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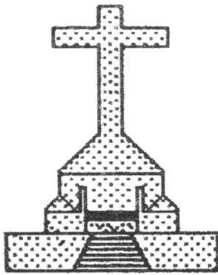
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# **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

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**MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST**

(Established since 1989)



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

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

## **OUR MINISTRY**

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

**PRAYER, FASTING**

**HOLY-SCRIPTURE, CONFESSION**

**EUCCHARIST**

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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**

**10th December 2023**

**\*\*\*\* *January 2024 cancelled* \*\*\*\***

***Resumes 11th February 2024***

**Our Lady Queen of Peace**

Station Road

Penshaw

Houghton-le-Spring

DH4 7JZ



## **MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST PILGRIMAGE**

in conjunction with

**NORTHERN STAR TRAVEL LTD**

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## **ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE 2024**

**Sunday 2nd—9th June 2024**

**Cost £740pp**

Single room supplement—£115pp

(Deposit required £200)

**Flying from Newcastle to Dubrovnik**

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## OUR LADY'S MESSAGE—To the World

*Given 25th November 2023 to Marija Pavlovic*



“Dear children! May this time be interwoven with prayer for peace and good deeds, so that the joy of the expectation of the King of Peace may be felt in your hearts, families and in the world which does not have hope.  
Thank you for having responded to my call.”

### Reflection by Fr. Martin Morris

Spiritual Director of Medjugorje Centre NE

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Medjugorje Northeast and beyond, When Our Lady first appeared in Medjugorje, (June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1981.) her opening words were:

*“I am the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace, Peace must reign between God and man.”*

Our Lady is Queen of Peace because she is full of God's Peace. For all these years now, she has been showing humanity the path to true peace in God. Once a person has truly been touched by the peace of God then that person is living in the Kingdom of God here and now in this world.

This is what we pray for each time in the ‘Our Father’ when we say:

‘Thy Kingdom come.’ Jesus himself has conquered and lived the Kingdom of peace on the Cross, when he prayed, “Father forgive them.” (Luke; 23:34)

He did not respond with revenge but forgave and offered Reconciliation. This is what the peace of God looks like; and we should strive to live the

words of Jesus we pray before we receive Holy Communion, “*Lord Jesus Christ who said to your Apostles, Peace I leave with you, my Peace I give you.*”

Everyone can receive this Peace, Heavenly Peace, because it is what the Father has prepared for us in his Son, Jesus.

Mary as Queen of Peace calls the world to conversion, which means to overcome everything that takes away our Peace, and to live our days in peace with others. She comes as Queen of Peace because she is the guide to Peace, and with her we pray, ‘Give us your Peace.’

God gives Peace because he is Peace. That is why Mary draws us together around her son in Prayer and unity.

Our Lady begins this month's message,

**“May this time be interwoven with prayer for peace and good deeds, so that the Joy of the expectation of the King of Peace, may be felt in your hearts, families, and in the world which does not have hope.”**

Our Lady asks us to ‘*interweave*’ *this time with Prayer for Peace*.

That means ‘running through’ ‘to make a part.’ *To interweave all our days with Prayer for Peace, and good deeds* also means to be aware of the call to constant Prayer and Vigilance because Peace is being threatened at this time. With ‘Prayer for Peace, and good deeds’

Our Lady is reminding us of the powers of goodness at our disposal to influence the world for the better. This is the call to regular prayer and action for the good. Not a sporadic response but one that is ‘interwoven’ in our days.

Our Lady then says why she wants us to be praying and doing good works; **“So that the Joy of the expectation of the King of Peace may be felt in your hearts, families and in the world.”**

Flowing from regular prayer and good actions is the gift of ‘Joy’ – a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Our Lady is asking us to take the season of Advent seriously and personally, because a good Advent bears the fruit of Joy, and can be ‘felt’ in our hearts, and in the hearts of others. Advent is a time of ‘expectation’ – pointing us towards the return of Christ in Glory.

The Christian should always be a person full of ‘Blessed Hope’ awaiting the return of the King. It is this ‘expectation’ or ‘holy longing’ that Our Lady wants us to renew in each of our Hearts, for our inner renewal, our state of Grace, and our preparation for our eternal life. On many occasions Our Lady has

invited us to prayer, so that ‘Jesus can be born in your hearts.’ This Advent take Our Lady as your model, the one who lovingly longed for the Savior and prepared her life in ‘Joy of expectation.’

She was announced by the prophet Isaiah: “The young woman is with child and will give birth to a Son whom she will call Immanuel – God with us.” (Isaiah. 7:14) She is the daughter of Zion who shouts for Joy, according to the prophet Zephaniah:

*“Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem, you have nothing to fear. Your God is there with you, a Warrior Savior. He will renew you by his love, and he will dance with shouts of Joy for you.”* (Zeph. 3: 14.17).

This time of Advent is a time of ‘Blessed Hope’ announced by the prophets, a time of awakening, a call to spiritual vigilance, as we prepare for the coming of Our Lord. It is meant to be a time of jubilant abandonment to God, just as Our Lady did, so that Gods peace may be felt in our hearts, in our families and in the world – that does not have hope.

If Faith is anything it should be expectant Faith.

*“Behold he comes!”*

(Song of songs: 2: 10-13)

God acts where there is Good Preparation!

A Blessed Advent to you all,

**Fr. Martin**

## CAFOD PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD



We come to you, God Creator,  
You are the source of life and beauty  
and power

Your son Jesus is the way of faith  
and hope and love.

Your Spirit is the fire of love, the  
fount of wisdom, the bond of unity.  
You call us at all times to be people  
of the beatitudes,

Witnesses to the Gospel of peace  
and love and forgiveness.

You call us at this time, when war  
and rumours of war, weight heavily  
on the peoples of Gaza, Ukraine,  
Lebanon and Sudan.

Their lives are already broken by  
suffering and violence.

Where there is War may peace  
prevail.

We renew our acceptance of your  
call.

We promise to work:

To bring the light of the Gospel to  
those living in darkness,

To bring the hope of the Gospel to  
those living in despair

To bring the healing of the Gospel to  
the lonely, the disadvantaged, the  
marginalized,

And to bring the peace of the Gospel  
to a divided world.

Amen



HIS WORDS.  
YOUR JOURNEY.  
**TOGETHER.**

*"Intercede for our world, in  
such turmoil  
and great danger.*

*Teach us to cherish and  
care for life – each and  
every human life!  
and to repudiate the  
folly of war,  
which sows death and  
eliminates the future."*

*Pope Francis*

**Let us pray with the Holy Father:**

**Prayer Intention for  
DECEMBER 2023**

**'For persons with  
disabilities'**



“

We pray that people living with  
disabilities may be at the centre  
of attention in society, and that  
institutions may offer inclusive  
programs which value their  
active participation.

”

*Pope Francis*



**REPORT FROM SISTER EMMANUEL**  
*of The Community of The Beatitudes*  
[www.sremmanuel.org](http://www.sremmanuel.org)

1. On October 25, 2023, the visionary, Marija, received the following monthly message:

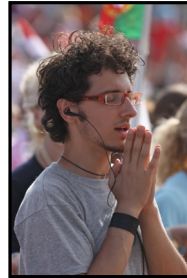
**“Dear children.** Winds of evil, hatred and peacelessness are blowing through the earth to destroy lives. That is why the Most High sent me to you, to lead you towards the way of peace and unity with God and people. You, little children, are my extended hands: **pray, fast and offer sacrifices for peace** - the treasure for which every heart yearns. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

2. "To destroy lives"? My first reaction when I received this message was to think, "Destroy lives"? Maybe it will be my own? This is indeed a serious message, as have those over the last 12 months. Faced with such a statement from our Heavenly Mother, who sees the whole world in the Light of God, we have a choice to make:

- **fear the future and its storms**, a fear that will paralyze us and increase our anxiety which is exactly what the enemy wants so much.

- **or gain awareness, which will lead us to follow the path of peace**, which is what Jesus and Mary expect of us. After 42 years of apparitions sprinkled with crystal-clear messages, Mary gives us a full explanation of how to move forward. She asked us to read one message a day and put it into practice. I hope you are doing that?. This is how we grow in our true communion with her.

We need encouragement for deep prayer and fasting. So, I would like to share with you two things that happened right here in our home in Medjugorje. This can happen to any person of good will.



3. **Bread does not diminish.** A young girl, Geraldine, came from her distant home in Malaysia to Medjugorje with a friend, with the intention of crying out to Heaven for an important intention. Both of them decided to do a novena of fasting with bread, water and prayer (rosary, adoration, etc.) while following the evening program of the parish. On the morning of the first day, they bought a loaf of bread for the day, which they ate, and there remained a little left over. On the second day, to their surprise, they found that their loaf of bread was still there, exactly the same, intact. And yet they hadn't left their room. The same phenomenon occurred on the third day and all the following days. In short, throughout their 9 days of fasting, they bought only one loaf of bread.

**The explanation is clear: Jesus wanted to give them a sign.** What He did many times during his life on earth, He can still do and continues to do. This is just one example. Were these girls so poor that they could not afford their daily bread? No. They could. On the other hand, the crowds listening to Jesus in Galilee were starving after 3 days without food, and they could not buy any food. In His compassion, Jesus nourished them by multiplying 5 loaves and 2 fish. So why this gratuitous multiplication for these young girls who could actually buy their bread?

**Jesus is alive.** With tenderness, He loves to encourage and even spoil those who trust in Him, He loves to express His closeness to them. He also likes to give signs of what may happen to us one day, in case of famine, or a lack of essential goods.

**4. Jesus has modernized Himself.** During this same period, I left our home for a 10-day mission. As I was leaving, I said to one of my sisters, Florence, "Look, in this closet you will find my audiocassettes. If any pilgrims ring the bell asking for them, you can give the cassettes to them."

When I came back from my mission, seeing that the cupboard contained the same number of cassettes, I said to Florence: "I see that no one has come to ask for any during my absence."

"Oh yes they did," she replied. A lot of people came. But every time I came back to the closet, I found the same number of cassettes."

This happened in the bygone days of audiocassettes. However, since then,

the Lord and His Mother have never ceased to show us that they are very much alive, real, powerful, active, faithful, compassionate and merciful. Many believers have shared similar experiences with us. In the spiritual warfare of every Christian, so difficult at this crucial time for the future of the world, what a joy it is to know that we are loved by such a God. The living and true God, so close to us. **And to know that this God is and always will be THE Master of the world.**

Of course, Providence has many other ways of expressing itself. Providence has its secrets, and one of its secrets is this: the more you give, the more you receive. The little boy in the Gospel gave all the food he had, and it was from this sacrifice that Jesus fed thousands (Jn 6: 1-14). An example to remember...



**5. A consecration that has been too often forgotten.** In the face of the numerous uncertainties that are affecting people today, many hearts are seized by the fear of death. However, it is important to remember that we have the remedies for this subtle and destructive wound that paralyzes and prevents the streams of divine peace from flowing through us. In a video, I made this exhortation:

**"Consecrate your death, heal from fear.** This is needed now more than ever... How to do it?

**Have the unshakable certainty that we are born of God,** the Creator, God who has a loving plan for our lives, a perfect plan that aims to give us fulfilment on earth and eternal happiness in heaven. Our Creator knows the moment of our conception, just as He knows the moment when He will come to take us back with Him.

We can therefore have full confidence in Him and abandon ourselves to this plan of love which is always unfolding on our behalf. And yet we are tempted by our imagination, (rightly called *the chatter of the mind*), and we torment ourselves by thinking: *what if it were to happen tomorrow, or this year...?* And there we are, getting all anxious. We suffer in anticipation of a fictitious, unfounded ordeal. We then lose the light we need to make right choices, and we become agitated.

How to regain serenity? **By consecrating to God, in advance, the moment of our passage** from this world to the next. "Lord, I believe that your plan for my life is the best, I dedicate to you the moment of my death, the one you have chosen for me, and I adhere with all my heart to this plan, whatever it may be. I fully trust you. May that moment be entirely to your glory." If our death is consecrated to God, it belongs to Him and it is up to Him to think about it. Here too, surrendering into God's hands sets us free and heals us.

We can do the same **as regards the manner He chooses** to take us back.

How many useless fears our imagination imposes upon us.

"Dear children," Mary tells us, "Your life does not belong to you." (Message of December 25, 1992).

**Let us go a step further in this process of liberation.** Let us consecrate to God the moment of departure of our loved ones, and also the manner in which they will die. This step is just as important as the first one, because our imagination causes us to anticipate the pain of absence, and this is something we find unbearable. And yet surrendering and accepting God's plan for our loved ones is key to our inner peace. A woman once told me that the thought that her husband could die any day had haunted her throughout her life. But I found out later that she died before him.

Peace in our heart is born out of overcoming struggles, and our surrender into God's hands is a grace to ask for, because by our nature we want to control everything. It should further be added that prayer is a conversation with God, with our greatest friend, so it is possible to express our wishes to Him, as children do to their father. We receive so much from God through humble prayer.

Little Flower of Lisieux said, **"The secret of happiness is to find magnificent everything that God sends us."**

**6. What sacrifices can we offer for peace?** Small or large, sacrifices have an immense impact on the Heart of God. Especially hidden sacrifices.



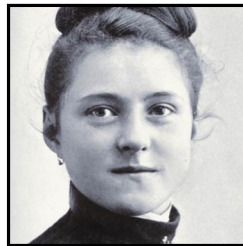
Here are a few examples, but the range is much wider. Every person will find in his heart the sacrifices inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Calling someone who suffers from loneliness. Having a cold shower from time to time. Not asking for seconds from a dish you like. **Delay sending a non-urgent message** or reading a message. Abstaining from a TV show or turning off the TV for a whole day. **Offering a Chaplet of Mercy or a rosary for a priest who no longer walks with Jesus.** Doing a favor for a person who is overwhelmed with work. Shutting down your cell phone for a set amount of time. **Offering a Mass for a deceased member of the family, or for a person who has upset us.** Getting up a few minutes earlier to offer your day to Jesus and Mary. Smiling at someone who is in a bad mood and not arguing with them. Reading and memorizing a Gospel passage that resonates with us instead of watching a TV program. Heartily forgiving an offense received instead of dwelling on bitterness. **When upset, thanking and blessing God instead of complaining.** Praying the Litany of St. Michael for a person tempted by the devil. **Offering a rosary to Mary for a mother tempted by abortion.** Refraining from expressing negative judgment about someone who annoys or bores us, and praying for that person. Giving up all sweets for a day, **Renouncing a nice cup of tea...** Etc.

Ask Jesus which sacrifices would most please Him. Then offer these to Him with love, which will lead Him

to send you a downpour of grace. Here is a beautiful encouragement on the road to holiness:

**At the age of 8-10, little Thérèse Martin was able to find up to 100 little sacrifices** in a day when she counted the knots on her sacrificial cord in the evening.



## 7. Long live the candor of children.

A gem caught on the fly...

Louise (7 years old) asks Henri (10 years old): "Was the host good?"

- Yes, it was really good; better than the time we tasted an unconsecrated host."

Louise: "That's because this time it was Jesus, He put all His love into it."

*Dearest Gospa, you have told us that the wind was your sign. So, we beg you, please blow this good wind powerfully, and disperse the winds of hate and evil that the enemy is sending our way to harm our souls. Please, shut the gates through which he enters, and protect us beneath your maternal cloak.*

Sister Emmanuel,  
(Community of the Beatitudes )

**Međugorje Parish Priest Fr. Zvonimir Pavičić was in Paraguay at the Queen of Peace Congress**  
(<http://www.medjugorje.hr/>)

Fr. Zvonimir Pavičić, parish priest of Međugorje, visited Latin America for the first time. He started his visit in Asunción, the capital of Paraguay, where he was welcomed already at the airport with typical Paraguayan music and dances, and on his face, you could see the surprise and joy of affection of those present.

The morning was spent in a meeting between Fr. Zvonimir and the Metropolitan Archbishop of Asunción and the Primate of Paraguay, Msgr. Adalbert Martínez Flores.

Also present were the deans of the 12 deaneries of Asunción, who were invited by the cardinal himself to this meeting. Only two of them made a pilgrimage to Međugorje.

Paraguay is a Catholic country with 80 percent of the population professing this faith. Bishop Adalbert Martínez Flores was appointed cardinal by Pope Francis last year, becoming the first cardinal in the history of the Church in Paraguay.

Father Zvonimir Pavičić spoke to the faithful, about Pope Francis and the Church's official position on Međugorje. He said that in 2017 he sent the apostolic visitor, Msgr. Henryk Hosier, who later died, and was replaced by Msgr. Aldo Cavalli. He emphasized that it is very important to know that since 2019, the Pope has allowed dioceses and

parishes to organize pilgrimages to Međugorje, so now bishops and priests can freely make pilgrimages to Međugorje.

The Archbishop was very interested in what Fr. Zvonimir told him and the other priests present and asked him several questions about it. At the end

of the meeting, Fr. Zvonimir distributed the gifts he had brought from Međugorje for the visit.

"The first thing I realized is that it is a very simple country. I also saw that it is a poor country, but that it has a special beauty

in it. As soon as we arrived at the airport, we were greeted by very friendly people. While we were driving here, we felt that it is a land of good people, and I think that feeling will remain," said Fr. Zvonimir, explaining that the reason for his arrival was the '12th Congress of the Queen of Peace', which is always attended by a priest connected to Međugorje.

"When we talk about the messages of the Blessed Virgin, the main message is the invitation to conversion. Because when a person converts, when he returns to God, he has peace in his heart. So, although the Virgin in Međugorje presented herself as the 'Queen of Peace', I think that conversion is the most important message," said Fr. Zvonimir, who



Fr. Zvonimir  
Pavičić,

Msgr. Adalbert  
Martínez Flores

also met with Bishop Ignacio Gogorza, and with him were the head and associates of the Medjugorje Centre Foundation in Paraguay, Mina Fretes, Rocío Ortiz, Julia Jacobo, Father Julio Rolón and parish priest Father Federico Gayoso.

In the afternoon, Holy Mass was celebrated in the parish of Little Jesus, led by Msgr. Ignacio Gogorza, and Fr. Zvonimir preached and at the end shared with those present the images of Our Lady that he had brought from Medjugorje, and a day later in La Colmen he participated in the 12th Congress of Mary, the Queen of Peace in Paraguay.

This Congress began with the welcome of Bishop Ignacio Gogorza to the participants, and a documentary film about Medjugorje was also shown. Fr. Zvonimir gave a catechesis, and the people almost did not let him speak because they applauded him after every sentence he addressed to the audience at the beginning.

**Fr. Zvonimir also spoke about the five stones that Our Lady left us and emphasized that "the Virgin came to Medjugorje to invite us to choose God",** and the day ended after Holy Mass with adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament of the Sacrament with Fr. Zvonimir's meditations, and a four-hour prayer the program reminded everyone of the Medjugorje prayer program in the church of St. James.

On the feast of 'Christ the King of the Universe', last Sunday, November 26th, the parish priest of Medjugorje ended his visit to Paraguay.

The Holy Mass was led this time by Bishop Ignacio Gogorza, and Fr. Zvonimir preached about what kind of King, Christ is and what kind of example He gives us.

After the end of the 12th national congress, a six-kilometer long procession was held with the statue of the Queen of Peace, and at the end, Fr. Zvonimir said that "Peace is a symbol of God's blessing" and that "those who have peace in their Hearts will be able to give it to others."

After his visit to Paraguay, Fr. Zvonimir Pavičić travelled to Uruguay, where he will stay until December 1st, and organized by the Medjugorje Centre, he will participate in Prayer, Holy Masses, Catechesis, and then a trip to Bolivia will follow.

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. **EUCCHARIST,** Frequent celebration

## The First bilingual congress 'Mary, the Queen of Peace' started in Miami (covering two days)

### FIRST DAY of Congress

The First bilingual congress "Mary, the Queen of Peace" began on November 19, 2023 in Miami with the prayer of the Holy Rosary, which was followed by a procession with the statue of the Queen of Peace, brought from Medjugorje for this occasion.

**The procession was led by Fr. Danko Perutina and the directors of the four Medjugorje Information Centres: Vedran Vidović, Hubert Liebherr, Oriol Vives and Luis Siman.** They humbly and proudly carried the statue of Our Lady on their shoulders. During the procession, a small choir sang the anthem of the Queen of Peace in Croatian, English and Spanish. The international choir for this occasion consists of Ana Mariá, Jelena, Maria Eugenia, Emiliano, Miguel, all from the USA, Nicaragua and Peru.

Luis Siman, director of the Information Centre MIR Medjugorje for the English speaking area, as the host, opened the congress by welcoming all those present to Miami and expressing his joy for their presence at this first bilingual congress "Mary Queen of Peace."

**The Parish Priest of Medjugorje, Fr. Zvonimir Pavičić, greeted all present in a video message:**

"You are in our prayers and we hope that this meeting will bring you even

closer to each other, but especially to the Lord. Mary is our Mother and she calls us all to pray with our hearts and to put God at the centre of our lives, because only in this way can a person



be happy and fulfilled, only if he lives with God. I hope that this meeting will help you to pray and seek God with even greater joy. You all love Medjugorje and would love to come here, but we know that this wish cannot always

come true. But don't let that make you sad, Pray the rosary in your families and communities, celebrate the Eucharist, Worship Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar and that way you will have and live Medjugorje in your cities and you will be close to the Virgin and God. May God bless you and grant you peace," said Fr. Zvonimir.

**Fr. Danko Perutina spoke about the history of the Croatian people and the persecutions they went through during the Turkish and communist times.** He emphasized the importance of the role that the Franciscans played throughout the centuries in preserving the Faith of Catholics in these areas. Then he spoke about the Fruits of Medjugorje and said that Medjugorje feeds the whole world with its fruits. To date, more than one million Holy Masses have been celebrated in Medjugorje, and from 1985 to the present, more than 46 million Holy Communions

have been distributed. He spoke about priestly and religious vocations that originated in Medjugorje. He recalled the position of the Church on Medjugorje.

He talked about how the American pilgrims were the most numerous at the beginning of the apparitions, but that number has decreased significantly, so he talked about the possible reasons why that number has decreased so much in the last two decades.

"I hope that all of you who are present here, as well as all those who wanted to come but couldn't, will help to awaken that enthusiasm for Medjugorje, that is, for God. Because the spirituality of Medjugorje is Christological," said Fr. Danko, who ended his presentation with a prayer of the heart.

**After Fr. Danko, the director of the Medugorje Information Centre for the German-speaking area,** Hubert Liebherr, made his presentation, who pointed out: "We are happy that now there is finally a Centre in English-speaking countries." There are 5 countries where the German language is spoken, there are about 100 million of us in total, there are many more of you. That is why this new Centre is of great importance. The information centre MIR Medugorje is a centre with which we must cooperate. We must say that the MIR Information Centre of Medjugorje is like a tree, and we are the branches. We must work together for Our Lady, and no one must use Our Lady for their personal needs. Then he spoke about his first arrival in Medjugorje on the anniversary of 1987, when he wondered what his role was. He

emphasized that we must be aware that God's plan for the world is realized through us.

"It is an honor to be in this beautiful country that Virgin loves so much. This reminds me very much of the meeting we had in 2009, called by Fr. Danko, when our centre was founded. The USA is a huge country, with a faith that we in Europe envy. He said that Medjugorje is a gift and a task. He spoke about the importance of unity between centres and states and emphasized: If you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, go with others. It is very important to find meeting points and help each other", said Oriol Vives, director of the Medugorje Information Centre for the Spanish-speaking area.

Luis Siman, director of the MIR Medugorje Centre for English-speaking countries, presented the beginning of the Centre's work, thanked everyone who had something to do with the organization of this congress and the establishment of the MIR Medugorje Information Centre for English-speaking countries.

**"Albert Einstein said: There are two ways to live life,** as if nothing is a miracle or as if everything is a miracle. I chose that everything in my life is a miracle. I have received many blessings. That's why I thank, first of all, my heavenly Father, and then my family, especially Father Luis Siman. He spoke of his visit to Medjugorje and since then has dedicated himself to spreading messages throughout Latin America. I thank God for my Father who continues to follow me from heaven. When we were in Costa Rica at the beginning of this year,

Fr. Danko asked us to start the MIR Medjugorje Information Centre for the English-speaking area. I immediately accepted it with great humility. I am here for everything that the Lord and His Mother want and need from me. But isn't that what we're all here for? Our Blessed Mother is looking at us from Heaven and will say: Thank You for responding to my call.

**There are two purposes of the centre:**

- Respond positively to Pope Francis' call for evangelization.
- Work together to spread the spirituality of Medjugorje.

This centre is the one that can reach the largest number of people because English is the most widely spoken language in the world. In all actions and activities, it must be very clear that this centre belongs to our Blessed Mother. In her first message, the Virgin called us to peace. This is what our Mother wants for us and this should be our dream. Reading Our Lady's messages that talk about holiness, I realized that we must realize the dream that the Virgin has for us, which is to be saints," said Luis Siman.

After Luis Siman, the director of the MIR Medjugorje Information Centre addressed the gathering, Vedran presented the work of the Information Centre from its beginnings, in 1990, until today, then he spoke about the work plan for the next period.

"Our centres are very important, because they are the outstretched

hands of Our Lady in the World. Their mission is to spread Our Lady's messages in the World. One big project that was very important during the pandemic is the Medjugorje congresses. The idea for these congresses came from our dear Hubert Lieber from the German centre, who was the first to start an online congress about the fruits of Medjugorje, and it was organized in Germany with live participation in the prayer program in Medjugorje.

**This congress was translated into 15 world languages.** After that, the foundation for the Spanish-speaking area organized a Congress on the fruits of Medjugorje in this speaking area. After that, we had two more congresses that we organized together with people who love Medjugorje in the Chinese-speaking and Arabic-speaking areas. These were days of hope for people in difficult situations. I must mention that for many people during the pandemic, our prayer program was an oasis and salvation in difficult times. The daily thanks of many people came from all over the World because at that time it was impossible to participate in the sacramental life and there were those who could not participate in the church in a different way," said Vedran Vidović, who also presented the work plan for the next period for Medjugorje centres.

**We must reflect on our place and our charism of Catholic identity.**

We, Our Lady's children, must be the most excellent in our work, whatever we do, in order to convert this World. When people see us happy, they will

recognize Christ in us - the source of life," said Vidović, emphasizing technology and presence in the media as a very clear way of evangelization today.

At the end of the day, Fr. Dan Reehil had his own powerful testimony of conversion.

The most beautiful part of the whole day was the time of joint prayer, which began with the Rosary that led us to Holy Mass, and after Holy Mass was followed by Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

## **SECOND DAY of Congress**

The Second Day of the congress will be published in next months Newsletter.

## **Fr. Slavko Barbaric— Medjugorje**

**Died 24th November 2000**

*Spiritual Father of Medjugorje  
and Founder of The Mother Village*

Fr. Slavko's last words were "Watch where you walk because it is slippery!".

The day after Fr. Slavko's death, Our Lady said that we should not be sad because he was born into Heaven and intercedes for you.

Her words showed that during his life, Fr. Slavko chose a good path that led him to the right goal: before the Face of the Most High.

Therefore, we have no choice but to strive to follow in his footsteps on that path to eternity. His footsteps are those that Our Lady repeats to us day by day with her presence and her messages.

If we walk with them, let us be without fear - we will not slip!



*Christmas Blessings  
of  
Peace, Love & Joy*

Medjugorje Centre N.E

