*

If you ever ask why Our Lady should appear at Medjugorje for so long, with such frequency and in a way that is indeed unique in Church History, then today we have been given an answer. Through Mirjana, Our Blessed Mother offers a response to her children who question the reason for her concern.

Every earthly mother concerns herself with the growth of her child, offering it love, prayers and example. Fatherhood and motherhood cannot be re-

duced to a mere biological function; both parents are responsible for raising their child with love, prayer and example. But what importance is given to these imperatives in today's world where man has become subordinate to what should have been at his service? Are words such as love, prayer and example still meaningful in our society? Love is on everybody's lips, but is associated to sexual encounters more than anything else

Mary is with us as a Mother to help us with her love, prayer and example to become a seed for what is to become; a seed of love. The world cannot continue on its fast track downwards; it cannot exist counting only on its intrinsic resources and forces. We need to find within ourselves the Father of whom we are image, rather, children. It isn't a question of practising some good works, but of radically changing our life-style. And it is necessary both for our own salvation and of the world!

Medjugorje today. Nazareth two thousand years ago. Then, the Seed was enshrined in Mary till Jesus blossomed, new tree of life. Today, it is a

seed that will grow into a strong tree and spread its branches throughout the world. Today, as then, Mary bears within herself and gives to the world: salvation. However, for today's seed to be nourished by her, it must be pure and able to be assimilated into Jesus. So to become a seed of love we must seek out the Father's forgiveness; we must go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation

*My children, only a pure heart that is not burdened by sin can open itself, and only honest eyes can see the way upon which I desire leading you.*

Purity of heart is not a price to pay, but an essential condition for us to see the way. Purification isn't an injunction, but the breath of the Spirit that blows away the fog in our soul so it is exposed to God's love and be able to receive it. When you become aware of this, you will become aware of God's love and it will be granted you. Then, you will offer it to others as a seed of love. May these words be our Christmas wish!

*Nuccio Quattrocchi*  
*Echo of Mary*

**YEARLY APPARITION TO JAKOV**  
**Given 25th December 2011**



At the last daily apparition to Jakov Colo on September 12th, 1998, Our Lady told him that henceforth he would have one apparition a year, every December 25th, on Christmas Day. This is also how it was this year. The apparition began at 3:30 pm and lasted 11 minutes.

*“Dear children,*

*Today, in a special way, I desire to take you to and give you over to my Son. Little children, open your hearts and permit Jesus to be born in you, because only in this way, little children, you yourselves will be able to experience your new birth and set out with Jesus in your hearts towards the way of salvation. Thank you for having responded to my call.”*

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**MESSAGE TO MIRJANA**

**Given 2nd January 2012**

**“Dear children,**

With motherly concern I look in your hearts. In them I see pain and suffering; I see a wounded past and an incessant search; I see my children who desire to be happy but do not know how. Open yourselves to the Father. That is the way to happiness, the way by which I desire to lead you. God the Father never leaves his children alone, especially not in pain and despair. When you comprehend and accept this you will be happy; your search will end; you will love and you will not be afraid; your life will be hope and truth which is my Son. **Thank you.** I implore you, pray for those whom my Son has chosen. Do not judge because you will all be judged.”

*Mirjana said that Our Lady was very determined.*



**MIDDLESBROUGH CENTRE FOR PEACE  
MEDJUGORJE EVENING**

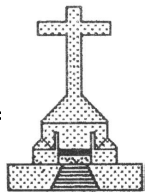
**FRIDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2012  
FRIDAY 9th MARCH 2012  
7.30pm to 9.30pm**

*Rosary : Holy Mass : Talk : Witness*

**JOHN PAUL CENTRE  
55 GRANGE ROAD, MIDDLESBROUGH**

For further details please contact:  
Mrs Marie Bedingfield

Tel: 01642 530739



**M**y Father, I abandon myself to You, Do with me as you please. Whatever you do of me, I thank you. I am ready for everything, I accept everything; As long as your will be done in me and in all creatures, I desire nothing else, my God.

I commit my soul into your hands, I give it to you, my God, with all the love of my heart, because I love you, and it is a need of love for me to give myself, to commit myself into your hands, without reserve, with infinite trust, for you are my Father.”

*(Blessed Charles de Foucauld)*