

NUMBER 326 : July 2018 : FREE

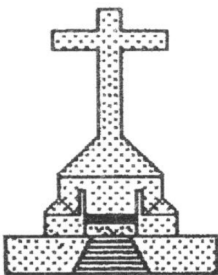
Published Monthly

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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**



**12th August 2018 + Annunciation Procession at 5pm**

*cancelled \*\*\*\* September \*\*\*\* cancelled*

*cancelled \*\*\*\* October \*\*\*\* cancelled*

**Resumes 11th November 2018**

**St John Vianney**

Hillhead Parkway

Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 1DP

Medjugorje Centre (North East)

**MEDJUGORJE RETREAT AT MINSTERACRES**

**Spiritual Director—Fr. Jeff Dodds**

**Cost is £130 pp**

**Fri 12th –14th October 2018**

**Booking forms available from**

**Marian Fletcher**

**Telephone 0191 4174413**



**ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE 2019**

**Spiritual Director—To be confirmed**

**Wed 5th - 12th June 2019**

**Early bird booking cost is £585 (Sharing)**

**Book before October 31st 2018**

Single room supplement—£125

**Flying from Newcastle with Aglow Travel**

**Half Board**

**Hotel Orbis—Close to St. James' Church**

*Booking forms available from*

*Kath Ash 01670 733358*

## OUR LADY'S MESSAGE—To the World

*Given 25th July 2018 to Marija Pavlovic*



**Dear children!** “ God called me to lead you to Him because He is your strength. That is why I am calling you to pray to Him and to trust in Him, because He is your refuge from every evil that lurks and carries souls far from the grace and joy to which you are all called. Little children, live Heaven here on earth so that it will be good for you; and may the commandments of God be a light on your way. I am with you and I love you all with my motherly love. 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, Our Lady Queen and Mother of Peace is both our Mother and our Teacher, and she is with us in these times to show us the path of light and to help us remain strong in the Faith of her Son. As our Mother and Teacher Mary persists in staying with us, because we are in need of her maternal help, and because she cares for our human souls.

We are told this month, that she wants what is the true good for us. This month's message begins with Our Lady reminding us about her role in Salvation history, and as Mother of the Church.

Mary tells us that her role is:

**“to lead you to him because he is your strength.”**

*“When the fulness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman...that we might receive adoption as Sons.” (Gal:4:4)*

The second Vatican Council teaches that:

*This Motherhood of Mary in the order of Grace continues uninterruptedly from the consent which she gave at the Annunciation and which she sustained without wavering beneath the Cross, until the eternal fulfilment of all the faithful. Taken up into heaven she did not lay aside this saving office, but by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of Eternal salvation.” (L.G. 8.25)*

Mary never ceases to lead us to him, that is:

**“I am with you and I love you with all my Motherly love.”** As Mary was at the centre of the early Christian community in Acts:1 so too now she is with us today keeping and encouraging us on the path of light.

Mary, Mother of the Lord, in her school of love and prayer that is called Medjugorje, tells us, **“ He is your strength.”** In our weakness and

tiredness Mary wants us to be renewed in our Faith, in the Church today only in him, the Lord Jesus Christ.

With the Psalmist we say with her, "God is our strength and our shield, in him do our hearts find joy, we trust in him." (Psalm: 28)

Mary wants us to connect with her Risen Son, our living Lord, who on the feeble bestows divine strength.

Next Our Lady tells us how to do this.

**"I am calling you to pray to him and trust in him."**

**Prayer and Trust** are the key words for our reflection.

Mary is addressing our weariness in the Faith today. She understands our temptation to slip into doubt and despondency, so she tells us that prayer and trust go hand in hand. So, let us make an act of entrustment of our lives to her Immaculate Heart, so that our trust in the Father will be strong.

Many adults today are living in fear and anxiety, Mary calls us from this state to a more profound trust in God. It's good to ask ourselves 'What is the source of our fear and unbelief?

*"Why are these doubts arising in your hearts, doubt no longer but believe." (John: 20:27)*

All Our Lady's messages call us to Pray, Fast, Confess, read the Holy Scriptures, and attend Holy Mass. Mary wants us to practise our Faith from the Heart, with love, so that our trust will grow and deepen.

**" Because he is your refuge from every evil that lurks and carries souls far from the grace and joy to which you were called."**

Often from the early days of the first apparitions Mary has spoken to us

about the reality of the devil and the powers of darkness.

She tells us again, that evil is lurking and carrying souls far from grace, Gods original purpose. Satan wishes to destroy her work, and the work of Jesus. To inflict grave wounds on the Church. Evil is leading many from the Church and from the commandments of God, which are "**a light on your path.**"

The commandments are not a burden, not a mere rule, they are as Mary says, "**A light on your way.**" Christ is our way, and only with him when we live in peace, forgiveness and truth do we live heaven here and now. This is Our Lady's prayer.

Dear Friends,

These are Our Lady's times, when much of what has been spoken of these last thirty-seven years is now coming to fulfilment in the Church and the world.

*Mary is Queen of prophets, who wants only the good for her children, under her protective mantle may we all gather in these times, and with her walk the path of light in her school of love.*

*She is with us, she is truly with us.*

**Fr. Martin**

**Procession  
in  
Honour of the Annunciation  
Sunday 12th August 2018**

Led by Fr. Martin Morris

( See page 1 )

*Medjugorje Afternoon of prayer*

## Letter from Pope Francis appointing Apostolic Visitor to Medjugorje

**To the Venerable Brother  
Msgr. Henryk Hoser**

**The Archbishop – Bishop Emeritus of Warsawa – Praga**

As the continuation of the task of the Special Envoy of the Holy See for the parish of Medjugorje, which You recently accomplished, and in the desire to express the particular pastoral care that this reality requires, I appoint Your Excellency as Apostolic Visitor with a special role for the parish of Medjugorje for an indefinite period, ad nutum Sanctae Sedis, with the authority, obligations and in accordance with the modalities specified in the Mandate attached to this Document.

Convinced that You will know how efficiently to carry out the entrusted task in the spirit of positive cooperation with all the interested parties, I assure you of my prayers and with heart I impart you the Apostolic Blessing.

In Vatican, May 31st 2018, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

– Pope Francis

( See page 9)

## Our Lady's message to Mirjana

*2nd July 2018*



**“Dear children!** , I am the mother of all of you and, therefore, do not be afraid because I hear your prayers. I know that you seek me and that is why I am praying to my Son for you, my Son, who is united with the Heavenly Father and the Holy Spirit - the Paraclete - my Son who leads souls to the Kingdom from where He came, the Kingdom of peace and light. My children, you are given the freedom to choose, but, as a mother, I implore you to choose the freedom for the good. You, with pure and simple souls comprehend - even if sometimes you do not understand the words - and within yourselves you feel what the truth is. My children, do not lose the truth and true life so as to follow the false one. By life in truth, the Kingdom of Heaven enters into your hearts, and that is the Kingdom of peace, love and harmony. Then, my children, there will not be the selfishness which distances you from my Son. There will be love and understanding for your neighbors. Because, remember, again I repeat to you, to pray also means to love others, your neighbors, and to give yourself to them. Love and give in my Son, and then He will work in you and for you. My children, ceaselessly think of my Son and love Him immeasurably and you will have true life, and that will be for eternity. Thank you, apostles of my love .”



## REPORT FROM SISTER EMMANUEL

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

**Medjugorje, July 10, 2018**

**Dear children of Medjugorje,  
 praised be Jesus and Mary!**

**1. On July 2, 2018 Mirjana received her monthly apparition** at the Blue Cross, surrounded by a large crowd of pilgrims. ( see page 4 )

**2. The Anointing of the Sick.** During a mission in Asia in 2011, I participated in a Mass during which the priest offered us the Sacrament of the Sick. As I had a problem with my cervical vertebra (upper spine) so I went forward, and after I received the Sacrament, I was healed. This pain never came back.

Many people come to Medjugorje or Lourdes to ask Heaven for a healing. Many also pray for this intention. They are often willing to travel thousands of miles in order to meet a priest with a special gift, or even a "healer", to have their prayers answered.

They forget that Christ Himself has left us a special Sacrament for the sick in which all His power unfolds, as it did in the time of His preaching: the Anointing of the Sick. Some are healed after receiving this Sacrament, others are given the strength to bear their suffering with Jesus.

This Sacrament, which for a long time was called the Last Rights, is not just for the dying! Given its rightful place after the Second Vatican Council, it is offered to all those who suffer from a physical or psychic

illness. This Sacrament is given along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation - a good confession with renunciation of sin - and the Eucharist, two Sacraments that can also bring healing.

To anoint the sick, priests use the Oil of the Sick. All parishes have the in store this Oil of the Sick and it is desirable for this Sacrament to become better known to the faithful, and received more often. Let's not wait for the patient to be dying in agony before we offer it! Of course, the Blessed Mother willingly prays to her Son to heal us, but why not ask first for the Sacrament that He Himself offers us through His Church? (See PS1)



### **3. Head-on clash between a Buddhist and the Living God**

Who is Mike Lim? Of Chinese origin, this man lived in Singapore. His faith was that of a convinced Buddhist, and he was fiercely anti-Catholic. Despite this, he had a good heart and loved his family dearly.

His older sister, Violet, had been severely ill since her teenage years and her illness was incurable. Violet had to undergo a large number of operations. This was all done in vain

as the illness and the pain were only getting worse: a real family nightmare. Mike could no longer stand to see her suffer like that, stuck in her wheelchair, without being able to help her. He had tried everything and was desperate.

In June 1995, moved by so much suffering, a Catholic friend, Rose, dared to suggest to him that he take his sister to a Mass followed by a charismatic prayer of healing. After first refusing categorically, Mike felt he had nothing to lose and relented. Once in the church, he felt uncomfortable, as this kind of prayer seemed ridiculous to him. But during the prayer that followed the Mass, Rose, moved by the Spirit, whispered in his ear, "Come on, Mike! Ask Jesus to heal your sister!"

Willing to 'play the game' for the sake of his sister, Mike went for it, and, for the first time in his life he addressed this unknown God: "Jesus, if you make her walk, I will believe in you!" Then, out of the blue, he saw the priest heading straight to Violet, laying his hands on her for a moment, in prayer. Then, with authority, out loud, the priest told her, "Now stand up!" And that was the moment when the impossible became reality... Mike's eyes opened wide! He saw Violet slowly getting up from her wheelchair, then walking, then running, and finally dancing in the church! Mike was absolutely stunned and moved to the very depths of his being! He couldn't help crying out, "My Goodness! He is alive! He is real!" Then he began to weep and sob, as he kept on repeating the same words: "He is alive! He's real!"

On that day his entire life turned upside down. This anti-Catholic was

now eager to know everything about Jesus and the Catholic faith. He discovered the Bible and devoured it from A to Z in two months. He would read it for hours a day, like a thirsty man who has finally found the living water that quenches his thirst. His soul wanted the living God so much!

He was baptized, as was his whole family. He entered seminary at the age of 38, and is now a priest of Jesus Christ in an Australian Catholic parish. He always says to his parishioners: "It took me 35 years to find the Living God, but you received Him from your childhood! And you want to get rid of Him? Listen to me: "Never abandon Him!"

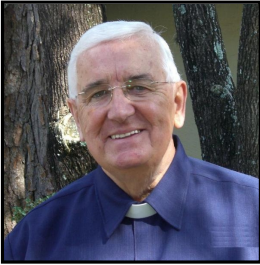
This same Mike Lim, who became Father Mikael, visited us recently in Medjugorje. He is also the one who gave us the Anointing of the Sick in Singapore in 2011, this Sacrament that allowed me to receive the important healing that I mentioned above.

Yes, Jesus is alive! Our God is not a statue made by human hands, powerless to save anyone. He is real and alive, and His name is love! His name is "God saves", Yeshua!

**4. A great disciple of Christ**, Father Kevin Scallon, left to join the Father on June 25th, during the 37th anniversary of Our Lady's apparitions. Throughout his life as a priest, he tirelessly travelled the world to draw souls to God, especially to His Eucharistic presence. Endowed with inspired words and often the gift of healing, he frequently accompanied Sister Briega McKenna in her missions, thus saving a large number of priests, releasing them from all kinds of torments that

the enemy can inflict upon "God's Chosen ones".

Father Kevin would stay with us for a few days almost every year in



Medjugorje with Sr. Brieger, counselling us and telling us stories. We loved him very much. To us he was a real father, radiating the face and the tender love of the Heavenly Father. One of our sisters said, "If I were to imagine the love of the Heavenly Father, I would compare him to Father Kevin's heart."

Here is one of the most beautiful stories from his life, which describes so well his special closeness to God:

**5. Christmas Eve.** While Father Kevin was driving to his nephew's house to celebrate Christmas, his car broke down at 9pm. The car just would not start again but he was still an hour away from his nephew. It was Christmas Eve, and since he had left Dublin, he had not seen a single car or a living soul. In the glow of the moon, he saw a small house right in front of the place where the car was stuck. A light shone at the window. He decided to ask to use the phone to call his nephew. He opened the little white wooden fence, followed the path and knocked at the door, as there was no doorbell. A man looking rather young opened the door and greeted him warmly. Looking inside

the house, he saw a young woman with a baby in her arms. She was holding the baby's head against her cheek. She smiled at Father Kevin who asked her husband if he could make a call. The young man replied, "We do not have a telephone, but if you walk back to the city, there is a bicycle salesman to the right of the supermarket, he will let you use the phone." "May I leave the car in front of your house?" asked Fr Kevin. "Of course, I will keep an eye on it," replied the man. He thanked the couple and wished them a merry Christmas.

So, on this beautiful night, in the moonlight, Fr Kevin walked all the way to the city to the bicycle shop. On the way, he kept thinking about his meeting with the couple and their baby, especially with that strange smell in the house. It did not smell like Ireland. Why did it remind him of his recent trip to the Holy Land? And why was the house only lit by candles?

From the bicycle shop, Father Kevin was able to call his nephew who came to pick him up. The next day, they fixed the car with a local mechanic. When the work was done, Fr Kevin wanted to say hello to the young family living opposite, and walked to the little white wooden fence but he couldn't find it. There was only a hedge, and further on, just a field, and no house as far as the eye could see. On the return trip, his nephew kept talking. Father Kevin, meanwhile, remained silent. It was the feast of the Holy Family... Hadn't he seen it with his own eyes?!

**6. Mgr. Hoser arrived in Sarajevo** on the 5th of July. He was able to meet several members of the



local Church hierarchy, including Cardinal Pulic. He arrived in Medjugorje on the 6th. We are overjoyed by his blessed presence among us. Let us pray for him, and for the important task with which he has been entrusted by Pope Francis. May Our Lady and the Holy Spirit guide him!



*Dearest Gospa, the day of your Triumph is getting closer, and already we rejoice with you! Please give us the strength to live the time that remains in defiance against the enemy's tricks, and help us shorten this difficult time by living your messages, especially with your dear "twin weapons" that are prayer and fasting with the heart!*

**Sister Emmanuel**

**PS1. All explanations about this Sacrament of the Sick** can be found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, §1499.

**PS2. The parish has just experienced a wonderful retreat for priests**, with more than 300 priests coming from all over the world.

Priests! Do not forget this powerful message that Mary gave to encourage you: "**Dear Children, once again, I invite you to pray for your shepherds. By their side, I will triumph!**" (Oct 2, 2010).

**PS3. Since the Holy Father's intention for this month is to pray**

**for priests**, here is a beautiful prayer that we can all offer to God:

*"God Almighty and eternal, by the merits of your Son Jesus and because of your love for Him, have mercy on the priests of the Holy Church. Despite their sublime dignity, they are weak and are like your other creatures. Deign in your infinite mercy to give them the fire of holy love and ignite their hearts. Please rescue them: do not let them fall or lose their vocation. O Jesus, we beseech you: have pity on the priests of your church, of those who serve you faithfully, take care of your flock and let them glorify you... Have pity on the priests who are persecuted, in prison, abandoned, burdened with suffering... Have pity on the priests who are lukewarm and those who waver in their faith... Have pity on the sick or moribund priests... Have pity on the priests who are in purgatory. Lord Jesus, we beg you, grant our prayers, have mercy on the priests, they are yours; deign to enlighten them, to fortify them, to comfort them! O Jesus, we entrust to you the priests of the whole world, but please take special care of those priests who baptized and absolved me; of those who, for me, offered the Holy Sacrifice and consecrated the host to nourish my soul.*

*I entrust to you the priests who have dispelled my doubts, straightened my weaknesses, directed my efforts, and comforted my sorrows: For them all, in remembrance of these blessings I implore your help and your mercy. Amen."*

**Mgr. Kiung** - Former bishop of Shanghai

## The Holy See's Special Envoy, Archbishop Henryk Hoser, begins his service in Medjugorje with Holy Mass.

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

Sunday, July 22nd 2018, was a special day, full of blessings not only for the parish of Medjugorje, but also for all pilgrims throughout the world who care deeply about Medjugorje Parish. From the moment the news first arrived on May 31st, 2018 that the Holy Father had appointed Archbishop Hoser as Apostolic Visitor, with a special role for the parish of Medjugorje, everyone anxiously anticipated the day when his mission would finally begin in Medjugorje. Last



Thursday, when we received confirmation that Archbishop Hoser would start his mission with Holy Mass this Sunday, parishioners and pilgrims were truly overwhelmed with joy. The huge area of the White Dome was fully packed before the beginning of Holy Mass, with all present preparing for the solemn celebration with the prayer of the Rosary. As the parish choir sang the entrance hymn, the procession commenced with Mons. Henryk Hoser, the Apostolic Visitor, Mons. Luigi Pezzuto, the Apostolic Nuncio to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Provincial of Herzegovina Franciscan Province, Fr. Miljenko Šteko, parish priest of Medjugorje, Fr. Marinko Šakota, as well as many other priests who concelebrated at this Holy Mass. The celebration of the evening Holy Mass began when the letter of the Holy Father was read regarding the appointment of Archbishop Hoser.

The Nuncio Luigi Pezzuto read the letter in Italian and Fr. Marinko Sakota, the parish priest read it in Croatian.

Greetings and welcoming words were given by the Provincial, Fr. Miljenko Steko, who emphasised how this Eucharist in Medjugorje is of "historic importance" since we have here, with us, for the first time, the Apostolic Nuncio, Mons. Luigi Pezzuto, who is the direct representative of the Holy Father and the Apostolic See in Bosnia and

Herzegovina.

"Thank you, your Excellency, for coming here and allow me to express to you a most sincere welcome on behalf of all of us! Please pass on our gratitude to the Supreme Pontiff for his pastoral efforts in the Church, particularly in this appointment of the Apostolic Visitor", said Fr. Miljenko Steko, who also greeted Archbishop Hoser.

"Dear Archbishop, Hoser! In this moment of grace, I wish to welcome you most sincerely on behalf of each one of us gathered here, as well as on behalf of all of you gathered here! On behalf of the Herzegovina Franciscan Province, I am wishing you a blessed time among us here in the mission entrusted to you by the Holy Father, Pope Francis. We accept your coming here with the utmost respect and love, the mission entrusted to you by the Supreme Pontiff of Rome, the one

presiding over the general Church Communion. May we all be renewed by the strength of the Holy Spirit, so that from tonight, we would all advance on our pilgrimage journey under your guidance!”

Holy Mass was offered in Latin, and Mons. Henryk Hoser was the main celebrant. In his homily, he said that the Holy Father, as the Universal Shepherd of the Church, takes the words of the prophets and sends shepherds to the places where people live, where the faithful gather, seeking for the light of salvation.

Pilgrims from all over the world come to Medjugorje, from around 80 different countries of the world. The distance is their journey measured in miles, and in order for one person to travel for that many miles, they need to be led by a strong and determined motivation, as well as having the means of transportation.

However, the word “distance” is something else too: it refers to the existential situation of so many who are far from God, from Christ, from their Church and from the light that gives purpose to life, or gives a dignified goal, a life worth living.

Now we can understand better why the Holy Father sent the Apostolic Visitor to Medjugorje, since pastoral care requires ensuring a stable and continuous guidance for the parish community in Medjugorje, and for all pilgrims who are coming here on pilgrimages; which brings us to the fundamental question – why do so many people come to Medjugorje each year?

The answer is this: they come to encounter someone, to encounter God, to encounter Christ and to

encounter His Mother, so that they would discover the way that leads to the joy of living in the house of the Father and the Mother, and ultimately, to discover the Marian way to God as the safest way of all. This is the way in which we honour Mary, something that has been taking place here for years, this is “the holy liturgy in which the peak of wisdom and faith dwells, and therefore, it is the primary task of God’s people,” said Mons. Hoser, adding that there is a truly Christo-centric devotion at hand here in Medjugorje.

“The devotion in practice in Medjugorje has Holy Mass in the centre, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the massive numbers of confession and reconciliation, all followed by other devotions and prayers of the Rosary, and the Way of the Cross that take place on the hills whose rugged and sharp rocks are now polished pathways,” said Mons. Hoser in his homily.

This Holy Mass certainly marks the beginning of a new era for Medjugorje and for all pilgrims.

Fr. Marinko Sakota, the parish priest, at the conclusion, welcomed the Nuncio and thanked the Holy Father for the appointment of the Apostolic Visitor. As well, he thanked Mons. Hoser for having accepted this mission and coming to Medjugorje.

Fr. Marinko then presented him with a gift on behalf of the parish – the Holy Scriptures and flowers. Along with thousands of pilgrims, there were 118 priests concelebrating, as well as Bishop Guido Gallese, Bishop of Alessandria from Italy.

## Feast of Our Lady, Queen of Peace 2018 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady of Medjugorje.

By Lillian Simpson

It was a mistake really! We had decided to book for Medjugorje in February, but I booked the wrong date! Not only that, I had booked for 4 weeks so I needed to change one of the flights. After discussion we thought it might be good to go towards the end of June for a change, and although we knew it included the 25<sup>th</sup>, when Our Lady's message is sent out, we didn't realise at the time that it was the 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of that first Apparition.

We arrived in the early hours of Thursday 21 June. Medjugorje was heaving – crammed with people from all nations, Japanese, Koreans, Russians, Africans, Americans both North and South, as well as the usual European countries. Apart from St James' church being closed for choir and musical rehearsals our pilgrimage proceeded as usual in glorious sunshine. We were told that Our Mother had asked that the Feast of St John the Baptist should proceed as usual with the Anniversary of her appearances taking place the following day, as that was when children promised to come back. So, St John was linked as forerunner both to Her Son, and to Herself as forerunner of her appearances in Medjugorje. She had also asked that the anniversary be celebrated as a Feast day, dedicated to the Queen of Peace, which now takes place on 25<sup>th</sup> June.

Needless to say, we went to St James' well before Rosary on both occasions, to find the place packed: all the benches, those under the trees, the Church and surroundings, and even the stairwells around the church, together with the aisles, where people had brought their own seats or simply



stood or knelt praying and thanking our Mother for Her blessings. We were simply awestruck!

All night adoration followed, with the church packed until 7.00am both nights.

On the Monday 25th June, there were whispers of a procession, so we arrived even earlier and managed to find a seat under the trees. Flags from all nations were waving to and fro, as the priests gathered together in procession. Suddenly there was a whisper – it was beginning. The youth would be carrying the statue of our Lady, delicately coloured with flesh tones and a pale grey dress, following the priests and deacons who prayed the Litany of Our Lady of Loreto. Like many others, I moved forward to a point where I could lift my camera and hope to catch a glimpse of the statue as it passed by. Now I wouldn't say I'm a particularly emotional person, but as the statue moved nearer I had an intense feeling of excitement, anticipation, joy and thanksgiving in my heart. Even standing on my tiptoes and craning my neck I still

couldn't see the statue, but I kept clicking away in the hopes that I might just capture something. Then the statue of Our Blessed Mother moved into view. My heart was thumping, and I was overcome with emotion. *This was our Mother! The Mother given to us by Her Beloved Son at the foot of the Cross! And She had come to encourage all her children as any good mother would!* I felt choked as the statue moved

slowly past and then around to the Altar, where it was gently placed, and a great Mass of Celebration began. At the end of Sunday Mass, Ivan and Marija led us in the Magnificat, and were joined on Monday by Mirjana. We both felt so blessed for the 'mistake' I made in booking and thank Our Blessed Mother with all our hearts for the privilege of being there for Her Feast.

.....Till next year in Medjugorje!

**37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018  
St. John Vianney, Newcastle.**



**Rosary, Mass and Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament.**

Friends of Medjugorje were united across the world to celebrate the 37th Anniversary of the Apparitions Of Our Lady of Medjugorje.

Fr. Martin Morris led Our Evening of prayer.

Taking us back to the Hills of Medjugorje and the by gone days of earlier Pilgrimages with friends and family, some long gone, whose testimonies remain with us forever. And whose witness and belief have strengthened our Faith.

The atmosphere of prayer and praise in Thanksgiving for Our Blessed Mother coming to earth to guide us back to her son filled St. John Vianney's Church as we prayed the Rosary and celebrated Holy Mass, ending the evening in Adoration, Chanting the Kyrie Elyson , following in the tradition of The church, Fr. Slavko and the Franciscans of Medjugorje.

We thank the parishioners of St. John Vianney's for their warm friendly welcome and hospitality.

**Tour de France 2018:**



The sanctuary of Lourdes welcomes the start of the stage from July 27

Competitors visited the shrine to demonstrate their devotion and receive a blessing.

The Tour de France paused at the town of Lourdes , allowing cyclists to visit the famous shrine and receive a blessing from the various priests.

70 years after the first time in 1948, the sanctuary of Lourdes welcomes again the start of a stage of the Tour de France: July 27, 2018. Lourdes several times in history, has welcomed the peloton of the Tour de France. The Marian city has been the scene of two (1948, 2011) arrivals and three departures (1948, 1990, 1994). In 2018, Lourdes looked forward to reviving this tradition.

## The 29th Medjugorje Youth Festival opened with the Holy Mass



In these days Medjugorje is all about the youth again, as the 29th International Prayer Encounter of the Youth (Youth Festival) started with the theme “Living on the Word of God”. Officially beginning on Wednesday, August 1, with the Holy Mass at the White Dome. The priests entered in a solemn procession with the song Hosana, performed by the International Choir and Orchestra. The procession included the Apostolic Nuncio to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mons. Luigi Pezzuto, the Apostolic Visitor for the parish of Medjugorje, Archbishop Henryk Hoser, the Provincial of Herzegovina Franciscan Province Fr. Miljenko Šteko and Definitor General of the Franciscan Order, Fr. Ivan Sesar.

Fr. Marinko Šakota, the parish priest, welcomed the youth and the representatives of 72 countries came in front of the altar carrying signs of their countries and national flags, bowed down before the altar and silently walked away.

Solemn Holy Mass and homily was given by Mons. Luigi Pezzuto, the Apostolic Nuncio to Bosnia and Herzegovina, with 472 priests concelebrating. After the Holy Mass, the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed.

Last night's programme was followed through live streaming by 975,700

viewers. The Youth Festival is simultaneously translated to 17 languages and Radio Mir Medjugorje will continue to broadcast the programme in the following days too.



## Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals, the international humanitarian organisation is opening the new centre and facilities in a recycled cargo container. Their facilities are in the style of the African classroom with photos that illustrate work of Mary's Meals throughout the world. They give information on the issue of the hunger in the world and simple solution they offer for its solution. Mary's Meals provide daily meal for more than 1.2 million children in the 15 poorest countries in the world. This centre will be essential in maintaining the connection between Mary's Meals and Medjugorje where it began. This project is the simple idea that functions by providing a warm meal for the hungry children in the poorest countries all over the world each day.

The Information Centre of Mary's Meals, located at the main road in Medjugorje, serves to provide the support to all those who visit them during their pilgrimages and provides an opportunity to them to be active in their humanitarian mission with prayer and fasting.

The founder and the global executive director of Mary's Meals, Magnus MacFarlane Barrow said: “It is our great joy to announce the opening of our centre in Medjugorje and we are



## Medjugorje Centre North East

www.medjugorjene.co.uk

honoured to be able to welcome our visitors in our new home, at this very special place, where the seed of our work began, as well as to invite all pilgrims to participate in our mission by fasting and prayer.”

Mary's Meals began by feeding only 200 children in Malawi in 2002, and today this organisation provides a warm meal to 1.257.278 hungry children in the 15 countries.

All those who were involved in the first project of Mary's Meals were people whose lives were changed by pilgrimage to Medjugorje. They decided to name the organisation in the honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of Jesus, who raised her own child in the poverty.

Further information:  
www.marysmeals.org.uk

### DIVINE WILL RETREAT



Change of venue and programme

**A one day retreat at St. Joseph's,  
High St. West,  
Gateshead, NE8 1LX**  
Led by

TONY HICKEY  
(Manchester Medjugorje Centre)  
with Fr Noel Colahan

**Saturday October 27th 2018**

**From 9:30am—5:30pm**

**Please bring a packed lunch  
Free tea & coffee available**

Further details from Fr. Noel  
07712047324

### MIDDLESBROUGH CENTRE FOR PEACE MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE 2018

19th Sept—25th Sept

£589 + Insurance

**FLYING from NEWCASTLE**

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

### MIDDLESBROUGH CENTRE FOR PEACE

MARIAN EVENING

Friday 10th August 2018  
Friday 14th September 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

*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.*