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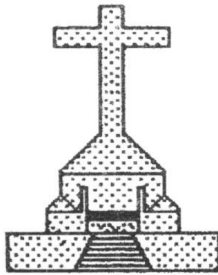
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# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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**MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST**

(Established since 1989)



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

Email: [medjugorjene@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:medjugorjene@yahoo.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**

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## OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PRAY FOR US

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**MEDJUGORJE  
AFTERNOON OF PRAYER**

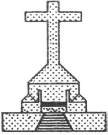
*led by Fr. Martin Morris*

**2nd Sunday of the month  
4pm – 6pm**



*Cancelled\*\*\* 9th July 2017 \*\*\*Cancelled  
Resumes—13th August 2017*

At  
St Teresa of the infant Child Jesus  
Heaton Road  
Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 5HN



**Medjugorje Centre (North East)**

**MEDJUGORJE RETREAT AT MINSTERACRES**

**Spiritual Director—Fr. Shaun O'Neill**

**Cost is £125 pp**

**Fri 13th –15th October 2017**

**Booking forms available from  
Marian Fletcher  
Telephone 0191 4174413**



**THE 28<sup>TH</sup> YOUTH FESTIVAL  
MLADIFEST**



Medjugorje  
August 1<sup>st</sup> – August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**THAT YOUR LOVE MAY  
GROW MORE AND MORE**

**Quiz night**

**In aid of Medjugorje North East**

at St. Teresa's Catholic Club, Heaton  
road, Heaton, Newcastle,

**Thursday 6th July, 7.00pm.**

Come along and Join Fr. Martin's  
team, and have a great night."

Ta, Fr. M

## OUR LADY'S MESSAGE—To the World

*Given 25th June 2017 to Marija Pavlovic*



**D**ear children! “ Today, I desire to thank you for your perseverance and call you to open yourselves to profound prayer. Prayer, little children, is the heart of faith and is hope in eternal life. Therefore, pray with the heart until your heart sings with thanksgiving to God the Creator who gave you life. I am with you, little children, and carry to you my motherly blessing of peace. Thank you for having responded to my call. ”

### Fr. Martin Morris's Reflection

Spiritual Director of Medjugorje Centre NE

Dear Brothers and sisters of Medjugorje North East and beyond, Praise be Jesus and Mary. For thirty-six years now the Queen of Peace has come to us with the Gospel message of conversion. we have had the great opportunity of responding to the call of Our Lady, and of entering her school of prayer and peace. Mary thanks us for our **perseverance**, during this time, and in so doing acknowledges the co-operation with her in helping to bring about the father's plans. How many times has Our Lady said, “ *Without you, I am unable to do this.*” Let us thank the Lord that we heard Mary's call, and received the grace of the Holy spirit to persevere. Let us be truly grateful for the grace of **perseverance**, because so many did not give up. The opening words of this month's message should make us very happy, because there are so many hearts and souls who understood what was happening in Medjugorje and remained loyal. So many who did not

permit themselves to become confused, but who kept focused and persevering in living the messages of Our Lady. Mary thanks us that we did not give up, that we persevered and continue in the path of Prayer, Faith, Fasting, and Love.

Next Our Lady invites us to “**Open yourselves to profound prayer.**”

What is **profound Prayer**?

It is a gift that is offered to all. It is when we decide to pray out of love, so the loving decision to pray should be the beginning of praying with the heart. It is recognising that Prayer should not depend on feelings or desires.

With the firm decision to pray from Love then we enter the grace of prayer with the heart. All prayer is an encounter with God, and an encounter cannot happen without time. When we are close to God in our heart then prayer deepens and grows to a profound level.

If unbelief and atheism are spreading today, then people of **profound prayer** are necessary. Those who

give time out of love in the Holy Mass, Rosary and Holy Scriptures, to enter into **profound prayer**, and to be led into the gift of contemplating the Lord.

**"Pray with the heart, until your heart sings with thanksgiving to God the Creator who gave you life."**

it is interesting how often the theme of thanksgiving is repeated in the messages over the years. in every message Our Lady says, "**Thank you for having responded to my call.**" it happens easily that we only ask for things in our prayers and maybe in constant asking we can go so far that we are actually trying to adapt Gods will to ours rather than our will to his.

Thanking is very important. Thanking and praising and adoring, and thanking in general is closely related to peace. When we thank we see what we have, we see others in a new light, when we live in a spirit of gratitude then we also see what others have done for us. Mary desires that we recognise that life is a gift, a grace, and a grateful person is able to see what God is doing.

To believe more in **God the Creator** means to love life and to accept that every life is a gift and all he created for us in his love. Mary wants a song of thanksgiving in the hearts of every one of her children, a song like her Magnificat, so that we can all glorify and Magnify the Lord at this time.

Only when we recognise and accept God the Father, Creator of Heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible can we truly love and live in his peace.

At this time in our nation we are seeing much death and destruction, but Mary calls us to be the witnesses for life, love and holiness, everything that is good and true and holy.

So let us trust God the Father Almighty Creator of Heaven and earth, and let us praise Him with a new song in our hearts, for the wonders he has done.

*God Bless, Fr. Martin*

**RIP**

**MARGARET (Peggie)  
WEIDNER**



Margaret WEIDNER Gosforth (Peggie) passed away in St. Joseph's Home on 1st June 2017, aged 93 years. Beloved wife of the late Ossie, devoted mother, Nono and Great Grandma.

Peggie a very generous Irish lady and devotee of Our Lady Queen of Peace contributed to bringing the Message of Our Lady of Medjugorje to North East England.

Peggie was a pioneer Pilgrim to Medjugorje and in 1989 supported by her husband Ossie became a founder member of Medjugorje Centre N.E.

We praise and thank God for her life of Nursing Care and Love, especially for the elderly by opening a Care Home in Gosforth to provide for their needs.

Holy Mass, Prayers and Candles will burn in Medjugorje especially for Peggie.

*Eternal Rest give unto Peggy and Ossie  
Oh Lord and Let perpetual light shine  
upon them,*

*may they rest in peace.*

*Amen*

Pax Christie

## Our Lady's message to Mirjana

2nd June 2017



**“Dear children!** as in the other places where I have come to you, also here I am calling you to prayer. Pray for those who do not know my Son, for those who have not come to know the love of God, against sin, for the consecrated - for those whom my Son called to have love and the spirit of strength for you, for the Church. Pray to my Son, and the love which you experience from His nearness will give you the strength to make you ready for the works of love, which you will do in His name. My children, be ready. This time is a turning point. That is why I am calling you anew to faith and hope. I am

showing you the way by which you need to go, and those are the words of the Gospel. Apostles of my love, the world is in such need of your arms raised towards Heaven, towards my Son, towards the Heavenly Father. Much humility and purity of heart are needed. Have trust in my Son and know that you can always be better. My motherly heart desires for you, apostles of my love, to be little lights of the world, to illuminate there where darkness wants to begin to reign, to show the true way by your prayer and love, to save souls. I am with you. Thank you .”



### REPORT FROM SISTER EMMANUEL

*of The Community of The Beatitudes*  
[www.childrenofmedjugorje.com](http://www.childrenofmedjugorje.com)

June 15, 2017

Dear Children of Medjugorje, praised be Jesus and Mary!

**1. On June 2 2017, Mirjana- received her monthly apparition at the Blue Cross in the midst of a large crowd.**

After the apparition, she shared the message from Our Lady: (see above)

**What a beautiful evangelical message!**

"Keep your belts tied and your lamps lit." "You must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour." (Lk 12: 35 & 40).

Our Lady specifies neither what awaits us nor what we must prepare for, but for 36 years she has made our work easy by giving us all the elements in order to be ready and experience true peace. Everyone will be able to understand that exhortation by reading over her messages while invoking the Holy Spirit.

With much finesse Our Lady comforts those who, having drunk from the source of grace that Medjugorje is, could have let doubt grow in them. Yes indeed, she is The One who came to Rue du Bac (Paris), Lourdes, Fatima, Guadalupe (Mexico), Kibého (Rwanda), and many other places around the world. She is the same Lady! Our Lady.

## 2. What young people are exposed to in this day and age.

I sometimes hear these words from pilgrims: *"How strange that Our Lady comes to Medjugorje every day, when she is usually so discreet? I doubt it's really her!"*

I have noticed that people who say this are generally over 60. Conversely, I have never heard a young person speak in this way. Why is that? You will quickly understand why when you read this short set of questions that I ask pilgrims who are in doubt. Their answers are often the same. *'Oh, no in my time we never knew.'*

Read Sr. Emmanuel's full report at:  
[www.childrenofmedjugorje.com](http://www.childrenofmedjugorje.com)

She ends: Now, be aware that your grandchildren who are between the ages of 4 and 25 today are bombarded with proposals, which damage them deeply and sometimes destroy them. So then... Are you still going to reproach the Mother of God, who is also their Mother, for coming every day for 3 short minutes in order to bless them, help them and pray for them, while Satan is live and active 24/7?

Pilgrim: - *I hadn't thought of that... I'll think about it...*

**- Thinking is not enough. I beg you, please protect your children and let Heaven protect them! This is a critical time, be ready!**

***Dearest Gospa, You, undaunted, have been coming every day for 36 years, regardless of what people may say about you. THANK YOU!***

*I beg you, please keep up coming to us, we need you so badly!*

*Thank you so very much for all the good you have done since June 24, 1981, thank you for so many lives saved, so many families reconciled, so many vocations to Christian marriage and to the priesthood, so many hearts that could finally find peace.*

*Thank you for welcoming so many of your children who were carrying heavy crosses! You comforted them and allowed them to taste a new happiness in their life! The list would be too long.*

*Dearest Gospa, as the end of your apparitions is approaching, as the revelation of the secrets are not to tarry for many more decades, I beg you, continue to pour upon our world the grace of your daily comings, and please forgive our guilty indifference to your calls. We implore you, don't tire in holding us against your motherly and Immaculate Heart!*

*Blessed Virgin of Fatima and Medjugorje, don't quit! On behalf of many young kids, I say to you THANK YOU for being there for them every day, while most of their homes are empty. Please pray to your Son, so that His infinite mercy may spare us from degeneration, corruption, calamities, wars, and especially the death of the soul. To you, His Mother, He has given such power over His heart! He cannot resist a single one of your supplications.*

*Yes, most loving Mother, please answer our call. We love you immensely!*

**Sister Emmanuel +**

For Sr. Emmanuel's full report go to  
[www.childrenofmedjugorje.com](http://www.childrenofmedjugorje.com)

## Medjugorje and Recent Comments by Pope Francis

### 7 Points to Consider

By Dr. Mark Miravalle (Spirit of Medjugorje)

On his return flight from Fatima to Rome on May 13, 2017, Pope Francis offered some personal comments about the Medjugorje apparitions in response to a question from an Italian journalist. These comments have led to false and misleading secular headlines such as “Pope Declares Medjugorje A Hoax,” and “Pope Nixes Medjugorje Apparitions.” For a proper understanding of the comments of the Holy Father on Medjugorje, the following points should be kept in mind:

1. The comments of Pope Francis do not in any way constitute an official or final Church declaration on the status of the Medjugorje apparitions. Rather, they were impromptu comments made by the Holy Father, who further qualified his remarks by stating, “This I say as a personal opinion.”
2. The papal evaluation of Medjugorje continues, and Pope Francis specifically mentioned the further report which he will be receiving from his papal envoy to Medjugorje, Polish Archbishop Henrik Hoser. Archbishop Hoser, in his public homilies and press conferences, has strongly supported Medjugorje as a place of profound prayer and global spiritual fruits.
3. On May 16, 2017, the conclusions of the Vatican Commission established by Pope Benedict XVI in 2010 to investigate Medjugorje (referred to as the “Ruini

Commission,” after commission leader, Cardinal Ruini), were released by the Italian newspaper, La Stampa, in its Vatican Insider column. The Ruini Commission was highly praised by Pope Francis during his May 13 comments: “It was a commission of good theologians, bishops, cardinals, but good. Very good... The Ruini report was very, very good.” In this report, the Commission voted 13 to 1 in favor of the authenticity of the first 7 apparitions of the visionaries, and moreover, recommended that Medjugorje be granted the status of a “pontifical sanctuary.” The ecclesiastical designation of a location as a pontifical sanctuary is, in itself, a form of Church approval, as the Church does not grant pontifical status to places of only false apparitions.

4. The Holy Father indicated a distinction between the earlier apparitions and later apparitions, which implies that he may perceive the former to be more worthy of a conclusion of authenticity. This is also a conclusion of the Ruini Commission. In either case, authentic apparitions would constitute a substantive aspect of the Medjugorje event.

5. Pope Francis seems to be personally uncomfortable with the aspect of Medjugorje that Our Lady announces a specified day and time when she is to appear. However, the specifying of time and date of appearance is an established

precedent of numerous other Church approved Marian apparitions, including Fatima, Lourdes, Kibeho, Itapiranga, Laux, San Nicolas, and others.

6. There is Church precedence for legitimate development, and even change, in the personal opinion of a Roman pontiff in regard to a particular private revelation or mystical event. For example, the saintly Pope Pius XI entertained serious personal doubts about St. Pio of Pietreclina for the majority of his papacy. When Padre Pio was eventually exonerated of the many false claims about him and accepted as authentic by the Holy Father, Pius XI told the stigmatist saint that it was not he whom he had condemned, but only the person of whom he had heard so many negative and false reports.

7. Since Pope Francis has yet to make a definitive judgment and consequent declaration, it would be prudent to remain patient and open for the official and final judgment of Pope Francis regarding the Medjugorje apparitions. Let us all “pray from the heart” for our beloved Holy Father, Pope Francis, and for his docility to the Holy Spirit and Our Lady herself regarding the best possible discernment and eventual final judgment of the events of Medjugorje. At the same time, let us prepare our own hearts to receive his eventual official and final decision regarding Medjugorje with the proper “religious submission of mind and will” which should obediently be given to the “authentic magisterium of the Roman Pontiff, even when he

is not speaking ex cathedra ” (cf. Lumen Gentium, 25, Second Vatican Council).

**Editor’s note:** *Dr. Miravalle is Professor of Theology and Mariology, Franciscan University of Steubenville. He is the author of many books, a number of which deal with Medjugorje*

### **The 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Apparitions in Medjugorje**

St Teresa of the Infant Child Jesus in Heaton on 25 June 2017.

Fr Martin Morris led the afternoon when we had prayers for healing for those within our friends and family who suffer addictions and those who suffer mentally, emotionally or spiritually.

We prayed that the peace and love that Jesus brings may come into all our lives.

We had a beautiful and peaceful Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed by the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary.

Fr Martin also commented on our recent pilgrimage and told us that one evening during International Mass, pilgrims heard from 89-year-old Albanian priest Fr Ernest Troshani Simoni, who had suffered two decades of imprisonment, torture and forced labour under the communist regime for refusing to renounce his Catholic faith.

In 2014, Pope Francis elevated him to the College of Cardinals in recognition of his faithfulness.

At the end of mass, Fr Simoni gave a talk on the love of God and believed all that was happening in Medjugorje was from God.

*Marian*



## Pilgrimage to Medjugorje, 7-14<sup>th</sup> June 2017

### *A Pilgrims Perspective*

**“If you knew how much I love you you’d cry of joy”**, these powerful and heavenly words from Our Lady Queen of Peace, Queen of Medjugorje, were re-iterated by Fr. Shaun O’Neill on the last day of our pilgrimage.

44 pilgrims from Newcastle travelled to Medjugorje on 7<sup>th</sup> June for a week, including 3 priests, Fr. Martin Morris, Fr. Jeff Dodds and Fr. Shaun O’Neil who provided our spiritual guidance. The group members were all very different, from various places, some travelling alone, some with friends, some had visited this shrine once, some several times and for some, it was their first time. However, we were all united in our search: to strengthen our faith or even find our faith!

Medjugorje is a town situated in the region of Bosnia and Herzegovina, near the border of Croatia. Our Lady, the Mother of God, appeared to 6 local children on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1981 with messages to them and the world, reminding us of God’s love for us and how we must live our lives. Today, some of the visionaries still continue to receive messages, Marijana, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of each month and Marija, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, for the world. Each word of the messages appears to be carefully chosen by Our Blessed Lady to help us on our own personal journey towards Her Son. As we were reminded by our wonderful guide, Slavica, Medjugorje is not about Our Blessed Lady as much as Our Blessed Lord; it is Our Lady that points us every time to Her Son.

The week was well-balanced with a

beautiful synthesis of the physical and the spiritual. We were offered opportunities to climb Apparition Hill while praying The Rosary and Cross Mountain, meditating on The Stations of the Cross. The Risen Christ is a spectacular statute and not far away from this site our accompanying priests led The Stations of the Cross. We also paid visits to The Blue Cross, Cenacolo and The Divine Mercy Church in Surmanci., a village not far from Medjugorje., On the penultimate day, we visited Tihaljina where the beautiful well-known statute, associated with Our Lady of Medjugorje, is kept. Here, Mass was celebrated and afterwards, we were all very eager to gather around the statute before having our photograph taken.

On the last night of the pilgrimage, we all felt the tremors of an earthquake that affected a place about 20 miles away; some of us were upstairs, when we felt the building rock and our beds move. Our Lady was certainly “shaking us up!”

The highlights of our pilgrimage were, of course, Holy Mass, Adoration and Confession. Many of the pilgrims visited the Adoration chapel each afternoon where they prayed silently. Each evening, there was the International Mass, held outside, followed by The Rosary and then, Adoration where the presence of The Holy Spirit was both tangible and real. “Such visits are a proof of gratitude and expression of love, an acknowledgement of the Lord’s presence” Pope Paul VI on Adoration. One night, there was The Veneration of the Cross, a beautiful, prayerful occasion.

Whilst we were there, there were 2 talks given in the Conference room, one by Fr. Marinko, a disciple of Fr. Slavko and the other by Fr. Leon, a Dominican priest who had responsibility for the English pilgrims. Fr. Marinko stressed the importance of the gift of Love; if we find it difficult not to find fault with our brothers and sisters, then we must pray for ourselves and this gift. He also reminded us of the unconditional love of Our Lord, *“As much as the Father has loved Me, I have loved you...”* (John 15:10). If we really meditate on these words, we will glimpse that the love that God has just for us and nobody else is beyond our comprehension; it is unfathomable. Love is The Lord. God made us to love Him and to love one another; that is the only reason for our existence.

Fr. Marinko’s talk, entitled “The Secret of Happiness; the solution to all our problems” first engendered a wry smile in all of us. We were eager to listen to what he had to say!

He was very keen to remind us how much Our Lady loves each one of us; She has given birth to each one of us and surrounds her mantle around us in a motherly way. Fr. Marinko reminded us of the importance of three things in prayer;

*Giving our heart to Jesus; surrendering our life to Jesus and praying with a firm faith.*

*The greatest signs, he says, are Holy Mass and Confession because the signs are the destinations, Christ Himself.*

He deliberated on each of the 5 stones that will help each one of us to convert our families, just as David overcame Goliath so we will overcome all that impedes us from the love of Jesus. In this way, we will

all find happiness and an answer to all our problems.

**1) Prayer:** First of all, Our Lady reminds us to pray with the heart, particularly The Rosary. What does praying with the heart mean? It means talking to God like our best friend. If we have distractions, then we need to turn them into prayer. Jesus and Mary are our friends, our family. We need to immerse ourselves into the mysteries of The Rosary and imagine we are there. Fr. Leon asked us to “crayon “our self into the drawing of each mystery, a lovely idea.

**2) Holy Mass:** The second stone is Holy Mass. We should go to Holy Mass as often as possible because Holy Mass is Christ Himself. Vatican II: “The Holy Eucharist contains the whole spiritual treasure of the Church, that is, Christ Himself...He who is the living bread, whose flesh, vivified by the Holy Spirit and vivifying, gives life to men”. St. Mother Teresa once said *“The ‘Cross’ is the symbol of how much Jesus loved us, and the ‘Eucharist’ is the symbol of how much God loves us”*. In some countries, such as Iraq, there are those who are literally dying for their faith. As one martyr said, “Without Mass, we cannot live”, that is both physically and spiritually.

**3) The Holy Bible** should be read every day. Our Blessed Lady encourages us to read a part in the morning and then meditate on it during the rest of the day. Perhaps, the Gospel reading of the day is a good beginning.

**4) Confession** is necessary, not only is it an opportunity to receive forgiveness for our sins but it is a wonderful occasion for The Lord to lavish graces upon us. It is part of our

Easter duty to go to Confession once a year but Our Blessed Lady recommends monthly confession. The more times that we visit Confession, the more times we will be strengthened in our love of The Lord.

**5) Fasting:** The last of the 5 stones is Fasting. Our Lady recommends that we fast on bread and water on Wednesday and Friday, Wednesday because it is the day that Judas went to the chief priest and betrayed Our Blessed Lord and Friday, of course, because it is the day of The Passion and Crucifixion. If we find fasting difficult, then we need to start gradually, perhaps skip a meal, and then progress little by little. Fasting is very powerful. Our Lady of Fatima said in 1917 that many people go to Hell because there are not enough people to pray and make sacrifices. Our Lady has also said that fasting can stop wars!

One homily given during Mass focussed on the importance of the Beatitudes whilst discarding the worthlessness of the 4 cardinal sins as outlined by St. Thomas Aquinas: *Wealth; Pleasure; Power; and Honour.*

Every single person on our pilgrimage came away from Medjugorje deeply enriched. Many commented on their deeper love of Holy Mass and Confession. We were all reminded in the homily given by Fr. Martin Morris at The Divine Mercy church about the tremendous tenderness and forgiveness of our sins, from Our Blessed Lord. A doubting priest had asked Sr. Faustina to ask Our Blessed Lord to reveal the last sin he had confessed in Confession as evidence for His messages to her. Our Lord replied that He couldn't remember, the ultimate and perfect

sign of His overwhelming mercy and forgiveness. This convinced the priest of the authenticity of the messages. A few pilgrims felt the unconditional love of Our Lord, in a very concrete way, at various sites, including Apparition Hill and The Blue Cross.; seeing Jesus as a very great friend helped pilgrims in their journey of faith.

The beauty of the gift of the priesthood was deeply impressive, including the great compassion of our priests, thereby transforming confessors into people brimming with love and joy. It was evident also, from the homilies that Jesus was working very clearly and closely through our priests.

Fr. Martin Morris about his time in Medjugorje:

"Hello. When Pope Francis visited Albania in 2014, he was brought to tears by a Priest's description of the twenty eight years imprisonment, torture and forced labour he suffered under Albania's brutal communist regime for refusing to renounce his Catholic Faith. That Priest is Cardinal Ernest Troshani Simoni, and on June 14th this year, preached the homily at the evening Mass in Medjugorje. Many of us Priests were moved to tears as we witnessed the vibrant and robust words of the Cardinal. At eighty nine years, he is so full of life and energy, but his love for the Lord was his main witness. With outstretched arms, looking towards Cross Mountain the Cardinal proclaimed 'Nothing, No nothing in this world can take us away from the love of God, because the Victory in our Risen Saviour is always present, but we feel it so much here in this holy place of Medjugorje. All of what we witness here is of the Holy Spirit' Praise be Jesus and Mary, for the

witness of Cardinal Simoni, and the Franciscans of Medjugorje whose love for the Faith is so inspiring and a great encouragement to so many. A wonderful grace-filled pilgrimage."

Other phrases used to describe Medjugorje were: *"heaven on earth"*; *"it's like coming home"*; *"the graces I have received here are more than ever I expected"*.

*"Medjugorje is always a special place of pilgrimage for me. As a Marian Shrine, I feel Mary's guiding presence - it is true, 'through Mary, to Jesus.' The daily Mass and devotions such as adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of the Cross, help me to strengthen my love of God. The gift of peace in the village is very tangible - literally, heaven on earth! The many pilgrims from all over the world who gather is a great encouragement as is the many people who receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I believe Medjugorje is a place of evangelisation for the whole world today."* Fr Jeff Dodds.

It is true that the word "Medjugorje" can generate doubt and scepticism amongst people of both faith and non-faith alike, particularly since the Medjugorje Commission is still ongoing. However, for many, and all of us who have been on the recent pilgrimage, this is not really important. Love and peace prevail there; that is indisputable. Today, more than ever before, one disaster follows another. This has magnified as of late, particularly in our own beloved country, England. We seem to have reached a crisis in our daily lives where the absence of Love is noticeable in so many ways. The 5 stones aforementioned are our ammunition in today's world.

Our Lady has often reminded us, through the messages given, about the shortage of our lives here on earth; She has described our life as passing as a flower. Our Lady invites us all, young or old, faith or no faith, to find or deepen our friendship with Her Son. That is why we have been created: to love God and to love one another. Nothing else is of importance.

**On July 25<sup>th</sup> 1990**, Our Lady said, *"Dear children! Today I invite you to peace. I have come here as the Queen of Peace and I desire to enrich you with my motherly peace. Dear children, I love you and I desire to bring all of you to the peace which only God gives and which enriches every heart. I invite you to become carriers and witnesses of my peace to this world without peace. May peace reign in the whole world which is without peace and longs for peace. I bless you with my motherly blessing. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

**On January 25, 2007**: *"Dear children! Put Sacred Scripture in a visible place in your family and read it. In this way, you will come to know prayer with the heart and your thoughts will be on God. Do not forget that you are passing like a flower in a field, which is visible from afar but disappears in a moment. Little children, leave a sign of goodness and love wherever you pass and God will bless you with an abundance of His blessing. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

Let us ponder and meditate on the above words.

Maybe, Our Blessed Lady is calling you to Medjugorje?

***A pilgrim's perspective***



## The Medjugorje Story—“*I have come to tell you God exists*”

On June 24, 1981, six children in the town of Medjugorje, Yugoslavia (today, Bosnia-Herzegovina), began to experience apparitions of the *Blessed Virgin Mary*. She spoke to them giving a message of peace for the world, as well as a *call to conversion, prayer and fasting*. The children (known as visionaries), Ivanka Ivankovic, Mirjana Dragicevic, Vicka Ivankovic, Marija Pavlovic, Ivan Dragicevic and Jakov Colo described Our Lady as *‘beautiful beyond any human description’*. These first apparitions took place on a hill behind the village called Podbrdo (Apparition Hill) and on the day of the Feast of St. John the Baptist.

Our Lady has entrusted to the visionaries secret messages about future events that will occur in the world. The *‘secrets’*, confided individually to different visionaries, have not been revealed to the public and are not generally spoken about, however there will be a permanent sign given which will be left at the site of the first apparition for the whole world to see. Three of the visionaries Jakov, Mirjana and Ivanka have received all ten secrets, while Marija, Ivan and Vicka have each received nine. Our Lady, who calls herself the *‘Queen of Peace’* appears to these three visionaries daily at 6:40pm wherever they happen to be at the time. On the 25th of every month Our Lady gives a message intended for the whole world. This message is given to Marija. The other three visionaries Jakov, Mirjana and Ivanka only see Our Lady once a year now. Their daily appa-

ritions ceased once she had confided all ten secrets to them. Jakov sees Our Lady on Christmas Day, Ivanka on *June 25th, the anniversary of the apparitions*. This date was chosen as the anniversary date of the apparitions since it was the first day Our Lady spoke to the children. Mirjana sees Our Lady on her birthday, March 18th. Our Lady has also been appearing to Mirjana on the 2nd of each month since August 2, 1987.

The news that Our Lady might be appearing immediately began to attract pilgrims to Medjugorje, first from the surrounding countryside, and then, despite the communist government of that day, from Europe and the whole world. Since the apparitions began in 1981, millions of people of all faiths, from all over the world, including clergy and theologians have visited Medjugorje and have left spiritually strengthened and renewed.

The appearances of *‘Our Lady Queen of Peace’* have been accompanied by many miracles in the form of healings (of mind, body and soul), supernatural visual events, and deep conversions back to God.

Our Lady’s messages tell each one of us God wants to renew our hearts with his Spirit of Love to change the world, one heart at a time. Our Lady loves and knows each one of us for she is our mother in heaven. She carries each of us in her heart and says, *“If you knew how much I loved you, you would cry for joy”*. Her appearances and messages give us all great hope in this time of Grace.

## THE VISIONARIES of Medjugorje

**Vicka Kovic Mijatovic** : Born 3rd Sept 1964: Receives daily apparition. Her mission from Our Lady is to pray for the sick

**Ivan Draguevic** : Born 25th May 1965: Receives daily apparitions. His Mission from Our Lady is to pray for Priests and Families and the youth of the world

**Mirjana Drugicavic Solo** : Born 18th March 1965: Her Mission from Our Lady is to pray for Unbelievers. Our Lady now appears to her on her birthday and on 2nd of each month. ( See PAGE 4 )

**Ivanka Ivankovic –Elez** : Born 21st July 1966: Her mission from Our Lady is to pray for Families She now receives an apparition every year on 25th June (the date of the first apparitions)

**Jakov Colo** : Born 6th March 1971: Receives an apparition once a year on Christmas Day. His mission from Our lady is to pray for the sick.

**Maria Pavlovic Lunettie** : Born 1st April 1965: Our Lady gives Maria a Public Message for the World on 25th of each month. Her mission from Our Lady is to pray for The Souls in Purgatory. ( See PAGE 2 )



### ANNUAL APPARITION TO THE VISIONARY IVANKA

**25th June 2017**

[www.medjugorje.hr](http://www.medjugorje.hr)

The visionary Ivanka Ivankovic-Elez received her regular annual apparition on June 25th 2017



At her last daily apparition on May 7, 1985, Our Lady confided to Ivanka the 10th secret and told her that she would have an apparition once a year on the anniversary of the apparitions. It was that way also this year. The apparition, which lasted 4 minutes, took place at Ivanka's family home. Only Ivanka's family was present at the apparition.

After the apparition, Ivanka said: Our Lady gave the following message: **“Little children, pray, pray, pray”**.

Our Lady was joyful and blessed all of us with her motherly blessing.

25.06.2017



## Medjugorje Centre North East

www.medjugorjene.co.uk

### MIDDLESBROUGH CENTRE FOR PEACE

### MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE 2017

10th Sept—17th Sept

### FLYING from NEWCASTLE

For further details please contact:

Mrs Marie Bedingfield  
Tel: 01642 530739

### MIDDLESBROUGH CENTRE FOR PEACE

### MARIAN EVENING

Friday 14th July 2017  
Friday 11th August 2017

7.30pm to 9.30pm

*Rosary : Holy Mass : Talk : Witness*

**JOHN PAUL CENTRE  
55 GRANGE ROAD,  
MIDDLESBROUGH, TS1 5AU**

For further details please contact:

Mrs Marie Bedingfield  
Tel: 01642 530739

### OUR LADY OF MOUNT GRACE OSMOTHERLY

### PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION AND CONSECRATION

**SATURDAY 15th JULY 2017**  
**Led by Fr. James Benfield**

Pilgrims to assemble at 11.30am  
at St Peter's Anglican Church,  
Osmotherly Village  
followed by a silent walk to the  
Shrine.

To finish at 6.00pm approx.

*For further details please contact:*  
**Mrs Marie Bedingfield**  
**Tel: 01642 530739**

**All are very welcome**

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady's Apparitions at Fatima

*Medjugorje is a continuation of Fatima.*

*"I desire to realise the secrets I began in  
Fatima may be fulfilled"*  
(Medjugorje message 25 Aug 91)



### VIRGIN STATUE (NPVS) AND THE RELICS OF BLESSED JACINTA & FRANCISCO.

Will visit 18 Catholic Cathedrals in England and Wales including the North East - Diocese of Middlesbrough 9th -15th Sept and St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle upon Tyne Sept 16th and 17th 2017 (Hexham & Newcastle Diocese)

*Further details : [www.worldFatima-england-wales.org.uk/visitation.html](http://www.worldFatima-england-wales.org.uk/visitation.html)*

***The Centre recognizes and accepts that the final authority regarding the apparitions at Medjugorje rests with the Holy See of Rome. We willingly submit to that judgement.***