

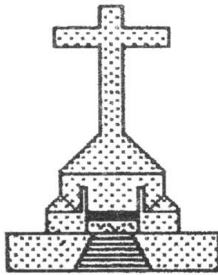
NUMBER 358: March 2021 : FREE

Published Monthly

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST

(Established since 1989)



www.medjugorjene.co.uk

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OUR MINISTRY

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

PRAYER, FASTING

HOLY-SCRIPTURE, CONFESSION

EUCCHARIST

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PRAY FOR US

**40th Anniversary of
Medjugorje Apparitions**

led by Fr. Martin Morris

St John Vianney

Hillhead Parkway, West Denton
Newcastle NE5 1DP

Friday 25th June 2021

Start 7pm

Rosary, Mass, Adoration

Subject to guidelines on the coronavirus

**MEDJUGORJE
AFTERNOON OF PRAYER**

led by Fr. Martin Morris

St John Vianney

*Cancelled
until
further notice*

*****NEW DATE ARRANGED*****

**ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO
MEDJUGORJE 2021**

Spiritual Director—Fr. Martin Morris

**Depending on Coronavirus restrictions
Our planned Pilgrimage date is**

Sunday 15th-22nd May 2022

All Booked Pilgrims previously deferred
from 2020 to June 2021 will be transferred
to new date next year **2022**.

Further information:

Kath Ash Tel :01670 733358

Or Jonathan Baylis,

Aglow Pilgrimages

29 Bargates, BOX

SN13 8LT

Tel: 0800 6894792

www.aglowpilgrimages.com

We are sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Let us pray with the Holy Father:

**Prayer Intention for
APRIL 2021**

Fundamental rights



“

We pray for those who risk their
lives while fighting for
fundamental rights under
dictatorships, authoritarian
regimes and even in democracies
in crisis.

”

Pope Francis

***EASTER BLESSINGS OF LOVE,
PROTECTION AND HEALING
During these Unprecedented times***



***' For God so loved the World that He gave His
only Son ' (John 3:16)***

OUR LADY'S MESSAGE—To the World

Given 25th March 2021 to Marija Pavlovic



“Dear children! Also today I am with you to tell you: Little children, who prays does not fear the future and does not lose hope. You are chosen to carry joy and peace, because you are mine. I have come here with the name 'Queen of Peace' because the devil wants peacelessness and war, he wants to fill your heart with fear of the future - but the future is God's. That is why, be humble and pray, and surrender everything into the hands of the Most High Who created you. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Reflection by Fr. Martin Morris

Spiritual Director of Medjugorje Centre NE

Dear Brothers and Sister's of Medjugorje North East and beyond. Let us turn to the Holy Scriptures to help us in our reflection, as we ponder together the words of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace. In St. Matthew's Gospel Jesus tells us, “*That is why I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and what you are to wear. Surely, life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Your Heavenly Father knows what you need. Set, your hearts on his Kingdom first. So do not worry about tomorrow, how much more will he look after you of little Faith. (Matthew: 6:30-31. 34.)*

In this month's message Our Lady uses the phrase ‘**The Future**’ three times. Thrice she calls us away from worry and anxiety and to turn in trust towards our Heavenly Father “**Because the future is God's.**” Rather Our Lady invites us to a spirit of ‘*Abandonment to providence*’ and

to entrust our lives to God the Creator. “**Into the hands of the Most High who created you.**”

This month's message reminds us of our true dignity as Children of God, created in His image and likeness, with an eternal destiny for our future. ‘*I believe in God the Father Almighty, CREATOR of Heaven and earth*’ we profess in the Creed each Sunday, and these words are the highpoint of this month's message coming at the very end of the reflection. We would do well to reflect upon this last sentence of the March message, as it remind's us of who we really are, that our lives have ultimate meaning in God, the “**Most High**”, we are not some casual product discarded from evolution, a collection of chemicals and gasses, but we are the children of God Created by the Most High.

At the start of the apparitions, (June 1981) Mary asked the parishioners to reflect on St. Matthew's Gospel, 6.: 24-34, each Thursday evening during

Adoration. This text helps us to reflect on our attitude towards the future, and gives us three key points; two we should not do at all, and one that we must absolutely do.

a) We cannot serve both God and money. We have to choose our Master. Either God or material things. This is an invitation to trust. If we give the first place to God, then everything we really need will follow. Peace and Joy in the heart will be felt.

b) We should not be anxious or worried. Neither for our life nor for **'the future'**. Faith should be the driving force, a Faith that helps us to abandon our lives to Divine providence. **The 'Most High'** knows what we need. For he is our Creator. The Gospel calls us to live in the present moment.

c) We are called to first *'seek the Kingdom'* This means identifying what makes us worried and anxious, and then rearranging our scale of priorities. What is the most important thing this day for me? What can I do without, and what should I give up? To really see each day as a gift to be lived in Gratitude to the **'Most High'**. In the moments before Holy Communion when the Priest prays the 'Peace Prayer of our Lord, we hear these words; *"Deliver us Lord from every evil, and graciously grant peace in our day, in your mercy keep us free from sin, and save us from all distress as we await the Blessed Hope of the coming of Our Saviour."* This is the moment when we should **'surrender everything into the hands of the Most High who created you.'** This is a powerful moment of entrustment to the living God of the whole of our lives.

To experience divine providence we must have the Humility and Faith and Courage to **'surrender'** ourselves to God in love, like Mary at the Annunciation, like the Apostles when they were called by Galilee, like all the Saints who learnt what real trust was like. Our Lady wants us to know and live free from the fear of what the future is, because **'the future is God's,** and we are in his hands.' Having Christ at the centre of each day, frees us from all fear.

I would like to conclude with the prayer of St. Teresa of Avila, and St. Ignatius

*Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you.
All things pass away,
God never changes,
Patience obtains all things,
He who has God,
finds he lacks nothing,
God alone suffices.*

The prayer of Surrender by St. Ignatius of Loyola.

*Take Lord receive all my freedom,
accept the whole of my memory,
understanding and will. Whatever I
have comes from you, from your
bounty. I give it all back to you.
Surrender it all to the guidance of
your will. Your grace and love are
enough for me. Give me only your
love and your grace, these are
enough for me. Your love and your
grace, that's enough for me. Take
Lord receive all I have and possess.
Dispose of me wholly according to
your will, now I return them. Give
me only your love and your grace,
are enough for me. Amen!*

A Blessed Easter. **Fr. Martin**

Our Lady's Annual Apparition to Mirjana

18th March 2021



"Dear children, In a motherly way I am calling you to return to the joy and the truth of the Gospel, to return to the love of my Son – because He is waiting for you with open arms; that everything you do in life you do with my Son, with love; that it may be blessed for you; so that your spirituality may be internal, and not just external. Only in that way will you be humble, generous, filled with love and joyful; and my motherly heart will rejoice with you. Thank you."

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

During Mirjana's apparition, March 18, 2020, Our Lady told Mirjana that she will no longer receive 2nd of the month apparitions, which were specifically to pray for unbelievers. No other details were given.

Due to government restrictions regarding the coronavirus, Mirjana was in her room in Medjugorje when she experienced the apparition

After the apparition, Mirjana was incredibly sad and in shock with the realization that she would no longer see Our Lady on the 2nd of each month. After the apparition, Mirjana reported that Our Lady gave the above message:

We don't know if this will change in the future. We will keep everyone informed of any new developments.

Please remember that the coronavirus, is not part of the secrets. Our Lady ceasing to appear on the 2nd of the month is not part of the secrets. Before the secrets will be revealed/fulfilled, all six visionaries need to receive all 10 secrets from Our Lady. Currently Vicka, Ivan, and Marija have received nine secrets. The last visionary to receive their 10th secret was Jakov in 1998.

Brief History: *Medjugorje visionary Mirjana has received all 10 "Medjugorje Secrets." Having received all the secrets, Our Lady told Mirjana she would now receive only one annual apparition a year on March 18th. However for some years now, Mirjana is receiving a special message on the 2nd of each month. Part of these messages are shared with the world, the rest remains a secret.*



children
of
Medjugorje

REPORT FROM SISTER EMMANUEL

of The Community of The Beatitudes

www.childrenofmedjugorje.com

Medjugorje, March 8, 2021

My dear friends, praised be Jesus and Mary.

1. When you receive this newsletter, I will be in Italy for an operation on my hip. But before leaving, I wrote this for you, so as not to leave you without some words of encouragement during this month which is dedicated to our dear Saint Joseph. My favorite story, because it is so very moving, takes us into the depths of China, this country that is so dear to God and that I have been blessed to visit 10 times these past years.

2. A woman in China. Two Austrian Jesuit missionaries, Father Gotsch and Brother Gervasius, testified in 1976 to a unique experience: One day, in southern China, Brother Gervasius was accompanying Fr. Gotsch on his way to see a dying man in Kaotai. They crossed 200 km of mountains and hills on horseback and arrived at the house of the dying man.



Too late, he had already died. After the funeral, they started back. They

were halfway along when they saw a young man who seemed to be waiting for them by the side of the road. The young man asked them to follow him to see his sick mother. They followed this young man to a small village 15 km away. In a very modest home, a woman was dying.



Seeing the priest, she asked him:

"Stranger, will you tell me the truth if I ask you some questions?"

"Of course, mother."

"Is there a God in whom there are three persons? Is there another life, a place of happiness for good people, and a place of terror for the bad ones? Is it true that God came to this earth to die for men and open the place of happiness to them? Stranger, is it true, all this?"

Stunned, the priest replied YES. But from whom could this woman have learned all this?

The woman continued:

"You have the water with you, so wash me, that I may go to the place of happiness."

How did she know that the priest had water on him for baptisms? There was something both childish and convincing in her determined attitude. The priest briefly explained to her the liturgy and the meaning of the sacrament, and then he baptized her.

The newly baptized woman, full of joy, then said:

"You also have the bread with you. This is a special bread because God is in it. Give me that bread."

The priest took out of his bag the consecrated host he was carrying with him. The lady knew he had "The Bread". The priest explained to her the meaning of the sacrament of the Eucharist, and gave her Holy Communion. He also administered the last rites (Confession and Anointing of the sick).

Then he said to her:

"Until now, you have been the one asking questions. Now it is my turn to ask you! From whom did you learn the truths of the faith? Did you meet Catholic believers or evangelists?"

"No, stranger".

"So, did you read Christian books?"

"I don't know how to read, stranger, and I didn't even know there were books like this.

"So, where and from whom did you receive this knowledge about the faith?"

"I always thought that it should be like this, and for the last 10 years I have lived this way. I also instructed

my sons this way. And you can wash them all (baptize them)".

"But did you know that we were going to pass through here today?"

"Of course. I saw a man in a dream. He was the one who told me to send my youngest son on the road and call the two strangers who would be passing by. He told me that they were going to "wash me" in order to go to the place of happiness after death".

The missionaries were deeply moved. The woman's attitude toward death was so peaceful that she left no room for doubt. Before leaving, the missionaries offered her an image of Saint Joseph, patron saint of the dying. Filled with joy, the woman exclaimed:

"But this one, I know him. He often comes to visit me. He was the one who told me to send my son on the road to call you."

Was it in a dream, or did St. Joseph really come to visit her in person? She didn't know. In fact, knowing that did not matter. What was important was what St. Joseph had taught this woman.

The missionaries later learned that the woman died that very night.

(From the German magazine "Weite Welt" No. 1, Jan. 1976)

We do not know where the fruits of our prayer go, but God knows. In France, the UK, the USA or elsewhere, who has prayed to St. Joseph for the intentions of the Heavenly Father and for the salvation of souls? Which poor person in their

local parish bowed to the statue of St. Joseph to beg him for help, and unknowingly through that prayer helped someone in China? Which elderly person scribbled the litanies of St. Joseph on a piece of paper, to be prayed in the evening, in the solitude of his little room, without anyone knowing? Which young person once begged this great saint to reveal his vocation and to embark on the right path? Which sick person cried out to St. Joseph to have a good death and be able to present a pure soul before the Creator? Saint Joseph is generous, he always extends the fruits of our petitions to so many people in need, without confining himself to our requests which are often so limited to our personal needs.

I can happily imagine the beautiful encounter of this Chinese woman in Heaven, with the person who unwittingly obtained for her the grace to leave this earth, clothed in the white robe of Baptism, and strengthened by the Eucharistic presence in her heart. For sure, Heaven will be interwoven with all these humble prayers offered in secret, and their sublime fruits...



So, let us not fail to pray to St. Joseph and ask much of him. He will give infinitely more than our desires can

imagine. Was he not chosen among all men to be the Bridegroom of the Mother of God and the adoptive father of the Son of God?

3. How can we live the fast that pleases God? Mary invites us to live all things with the heart, which is why the fast she recommends, namely bread and water on Wednesdays and Fridays, goes hand in hand with a beautiful inner attitude that gives great value and great power to our fasting from food. True fasting is not a diet, the purpose of which would be to lose weight, but a way to grow in our communion of love with God and with our brothers. This exhortation can help us make a good fast during Lent.

Also, by examining specific parts of our life, we allow the Lord to prune us. We can then decide for God in a better way, in spirit and truth.

Avoid judging others → Discover in them the presence of Christ

Avoid hurtful words → Utter only healing sentences

Refrain from discontent → Fill your heart with gratitude

Refrain from anger → Arm yourself with patience

Refrain from your pessimism → Fill your heart with Christian hope

Don't worry too much → Fill yourself with trust in God

Avoid complaining → Fill yourself with gratitude for the wonders of life

Refrain from stress → Fill your life with prayer

Refrain from resentment → Fill your heart with forgiveness

Avoid being haughty → Fill yourself with compassion for others

Refrain from discouragement → Fill

yourself with the enthusiasm of faith
Refrain from anything that separates
you from Jesus → Fill yourself with
everything that brings you closer to
Him

4. 19 March, we will celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph. Since this is the year of St Joseph, he will not fail to help us, according to our own needs. You will find his litanies here: www.sremmanuel.org and beautiful prayers on the Internet. I suggest this one:

"O glorious Saint Joseph, head of the Holy Family of Nazareth, who so zealously provided for all its needs, extend onto our families, our loved ones and communities, your tender concern,

Take charge of all the spiritual and temporal affairs that concern them, and allow their outcome to be for the glory of God and the salvation of our souls. Amen."

5. New. "Spiritual Warfare, the Express Lane to Union with God" In this book, I aim to answer what so many people have been asking about: how to resist Satan and stay the course of prayer in the midst of so much spiritual confusion. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Eph 6.12) Here is a pocket tool, very easy to read, to help you pray and walk peacefully in the midst of the flames.

This book is available at Amazon and Google Play Books.

"The Rosary: A Journey That Changes your Life" available, worldwide, to buy on Amazon. In this book we are taken on a journey with Our Lady through the mysteries of the Rosary. In addition to this, there are 10 new, never seen before mysteries, 5 of Compassion and 5 of Mercy.

6. Precious Children! Don't miss this word from Thaïs, 10 years old: "Mom, I want to do like St Therese the Little Flower did, I want to spend my time in heaven doing good on earth." And Sarah, her sister of 9 responded: "Well, you'd better try to start before you get to heaven."

Dearest Gospa, you know well God's plan for our lives, please help us realize it in its fullness, with our eyes focused on your Son Jesus, especially in these difficult times that are affecting your children today. With you, we want to accompany Jesus heading to Jerusalem... Don't abandon us.

Sister Emmanuel +
Community of the Beatitudes

Fr. Stanko Mabić, OFM Lenten Reflection on the **Desert, Quietness and Silence**
Given in Medjugorje (09.03.2021) - *Extract*

Fr. Stanko Mabić said whenever he reads biblical texts on St. John the Baptist who spent 15 years in the desert. The first association for him is quietness.

"Quietness and man is all alone, no one around him. During the night, he does not hear anything, not even his voice, nor of the other people. But this quietness in the desert is not always the silence. Quietness can be a condition for silence, but silence takes place in one's heart. It is something different. The silence we long for is not in the desert, not even in the monasteries. We can even go to those monasteries where monks are silent most of the time, or some other place, yes the desert or the silence are in our hearts. We encounter God in the silence of our hearts. The desert leads us to silence; and silence leads us to the most profound intimacy with God. The desert, silence and solitude do not have to be geographical destinations like the Sahara, or desert of Judaea or Egypt...it is not about the place, it is the state of silence in our mind, in our heart, says Fr. Stanko, he gives us the example of St. Anthony the Great, father of monasticism, who spent all of his life in the desert and said: "The one who goes to the desert to maintain peace with God is freed from three wars, the war of listening, the war of watching and the war of speaking. There is only one war left – the war of the heart."

"The war is in our hearts, meaning the solitude is not enough, it is not enough to go to the desert where there is silence around us, but we need to try to accomplish silence in our hearts. This is our main battlefield, this is where the war is held, but the outer silence is necessary to conquer in the war for

silence in our hearts. So, the solitude and outer silence is not enough. We need to allow the rays of the Gospel to shine on our interior with rays of unconditional love, with silent rays of God's presence, for God dwells in the silence of our hearts. To live in the desert does not just mean to be without people, but to live with God and for God. Those who live with God are never alone, even when they are alone. The heart that dwells in the silence is the heart filled with love at the same time. The Heavenly Father expects his children in their hearts, not at some far and distant places, whether it was the desert, the sea or city market", says Fr. Stanko and refers again to the Holy Bible emphasising how not a single prophet met God unless he was in the solitude and quietness, often in the desert.

"The experience of God is inseparable from the experience of the desert. The great things start in the desert, in the silence and solitude. Let us take the image of creation of the world. Let us try to imagine how that happened to be. In the first pages of the Holy Bible we read how the mighty wind was sweeping over the waters, with darkness over the abyss (Gen 1,4). Whenever I reflect on this, I sense this must have happened in the perfect quietness. God said only a word: "Let there be" and it happens – darkness is separated from the light", says Fr. Stanko and after this image of creation, he mentions other biblical examples of silence and the desert calling God a friend of silence.

"Inner prayer that takes place in silence, in the desert of our hearts is not about much reflection, but about much love", St. Therese

Pope Francis proclaims “Year of St Joseph”

(Vatican News)

*Continued from January, February
2021 Newsletters/.....*

More from The Apostolic Letter “*Patris corde*” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021



A father “in the shadows,” centred on Mary and Jesus

Taking a cue from *The Shadow of the Father* — a book by Polish writer Jan Dobraczyński — Pope Francis describes Joseph’s fatherhood of Jesus as “the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father.”

“Fathers are not born, but made,” says Pope Francis. “A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child.” Unfortunately, in today’s society, children “often seem orphans, lacking fathers” who are able to introduce them “to life and reality.” Children, the Pope says, need fathers who will not try to dominate them, but instead raise them to be “capable of deciding for themselves, enjoying freedom and exploring new possibilities.”

This is the sense in which St Joseph is described as a “most chaste” father,

which is the opposite of domineering possessiveness. Joseph, says Pope Francis, “knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the centre of things. He did not think of himself, but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus.”

Happiness for Joseph involved a true gift of self: “In him, we never see frustration, but only trust,” writes Pope Francis. “His patient silence was the prelude to concrete

expressions of trust.” Joseph stands out, therefore, as an exemplary figure for our time, in a world that “needs fathers,” and not “tyrants”; a society that “rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction.”

True fathers, instead, “refuse to live the lives of their children for them,” and instead respect their freedom. In this sense, says Pope Francis, a father realizes that “he is most a father and an educator at the point when he becomes ‘useless,’ when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied.” Being a father, the Pope emphasizes, “has nothing to do with possession, but is rather a ‘sign’ pointing to a greater fatherhood”: that of the “heavenly Father” (7).

A daily prayer to St Joseph... and a challenge

In his letter, Pope Francis notes how, “Every day, for over forty years,

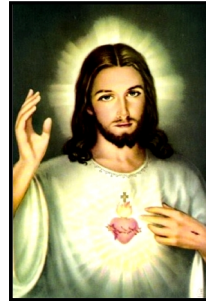
following Lauds [Morning Prayer]" he has "recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary." This prayer, he says, expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph," on account of its closing words: "My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power." At the conclusion of his Letter, he adds another prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray :

One of Pope Francis' favourite prayers to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy,
and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.*

THE CHAPLET TO THE DIVINE MERCY

*(for recitation on
ordinary rosary beads)*



Begin with: *Our Father ...Hail
Mary ...I believe in God*

On the five large beads:
*Eternal Father, I offer You the Body
and
Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your
dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus
Christ, in atonement for our sins and
those of the whole world.*

On the ten small beads:
*For the sake of His sorrowful
Passion, have mercy on us and on
the whole world.*

Conclude with (3 times):
*Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy
Immortal One, have mercy on us and
on the whole world.*

JESUS I TRUST IN YOU

***Divine Mercy Sunday
11th April 2021***

The Divine Mercy Image 'Seal the Doorposts'

In this time of calamity, the Marian Fathers invite you to participate in a simple but incredibly powerful act of faith. To protect you and your family, we urge you to post an Image of the Divine Mercy on your front doors. Father Chris Alar, MIC, explains why:

If you don't have this Image, please visit

TheDivineMercy.org/DivineMercyImage

and download it free and print it out. If you are unable to have it blessed by a priest, the Church allows you to invoke a blessing yourself. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1669) teaches that lay people, on account of their baptismal priesthood, may administer certain blessings.

How can you invoke such a blessing upon the Image of Divine Mercy? While making the Sign of the Cross over the Image, say:

Oh, Lord, I seek your blessing upon this image, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Why is this Image so important?

The Image represents the Lord, the Lamb sacrificed for us, from whose Heart flows Blood and Water, the streams of God's mercy upon the whole world. The Lord promises us through St. Faustina "that the soul that will venerate [honor] this image will not perish" (Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, 48).

He also promises: "victory over [our] enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death" and to "defend [us] as [His] own

glory" (Diary, 48)

The Lord said, "By means of this Image I shall be granting many graces to souls; so, let every soul have access to it" (Diary, 570).

Saint Faustina's confessor, Blessed Michael Sopocko, recalled additional promises our Lord made through St. Faustina regarding the Image:

I will protect the cities and homes in which The Divine Mercy Image is found; I will protect the persons who will venerate [honor] this Image. The only refuge will be trust in My Mercy.

Father Sopocko recalled that Jesus also said:

Let everyone procure for their homes this Image because there will yet come trials. And those homes, and entire families, and everyone individually who will hold this image of mercy in deep reverence, I will preserve from every sort of misfortune. The time will come when all those who do so will give witness to the miraculous efficacy and to the special protection of mercy flowing from this Image.

What does this mean for us today?

Recently, as the repercussions of the coronavirus became crystal clear, we prayed at Mass, "Let us seal the doorposts of our inner thoughts with the protective Word of God ..." This is a reference to Exodus 12, where God commanded the Israelites to "seal the doorposts" with the blood of the lamb so that the angel of death may pass over those houses that have been marked.

Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb of God. By offering Himself as atonement for our sins and those of the whole world, by the outpouring of His Blood and Water, He freed us from eternal death and sealed us for eternal life.

So please, I urge you to put the Image of the Divine Mercy with the inscription “Jesus, I trust in You” upon your doors, as many have

done in times of calamity. Remember, it is Jesus whom we worship in this Image.

Also, while this act of faith may not guarantee your family won't be physically affected by the virus, it will guarantee that, by your trust in Jesus, you will obtain His promises of love and mercy, which will surround you and remain in you forever.

In Memoriam: Paulist Fr. Kevin Devine (1930 – 2021) RIP

March 25, 2021

Former Chaplain to English Speaking Pilgrims in MEDJUGORJE

For many years, Fr. Kevin Devine from USA provided pastoral care for pilgrims in Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina



With great sadness, we announce that our brother, Paulist Fr. Kevin Aloysius Devine, entered eternal life today, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, March 25, 2021.

He died of natural causes at the Veterans' Home in Montrose, NY, aged 90.

Fr. Kevin had been a priest for nearly 65 years. For 31 of those years, he served with distinction as a U.S. Army chaplain

He was born December 23, 1930, in New York City, a son of Edmund and Joan Twomey Devine. He had four

brothers: Donal, Patrick, Finbar and Matthew.

In 1936, when he was six, his family moved to Inwood, then a largely Irish neighborhood at the northern tip of Manhattan. There, he “grew up Paulist” at Church of the Good Shepherd, the parish our missionary society founded and served in Inwood from 1911 to 2006.

Fr. Kevin was ordained a priest on May 3, 1956,

In September, 1962, he began his 31-year career as a U.S. Army chaplain. His military service took him to points around the world, including Korea, Greenland, Alaska and Germany.

In 1969 and 1970, he served an 18-month tour of duty in Vietnam.

During his military service, Fr. Kevin was awarded the Silver Star and the Bronze Star and was promoted to the rank of colonel

For many years, Fr. Kevin also provided pastoral care for pilgrims in Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina

After 9 years of faithfully and altruistically serving as Chaplain to the English-speaking pilgrims, Fr Kevin

celebrated his final Holy Mass in the Church of St. James before leaving to go back to New York.

Fr Kevin, celebrated a votive Mass for Peace.

In his homily, Fr Kevin spoke about his favourite Cathedral in France and how the stained-glass windows would catch the sun's rays and would reflect magnificent colours all around the Cathedral. He came to the realisation that he has experienced the same here, as Medjugorje is a 'jewelled palace'. Medjugorje is 'en-fogged', he said with love, every corner of it oozes love. But love is not a thing, it is Almighty God and He, is Love personified. Each pilgrim and each resident here comes to open their hearts to the fire of the Holy Spirit. they are temples of the Holy Spirit and He pierces their hearts with the rays of His Love. A fire begins to burn in their hearts and this fills the whole village with the greatest treasure imaginable.

Fr Kevin then went on to recall some of the pilgrims he encountered that were filled with faith and love.

Some of the guides in Medjugorje read the prayers of the faithful.

David Parkes sang Ave Maria.

Melinda and Barry's harmonious voices enhanced the Eucharistic celebration.

After the final Blessing, the notices were read, Slavenka Jelavic, one of the guides thanked Fr Kevin for his love, his patience, his kindness and for all his hard work.

All the Priests and congregation burst into a rapturous applause and gave Fr. Kevin a standing ovation. Slavenka, read a beautiful letter on behalf of the Association of Guides in Medjugorje. Fr Kevin, simply thanked everyone, and for all the Sisters using his favourite Croatian words... 'Super Dobro'!!!

***God bless and protect you Fr. Kevin.
May Our lady, Queen of Peace wrap
her heavenly mantle around you.
Thank you for your 9 years of
dedication to all Priests and
Pilgrims.***

Fr. Kevin's funeral Mass will be celebrated at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Inwood on a date to be announced later. He will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery, also on a date to be announced

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*I have come here with
the name
'Queen of Peace'*

Our Lady 25th March 2021

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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.