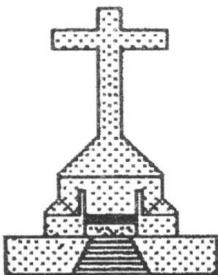


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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST
(Established since 1989)



www.medjugorjene.co.uk

Email: 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

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

PRAY FOR US

**MEDJUGORJE
AFTERNOON OF PRAYER**

led by Fr. Martin Morris

**2nd Sunday of the month
4pm – 6pm**

**** No afternoon of prayer in January 2018 ****
Resumes—11th February 2018 - Resumes

PERMANENT CHANGE OF VENUE

To

St John Vianney
Hillhead Parkway
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE5 1DP



Medjugorje Centre (North East)

ANNUAL DAY OF PRAYER

Led by (to be confirmed)

Saturday 14th April 2018

Coffee from 9.45 am
Rosary, and Talk 10.30

Shared lunch,

Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
and Holy Mass

**SACRED HEART Church
North Gosforth, NE3 5EB**



**ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO
MEDJUGORJE 2018**
Spiritual Director—Fr. Martin Morris

Wed 23rd - 30th May 2018

£595 (Sharing)

Single room supplement—£125

Fully Booked
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Flying from Newcastle—Half Board
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OUR LADY'S MESSAGE—To the World

Given 25th December 2017 to Marija Pavlovic



Dear children! “ Today I am bringing to you my Son Jesus for Him to give you His peace and blessing. I am calling all of you, little children, to live and witness the graces and the gifts which you have received. Do not be afraid. Pray for the Holy Spirit to give you the strength to be joyful witnesses and people of peace and hope. 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, As we begin this Holy Time of a new year, may our hearts be filled with gratitude for the gift of time, and the presence of our Lady Queen and Mother of Peace with us. It is within our own times that Mary comes with her Christmas message to help bring about the new world of Peace. She comes to us as "Theotokos" or God bearer, carrying the Prince of Peace, little Jesus.

We see in these opening words of her Christmas presence our dignity as children of the Father. **"Today I am bringing to you my Son Jesus for Him to give you His peace and Blessing."**

Mary bears him who is our Peace, He gives us His blessing. Peace in our own hearts, in our families, and communities. This is the call of Our Lady's school, *"Peace, Peace, Peace. Peace must reign between God and Man."* (1981)

We know her messages so well, but they must never lose their radical call

and simplicity. They are about the purification of the soul and heart and mind. So, may we have no lack of effort in sincerely wanting to enter into the Divine Peace Mary brings us.

The person who decides for Peace is the one who decides for Jesus and his Word. The one who decides for Prayer, Holy Rosary, Holy Mass, Penance is the one who receives the Blessing. For the fruit of Prayer is Peace.

This is how we open our hearts to the Christ Child. May the new year be a time of renewed Prayer. To change our lives, becoming, more forgiving, and being reconciled, are the ones who become the witnesses, people who are filled with **"Peace and Hope."**

Twice Mary calls us to be **"Witnesses,"** and then **"Joyful Witnesses."** To witness to the **"Graces and gifts we have received."**

The Acts of the Apostles tell us that it was from the upper room in Jerusalem, that the apostles were

sent out, from where they had been praying with Mary, the Mother of Jesus. They had to make known the Victory of the Crucified and risen Lord Jesus to all peoples.

They were armed with Divine Power, as the Church is in every age to make known the Lord. Mary as Mother of the Church comes to us again as the Star of the new Evangelisation, to encourage us in our Faith, and to bring about a new wave of Missionary zeal in the Church.

The apostles were Joyful witnesses because they were filled with the Holy Spirit. "**Do not be afraid**" says Mary. Re-echoing the words, the Angel Gabriel spoke to her at the Annunciation she calls all of us to a profound nearness of her Son, a nearness that can only produce a Joyful mystery. "**Pray for the Holy Spirit, to give you the strength to be Joyful Witnesses.**" Let us do what Mary asks. To turn with renewed devotion and attention to the Holy Spirit, and implore in each of our Lives the renewed outpouring of the Divine gifts.

We begin this new year with a message that has a deep sense of Pentecost, of Witness, and not to be afraid.

Let us be confident then that the Holy Spirit will indeed make many believers today "**Witnesses of Peace and Hope**".

*Come Holy Spirit,
come from the pierced side of Jesus
on the Cross,
come from the breath of our Risen
Saviour.
Come O Most Holy Spirit of Jesus!*

A Happy and Blessed New Year to you all

God Bless, Fr. Martin

December 25, 2017 Our Lady's Annual Message to Jakov



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 2:20 pm and lasted 10 minutes. Afterwards Jakov transmitted this message:

"Dear children! Today, on this day of grace, I am calling you to ask the Lord for the gift of faith. My children, decide for God and begin to live and to believe in that what God is calling you to. To believe, my children, means to surrender your lives into God's hands - the hands of the Lord who created you and who loves you immeasurably. Do not be believers only in words but live and witness your faith through works and through your personal example. Speak with God as with your Father. Open and surrender your hearts to Him and you will see how your hearts are changing and how your life will marvel at God's works in your life. My children, there is no life without God and that is why, as your mother, I intercede before, and pray to, my Son to renew your hearts and to fill your life with immeasurable love. Thank you for responding to my call."

“

*be joyful witnesses
and people of peace and hope*

(Christmas 2017)

”

Our Lady's message to Mirjana

2nd December 2017



“Dear children! , I turn to you as your mother, the mother of the just, the mother of those who love and suffer, the mother of those who are holy. My children, you too can be holy - this depends on you. Those who are holy are those who immeasurably love the Heavenly Father, those who love Him above all. Therefore, my children, always strive to be better. If you strive to be good you can be holy even though you may not think so of yourselves. If you think that you are good, you are not humble, and arrogance distances you from holiness. In this peaceless world full of threats, your hands, apostles of my love, should be extended in prayer and mercy. And to me, my children, give the gift of the rosary, the roses which I love so much. My roses are your prayers pronounced with the heart and not only recited with the lips. My roses are your acts of prayer, faith and love. When my Son was little, he said to me that my children would be numerous and that they would bring me many roses. I did not comprehend Him. Now I know that you are those children who are bringing me roses when, above all, you love my Son, when you pray with the heart, when you help the poorest. Those are my roses. That is the faith which makes everything in life be done through love, not knowing arrogance, and always ready to forgive; never judging, always striving to understand one's brother. Therefore, apostles of my love, pray for those who do not know how to love, for those who do not love you, for those who have done evil to you, for those who have not come to know the love of my Son. My children, I ask this of you because, remember, to pray means to love and to forgive. Thank you.”



REPORT FROM SISTER EMMANUEL

of The Community of The Beatitudes
www.childrenofmedjugorje.com

Medjugorje, December 12, 2017
Our Lady of Guadalupe!

Dear Children of Medjugorje,
praise be to Jesus and Mary!

1. On December 2, 2017, Mirjana received her monthly apparition in the dining room of her guest house, in the presence of a small number of people.

After the apparition, she conveyed the message Our Lady gave us: (see page 4)

2. Odette Caught In the Ice on Podbrdo

A few days ago, the parish of Medjugorje was shaken by a terrible event: a French pilgrim was reported missing. Odette, an 84 year-old single woman, had come with a group from Nice to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Odette was working as a nanny for a large family whose mother had died. She is a simple person, full of common sense who has a deep faith in God's love.

That Tuesday morning, on December 5th, the cold with its freezing temperatures fell upon the village. Odette climbed up the hill of Podbrdo and walked away from the normal path in order to explore the blessed place a little more. However, because of her poor eye sight she got lost. Instead of panicking she prudently decided to stay where she was in order to avoid anything worse

happening. She thought that, on one side there was a pit, and on the other very high rocks. But the day went by



and no one came to her rescue.

The cold became more bitter. To prevent herself from freezing, she moved around on the spot, constantly praying, and did not get discouraged. She was convinced that the Blessed Mother would send someone who would eventually find her. She told herself, 'Jesus was found in the Temple!' When the dark of the night finally fell on the hill, the temperature dropped to 23 degrees Fahrenheit. Odette did not want to lie down. She fought her tiredness and cold with all the little strength she had. She prayed and sang and thought of Jesus in His Passion. 'He too was thirsty on the cross, I can bear that too!' She thought. Then she lost her balance and fell on a stone. She was hurt and thought, 'Jesus was flogged, I can endure that too!' She could no longer move her legs, yet her confidence

was still not shaken! To make a long story short, it wasn't until the following evening that Odette was found again. She was immediately taken to the hospital in Citluk, where she was warmed up gradually and fully checked out. There was nothing wrong with her, not even a cold!! She was able to come back to Medjugorje where she resumed her pilgrimage with her group from Nice on her own two feet!

On Tuesday, we were told about her disappearance and everyone started praying. When the village heard the news, a wonderful chain of support and supplication was formed. I think that our guardian angels had never been solicited as much as they were during those hours of suspense! We were asking them to warm her up, to give her drink and food in their own ways and keep her in good spirits. Because of the continuing sub-zero temperatures, some people thought she had already died from the cold and were asking the Lord to take her soul into Heaven. The angels heard our prayers! By nature she should have felt the cold more than others since she was not dressed for such an ordeal, yet she told us that she did not suffer from the cold!



After 36 hours, it was one of the 50 first-aid volunteers in Medjugorje, Joseph, a waiter at Viktor restaurant, who found her on Wednesday night at

around 11pm. Odette cannot stop thanking him and all those who ardently prayed for her!



As for me, listening to Odette, I saw an extraordinary witness to the power of faith. She had a childlike faith that allowed her to hold fast without even being afraid! "One must be confident," she said to me with disarming simplicity! "Our Lady would not abandon me!" Praise God, France still has true believers!

The extraordinary physical and moral protection Odette enjoyed reminds me of the experience of the great Russian writer, Alexander Ogorodnikov. He too, had to live through the "ordeal of freezing". How could he survive his imprisonment in Moscow when in 1986 he was thrown naked into a cell where the walls were covered with ice? The answer is simple and he himself gave witness to it: thousands of people were praying for him, and many had sent him their guardian angels. His torturers wanted him to freeze right there and thus rid the country of this embarrassing Christian. But God had another plan for Alexander: while trapped in the walls of ice, he could feel a mysterious heat and he knew that it came from the prayer of his supporters. He was finally freed and returned to his activities as a witness of Christ.

I could not say how many angels

were sent to Odette. God only knows, but we saw their efficiency firsthand! Who among us does not have some people dear to us who are in great physical or moral difficulty? Send them your guardian angel! That angel will be an excellent missionary if you talk to him with faith and affection. Why not do the good that is in our power to do? Why live below our spiritual means and not use these very powerful friends?

3. A Virgin with Child

The Blessed Mother appeared to Juan Diego in 1531 in Mexico, and we call her Our Lady of Guadalupe. She is one of the few representations of Mary as pregnant. The black maternity belt around Mary's waist, and the jasmine flower over her womb were signs of motherhood to the Aztecs at the time. In addition, the nine golden flowers on her tunic symbolize life and truth. When viewed upside down, the flowers take the shape of hearts with arteries coming out, representing life that originates from God, clearly identifying for the Aztecs, this child to be born as the center of the universe. When she appeared, Our Lady wished that she be acknowledged as the "Mother of the True God".

The fabric that bears the image, the Tilma, stays at a constant temperature which is that of a woman ready to give birth. This image is not imprinted on the fabric, rather it floats mysteriously above the fabric, as does the Shroud of Turin. Seeing this woman, who until then was completely unknown by the locals, displaying signs that belonged to their people, thousands of Aztecs asked to



be baptized. 'She's one of us,' they thought.

For us too, she is one of us! So, why not offer her a nice gesture of affection and gratitude in these special days of Advent? Let's join her in the divine dialogue she already had with her Child who was yet invisible but fully present within her. In these days when we are awaiting the birth of the Son of God together with Mary and Joseph, I suggest that we all pray from the bottom of our heart this simple prayer until the Day of Joy, the celebration of Christmas:

"O Dear Baby Jesus, nestled in the womb of your Immaculate Mother, I have come to see you. I need to talk to you. To tell you first of all how much I marvel at the fact that God himself took our flesh, which is so fragile and vulnerable. You made a mystifying leap from the splendor of Heaven where you lived with the Father in order to unite with our wretched race and take all kinds of risks with us... this thought makes me fling myself into adoration! How could I not love you? How could we not cherish you infinitely in this stage where you are a zygote, an embryo, an unborn child, before even showing your face in that miserable stable of Bethlehem! Yes, I love you because you did so out of pure love for me, for my family, for all humanity. You

came into our muck and sludge to save us, to lift us up and enable us to share with you the delights of an eternal life in your presence. Only you Jesus could have imagined something so crazy! But you're not finished surprising us, I'm beginning to know you!

Jesus, you know that I am coming to you with an agenda... I have a request, please don't be surprised! At the present time, many millions of tiny beings like you are hidden in their mother's womb. They are your treasures, Jesus! Their angels in heaven ceaselessly behold the face of your Father who is in heaven. There is nothing more innocent than these unborn babies on this Earth. Let me tell you about them. They have all received the gift of life, but have not all received the gift of love. Some float joyfully as they feel the love of their mother, but others wonder what on earth they are doing there, because they feel rejected.

Jesus, you are both Life and Love! Please visit every one of these little ones, those who rejoice to know that they are loved, and also those who are suffering from rejection. You're so tiny that your approach will not frighten them, on the contrary! Come see them wherever they are, in these fragile tabernacles of human life where they slowly grow. You are the same size as they are, be their divine twin! Thanks to the extremely sensitive antennae that their innocence gives them, they all listen to the soul of their mother, and also to their Creator. This is the moment, Jesus! Tell them how infinitely precious they are to you! Don't you recognize your own image in them? Tell them that you can't wait to see them grow up and

reach in its fullness what they ought to be in your loving plan for them!

And if, unfortunately, they are ripped out from their humble hiding place, whether naturally or with violence, O tender Jesus, listen to their cry of anguish and spread your immense love in them! Heal their wounds! Please, be it done unto them according to your Word, Jesus, "Father, where I am, may they also be with me!" May the flow of your divine love also flood the heart of those who have chosen to lose them! Please, enable them to throw themselves into your merciful arms!

O my little Jesus hidden in Mary, how can I thank you enough for having visited me from the moment I was conceived in my mother's womb, when she and dad consecrated me to your Sacred Heart and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary! Please let all parents take to heart to do the same and keep away from them the wolves who want to steal and devour the children of men!

O tiny Jesus hidden in Mary, listen to my poor prayer for your own kind! And on Christmas night, please be born in my heart! It is yearning for your coming and longing to see your face! My heart awaits to hear your voice in the night, like a watchman waiting for the dawn! Maranatha!"

Dearest Gospa, during the war you told us, "Dear Children, in this Christmas, may your families be joyful as we were joyful, in the stable, when my Son was born," (Dec. 1992). O Mother, we beg you, chase away from our families all that prevents us from enjoying union of hearts and Peace!

Sister Emmanuel +

Mgr Georges Tutto RIP

Former Spiritual Director of The Medjugorje Apostolate for England and Wales,
great champion and advocate of Our Lady of Walsingham and Queen of Peace,
by Antonia Moffat, Thursday, December 07, 2017

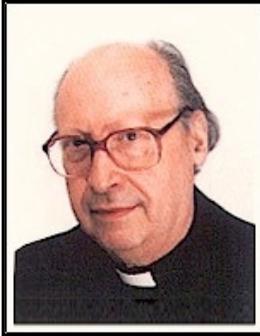
Our beloved Mgr Georges Tüttö, died aged 92yrs very peacefully on Monday November 13th, 2017 and is now in the arms of Jesus Merciful Saviour.

A faithful and committed priest has gone back to his Lord who he served and loved so well. Jesus, his Blessed Mother and all of Heaven will be rejoicing to receive him into Eternal Glory. Let us be joyful for a life well lived on this earth and now to continue in its wonderful fulfillment. He was such a dear and close

spiritual friend and shared our mutual love and zeal for Our Blessed Lady's plans for these times. He was an inspiration to us all and a rock of support and encouragement. He will now be a wonderful intercessor for all our needs here.

Mgr Georges Tüttö was Chaplain to the Roman Catholic Hungarians in Great Britain and has lived and worked in the Catholic community in Britain since 1953, after training in Hungary and Austria. He has been Ecclesiastical President of the Association of Roman Catholic Hungarians in Great Britain since 1986, and has published widely on Medjugorje spirituality.

In Medjugorje in 1984 he made a vow to the Blessed Mother that he would spend the rest of his life spreading her messages. He was a towering figure in promoting the Messages of the Queen of Peace. He led a Medjugorje evening in London for 17 years. Every month from 1987 he celebrated the holy Mass for us and gave us profound insights as to her Messages,



which eventually became a book "*Living the Gospel with Our Lady.*" This was the first of several books and pamphlets, which informed our spirituality and helped to deepen our relationship with Jesus our Lord & Saviour Christ and his holy Mother. He was a great spiritual leader and director to many of us and we will always be immensely grateful to him. For many years Fr Georges was spiritual director to the Medjugorje Apostolate for England and Wales.

Mgr Georges Tüttö's love for the Lord and his Holy Church led him to a deep and profound devotion and understanding of "*England as the Dowry of Mary*" and of the importance of Our Lady of Walsingham and her beloved Shrine for the eventual Conversion of England. A Hungarian priest who had a far greater understanding of England's grace, than most English priests and faithful! You will remember well his many articles and letters in the Catholic press.

What he did for Our Lady's Shrine in Walsingham and especially in remembrance of Charlotte Boyd and her cause is to be greatly commended for it was Mgr Tüttö who cared for the grave of Charlotte Boyd for over 20yrs and who championed her cause. I know as I worked with him ... and I have Mgr Tüttö's entire Walsingham/Charlotte Boyd file and all the letters of correspondence he had with numerous cardinals, bishops and priests!

Mgr Tüttö loved Our Lady of Walsingham and never ceased to speak of

and pray for her intercession. His great hope was that one-day the mortal remains of Charlotte Boyd would be laid to rest in Walsingham besides the Slipper Chapel, which she so generously gave to the Catholic Church and which eventually became our National Marian Shrine. For this we pray!

Mgr Tüttö was a great support and encouragement for the Pilgrim Statue Tour of Our Lady of Reconciliation which toured throughout the Dioceses of England, Wales, Scotland & Ireland for 16 years following its blessing by His Holiness Pope John Paul II on September 24th 1997 in St. Peter's Square. It initiated a mission of *'Reconciliation through Reparation'* embracing the reconciling Mission of Our Lady of Walsingham for the re-evangelization of these Isles. Mgr Tüttö was involved with setting up and helping to initiate a movement of spirituality of Reparation & Atonement to repair the damage of the English Reformation, which eventually led to Pilgrimages of Reparation and Consecration being set up in the various Marian National Shrines. There is so much more I could write here.

As a Hungarian National Mgr Tüttö had a great love for Hungary and her beloved Church and never ceased to pray and work on her behalf. He was in direct contact with the 3 contemporary 20th century Hungarian mystics whose spirituality of reparation and atonement he greatly embraced. He translated into English their publications and one, which is an especial jewel for my apostolic work is

"Adoration, Reparation, Intercession – Prayers and devotions before the Blessed Sacrament with our Lady."

I had the privilege of being present when Mgr Georges Tüttö was granted the highest award possible from the land of Hungary, from the Hungarian

Ambassador, for Mgr Georges Tüttö's services to his Nation & Church and for his great role in bringing down the Iron Curtain and the end of Communism. Fr. Tüttö was held as a prisoner of war for nearly three years and we only learnt of this terrible ordeal during this ceremony.

For a while Mgr Georges had not known who any one was ... yet on my last visit he certainly knew how to give me his priestly blessing which I received 3 times! I will always greatly treasure this last visit. He also never forgot to pray the Hail Mary! He would often in previous visits express how impatient he was to go to the Lord! He was happy to be in Maryville Care Home in Brentford in Middlesex, run by the Poor Servants of the Mother of God, which he said had such a beautiful and tender Marian spirit. It was a joy to visit Mgr Georges so obviously at peace even as his memory was fading.

Kathy Kelly of the Padre Pio bookshop visited him on Sunday Nov. 12th the day before he died. As often happens before someone dies ... Mgr Tüttö was totally lucid ... Kathy had the grace of praying the Chaplet of Mercy with him and much more. That night Kathy pleaded with the Lord to take him soon!

Thank you, Fr Georges, for your great love for Our Lady in which we participated through your prayer, spiritual leadership, talks and books. Please keep us in your heart so that we may continue to grow closer to Jesus and to Mother Mary.

A great priest Son of Holy Church, a great son of Hungary and also a great son of the UK! I know he will be praying for all of us and for the Conversion of our land.

Like you all, I give thanks for this beautiful and holy priest and for knowing him. He was a real gift from

God to the world. It is with great gratitude that I pray for his soul and plead with him to continue to pray for Our Lady of Walsingham's mission for the Conversion of England.

**May God grant him eternal rest,
and may His reward be very great.
He was much loved.**

Rest in peace, dearest Fr Georges.

Antonia Moffat

Requiem Mass

The Bishop's Secretary in the Diocese of Nottingham gave the following information regarding Fr Georges' Requiem Mass.

I can confirm that Mgr Georges Tüttö will be buried at a date which has yet to be specified in his family plot in Hungary. His Executors and the Hungarian Consulate are at present working upon the practicalities of this.

A Requiem Mass was planned for Mgr Tutto on Thursday 14th December at 12.30 p.m. at Our Lady of Grace and Saint Edward's Church, 247, Chiswick High Road, Chiswick, W4 4PU, followed by light refreshments in the parish hall.

Posted by MedJUK

Good News

Pilgrimages to Medjugorje (Catholic News Agency)

On December 7, 2017, Jesús Colina reported the following for Aleteia (an online Catholic News Agency which has the approval of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications): "The devotion of Medjugorje is allowed. It's not prohibited, and need not be done in secret," confirmed Archbishop Henryk Hoser of Warsaw-Praga, Poland, now some months after being sent to Medjugorje by Pope Francis to evaluate not the veracity of the apparitions, but the state of the pastoral care being provided to the thousands of pilgrims who flock to the site every year. Formerly, pilgrimages to the site were not to be organized by official Church groups, though the faithful could make them privately or through other organizations. Now, the stance on officially-organized pilgrimages will open. "My mission is precisely to analyze the pastoral situation and propose improvements," the archbishop told Aleteia, about his assignment at the

shrine in Bosnia & Herzegovina, which has attracted millions of people since Marian apparitions reportedly began there in 1981.

"Today, dioceses and other institutions can organize official pilgrimages. It's no longer a problem," explained the archbishop, speaking from his residence in Warsaw. "Pope Francis recently asked an Albanian cardinal to give his blessing to the faithful present in Medjugorje," he added. "I am full of admiration for the work the Franciscans are doing there," the Polish prelate reported. "With a relatively small team—there is only a dozen of them—they do a huge job of welcoming pilgrims. Every summer they organize a youth festival. This year, there were 50,000 young people from around the world, with more than 700 priests." "There is a massive number of confessions. They have about 50 confessionals, which are not enough. These are very deep confessions," he said. "This is a

phenomenon. And what confirms the authenticity of the place is the large amount of charitable institutions that exist around the sanctuary. And another aspect as well: the great effort that is being made at the level of Christian formation. Each year, they organize conference

at different levels, for various audiences (priests, doctors, parents, young people, couples ...)” “The decree of the former episcopal conference of what used to be Yugoslavia, which, before the Balkan war, advised against pilgrimages in Medjugorje organized by bishops, is no longer relevant,” he said.

There are other cases of locations of apparitions, like Kibeho, in Rwanda, where the diocesan bishop agreed to allow the devotion, and then continued the analysis for the recognition of the apparitions. The archbishop revealed that the conclusion of the Commission for the analysis of the apparitions of Medjugorje, which Benedict XVI had entrusted to Cardinal Camillo Ruini, appears to be favorable. “What I find touching is that all the seers have turned to family life,” Archbishop Hoser reflected. “In our day and age, the family is of enormous importance. All of them have a family. Those who were teenagers at the time, are already grandmothers; 37 years have passed!” “But this decision will have to be made by the Pope. The file is now at the Secretariat of State. I believe the final decision will be made,” concluded Archbishop Hoser.”

Clarification:

On December 10, 2017, a clarification of the Aleteia article was published by the Italian news outlet Il Giornale. The interviewer asked, “Monsignor, can you explain to us better?” Archbishop Hoser replied, “It is true what I said,

although perhaps it was a bit exaggerated in tone [when reported], but it is absolutely authentic that pilgrimages of prayer can be organized in Medjugorje without any problem, provided they are spiritual and do not concern the apparitions of Our Lady to the seers...We need to distinguish between worship and apparitions. If a bishop wants to organize a prayer pilgrimage to Medjugorje to pray to Our Lady, he can do it without problem. But if it is organized pilgrimages to go there for the apparitions, we cannot, there is no authorization.

Official pilgrimages to Medjugorje are now permitted, says Pope’s envoy

(www.catholicherald.co.uk)

Archbishop Henryk Hoser of Warsaw-Praga, who was sent to Medjugorje by Pope Francis said: “Today, dioceses and other institutions can organize official pilgrimages. It’s no longer a problem.”

“The decree of the former episcopal conference of what used to be Yugoslavia, which, before the Balkan war, advised against pilgrimages in Medjugorje organized by bishops, is no longer relevant,” he added.

He also said that Pope Francis recently asked an Albanian cardinal to give his blessing to Catholics in Medjugorje.

In terms of the pastoral situation, he said he was “full of admiration” for the Franciscans working at the shrine. “With a relatively small team – there is only a dozen of them – they do a huge job of welcoming pilgrims. Every summer they organize a youth

festival. This year, there were 50,000 young people from around the world, with more than 700 priests.”

The archbishop said there is a “massive” number of confessions at the site. “They have about 50 confessionals, which are not enough. These are very deep confessions.”

“This is a phenomenon. And what confirms the authenticity of the place is the large amount of charitable institutions that exist around the sanctuary. And another aspect as well: the great effort that is being made at the level of Christian formation. Each year, they organize conferences at different levels, for various audiences (priests, doctors, parents, young people, couples ...)”

However, the Pope will still have to make the final decision as to the authenticity of the apparitions.

“The file is now at the Secretariat of State. I believe the final decision will be made,” the archbishop said.

Solemn celebration of Christmas in Medjugorje

(www.medjugorje.hr)



Also this year, we had joyful celebration of Christmas in Medjugorje. The whole community of faithful was preparing for the birth of the Christ with the early Holy Masses, the evening prayer programme and nine days of Rosary on Apparition Hill. This place of prayer and reconciliation, as many pilgrims call Medjugorje from all over the world, once again was recon-

firmed as the confessional of the whole world, since many faithful patiently waited in the lines for the confession every morning and every evening before the Eucharistic celebrations. The evening prayer programme on Christmas Eve began with the prayer of Rosary at 5 pm, followed by the Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Dragan Ruzic in concelebration by all of the priests who are serving in this parish. After the Holy Mass, we had the first live performance of the nativity scene, given by Cenacolo community. The Christmas Vigil began at 10 pm with the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament led by Fr. Perica Ostojic and ended with the Midnight Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Zvonimir Pavicic.

The church and the area around the church, including the Hall of John Paul II, were packed with many parishioners and faithful from the neighbouring parishes.

Holy Masses on Christmas were celebrated in the parish church at 7, 8, 11 am and at 6 pm.

May Christmas and birth of Jesus Christ bring you all of the joy!

And indeed, from His fullness we have received grace to grace, for He is our peace!

With desire that God's peace reigns in all of the hearts, all of the families, all of the countries and in the whole world, united in prayer with all of the friends of Medjugorje throughout the world:

May this Christmas be for you day of joy and peace. May Jesus visit you in your families and may he be born in the hidden place of your heart!

Fr. Marinko Šakota, Medjugorje parish priest



Medjugorje Centre North East

www.medjugorjene.co.uk

Pray, fast and confess regularly. If receiving my Son in the Eucharist is the centre of your life, then do not be afraid, you can do everything.

June 2, 2012

THE 'FIVE STONES' OF MEDJUGORJE

1. PRAYER,
2. FASTING (Wednesday & Friday)
3. HOLY SCRIPTURE. (daily reading)
4. CONFESSION, monthly at least.
5. EUCHARIST, Frequent celebration

MIDDLESBROUGH CENTRE FOR PEACE

MARIAN EVENING

Friday 12th January 2018
Friday 10th February 2018

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



Blessings For The New Year

Medjugorje Centre N.E

“

Like the Magi, let us set out, clothe ourselves in the light following the star of Jesus, and love the Lord with all our might.

(Pope Francis)

”

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.