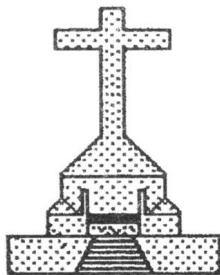


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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST
(Established since 1989)



www.medjugorjene.co.uk

Email: **medjugorjene@yahoo.co.uk**

OUR MINISTRY

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

**PRAYER, FASTING
HOLY-SCRIPTURE, CONFESSiON
EUCHARiST**

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PRAY FOR US

**MEDJUGORJE
AFTERNOON OF PRAYER**
led by Fr. Martin Morris

**3rd Sunday of the month
4pm**

No afternoon of Prayer in January 2026

15th February 2026

**Our Blessed
Lady Immaculate**
Village Lane,
Washington,
Tyne & Wear
NE38 7HS



MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST PILGRIMAGE

in conjunction with

NORTHERN STAR TRAVEL LTD
(Tel: 0161 773 2115)



ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE 2026

led by Fr. Martin Morris

Important Information for Pilgrims – Medjugorje 2026

This pilgrimage follows the safeguarding guidance from the Hexham & Newcastle Diocese. Please note:

- **No medical or care support is provided.** All pilgrims must be over 18 and able to care for themselves or attend with a carer.
- **Wheelchair users are welcome** but must book with an able-bodied helper and inform Northern Star Travel of all needs in advance. Wheelchairs not pre-advised may be refused by the airline.
- **Mountain climbs** (Apparition Hill & Cross Mountain) involve risks—participants climb at their own responsibility, and should ensure their travel insurance covers such activities.

Sunday 7th—14th June 2026

Cost per person: £815 sharing, £955 in single room
(Deposit required £200)

Earlybird discount £15pp for bookings made before 31st October 2025

**Flying from Newcastle to Dubrovnik
Half Board
Hotel Orbis3—Close to St. James' Church**

For Booking forms and information please contact-

Adrian Duffy

Northern Star Travel Ltd

46-48 Long Street, Middleton, Manchester, M24 6UQ
0161 773 2115

General Information: Kath Ash (Medjugorje Centre NE) Tel: **01670 733358**

OUR LADY'S MESSAGE—To the World

Given 25th December 2025 to Marija Pavlovic



“Dear children, Also today - when God permits me to carry to you in my arms little Jesus, the King of Peace, that He may fill you with the ardor of love and peace, so that every heart may be similar to His Heart in this time of grace - be resolute and courageous defenders of the love of your God, that in this time of grace He may give you His peace. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

(With Ecclesiastical approval)

Reflection by Fr. Martin Morris

Spiritual Director of Medjugorje Centre NE

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Medjugorje North East and beyond,

Our Lady comes to us carrying the Christ child in her arms. Mary calls him, ‘little Jesus.’ The Church often refers to Our Lady as ‘The God- Bearer’ or in the Greek ‘Theotokos.’ Our Lady comes to us bearing ‘little Jesus’ the ‘King of Peace’ because God does not threaten. A baby only brings love and warmth, and draws the same response from our hearts. ‘Little Jesus’ – The King of peace comes to us in the arms of Our Lady to show us the true face of God. May we be filled with wonder and praise as we contemplate this image. Let us remember how much God loves us , as the Incarnate one.

When Our Lady refers to her Son as , ‘Little Jesus’. I am reminded of two Saints who had great devotion to the infant Jesus. St. Terese of Lisieux and St. Anthony of Padua, found in the contemplation of the infant Jesus , the humility of God and his tenderness, and the ‘little’ way he invites us to walk. Here in the ‘littleness’ of God, we find the answer to human pride and the way to overcome such ways. Here in the ‘littleness’ of Jesus we see the depth of the Christmas mystery , and the invitation to become spiritually small too. “*Unless you become like little children, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.*” (MT: 18: 3) May we humbly kneel before the crib in these holy days and give

the Christ child the gift of our own hearts, and entrust him with our lives. Let us welcome him , ‘little Jesus’. With open arms from the Mother of God.

Then Our Lady says, **“That he may fill you with the ardor of love and peace, so that every heart may be similar to his heart.”**

Peace in the heart is the condition for Jesus to be born in our hearts. Peace is a grace from God , it also the fruit of love, forgiveness, reconciliation and mercy. Jesus is ‘The King of Peace’ says Mary, so we should pray more to him who gave his life for us. ‘Little Jesus’ desires to draw all people to his heart, his Sacred Heart where we find an endless ocean of divine peace. He wants to protect us, - our families, the church, our communities, and the whole world.

The infant Jesus in his littleness and meekness desires to touch every human heart with his heavenly peace. The word Our Lady uses is ‘ardor’ – *i.e. tenderness, warmth steadfast love*. This is the divine outpouring of God’s saving love at Christmas time. So our hearts become like his, when they are truly open to this wondrous gift. To have a heart like the heart of Jesus, is Our Lady’s prayer for us.

Our Lady then calls us to **“be resolute and courageous defenders of the love of your**

God, that in this time of grace, he may give you his peace.”

What does it mean to defend the Love of God ? To love with the heart of Jesus. To mirror the face of God in the crib of Bethlehem in our words and actions. To defend the love of God in our hearts from everything that would compromise our faith in him. To be ‘resolute’ and ‘courageous defenders of the love of your God’ means to know our true purpose and meaning in him who gave everything for us. To be determined and unwavering in the gift of a loving Faith, in service to others, in love for him who became flesh for our Salvation.

A Happy and Holy Christmas to all of you, and every blessing for the New Year.

Fr. Martin

“ _____

Be resolute and courageous defenders of the love of your God, that in this time of grace, he may give you his peace.

Our Lady

”



Medjugorje, December 18, 2025

Dear Friends, praise be to Jesus and Mary!

1. To fully celebrate Christmas, please come with me into the poor stable in Bethlehem. Here we find the three most extraordinary people who have ever lived on earth. Invited by Jesus, let us enter and feel at home in His family, because His family is also ours! Let's allow ourselves to be loved by Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Let us get to know Saint Joseph! Joseph was a "righteous man", a carpenter from Nazareth, betrothed to a young girl named Mary (Matt 1:18-19). The word "righteous", Tzaddik in Hebrew, means that **he was adjusted to the will of God**, adjusted to his wisdom. He is the man of the Beatitudes who has that thirst for living in communion with God. He was imbued with this wisdom, and this enabled him to sense what God expected of him, in accordance with God's plan. Saint Joseph was of royal lineage, chosen by God among all men as the most worthy, the most accomplished in his humanity to be placed alongside Mary. He was not, as some see it, a mere nice gentleman from the village of Nazareth whom Mary would have chosen for his honesty and righteousness, or because he was recognized as a good carpenter.

St Joseph listened to God and scrutinized the Torah. He fed on Scripture. He had that inner and spiritual finesse that enabled him to

commune with God's thoughts. **His silence was a silence of deep listening**; he did not want to interfere with the word of God.

This has nothing to do with that old man portrayed by certain artists! If he was that old, how could he have worked hard in a job that required so much strength? How could he have fled to Egypt in the night with the responsibility of a young mother and her small child, and then provide daily bread for the One who was to become the Bread of Life?

Mr. Olier, a great 17th century French mystic, said that every saint on earth manifests something of the soul of Christ. But Saint Joseph is the saint who reflects the image of our Heavenly Father. He was chosen uniquely by God. **No other saint has had the privilege of being invested with the Holy Spirit** in such a powerful way as Saint Joseph, given his mission to be the icon of the Heavenly Father for Jesus and for us all.

How about his work? In the time of Jesus, being a carpenter was a very noble profession. He not only made building frames; he also acted as an architect because the shape of the house depended on the frame. He was also a notary. He closed deals once he had built the house, and could sign contracts. He was a woodworker, a carpenter, an architect, a notary, a profoundly wise man and a spiritual advisor. He was the man chosen by heaven to become the head of the holy family.

In the stable, I imagine how busy he was, trying to provide some comfort for Mary, but there was nothing there, and it was so cold! He was humiliated to have nothing more than that to offer his wife for the coming into the world of the Child-God.

I want to look at him at length... and I find in him this humble, intelligent responsible man, seeking by all means to serve the so mysterious plan of the Heavenly Father for his Son Jesus! Did Christ, the Creator of the world, have to lie in a manger for animals? For a Jewish man, no way, this was unthinkable! All his life, our tender-hearted Joseph had to adjust to the Heavenly Father's surprising plans, because the Savior of the world had to come incognito to our earth, as the poorest of the poor, in order to take upon Himself all the poverty of our humanity, so wounded by sin. Who wouldn't dream of having such a father?

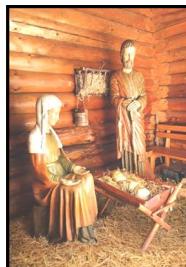


O Saint Joseph, please look upon me as your child! I choose you as my adoptive father and throw myself into your arms! Lead me in the ways that the Heavenly Father has chosen for me, lead me with the same love that you led the Child Jesus entrusted to you. Hold me close to your heart, just as you embraced your little Yeshua! Through your unconditional tenderness, please **heal me of the many wounds of my childhood,** melt away all my fears!

Let us look at the Blessed Virgin Mary! She is completely silent, and together with Joseph, she accepts the precariousness of this place. She is exhausted, because they had to walk for a long time to find suitable accommodation, which they ended up not finding! **She too had to adjust to the circumstances!** However, she did not harbor any bitterness that could have been caused by Joseph's family's refusal to offer them hospitality. Instead, she prayed. With her smile and docility, she comforts Joseph as much as possible. **Her whole being is focused on the Child she is carrying,** and that she will bring into the world. Ever since the Annunciation, she has been speaking to him secretly, intimately. She and the Baby are already one. She contemplates Him in the invisible, calling Him by His name: **Yeshua!** Soon, she will see Him with her own eyes! She will touch Him, caress Him, press Him against her heart. She melts with gratitude toward the Heavenly Father, who has looked down on his humble handmaid and made her the Mother of His Messiah. She knows that from now on, all generations will call her blessed.

At the Annunciation, Mary received from the Angel Gabriel a name that amazed her: **full of grace. This is the only time it appears in the Bible and it applies only to Mary.** She is full, there is no empty space within her, she is overflowing with the presence of God. And the Blessed Virgin Mary wants to give us all that she has, she holds nothing back for herself, because God wants everyone to have a share in what He has placed in her, all the way to this unique privilege of being the Immaculate. Of course, she alone is the "Immaculate Conception". This remains a unique privilege willed by

God for her. **But this privilege is an immense richness for us!** Far from separating us who are sinners, this privilege brings us closer to her. **It is precisely because she is Immaculate that she loves us so much!** Far from being inaccessible because of the immensity of her virtues, she is infinitely close to us! The purer a heart is, the more it is capable of loving. We see how sin alters within us the capacity to love in truth.



In the Immaculate Virgin Mary, I like to see a Mother of Mercy who knows what she has been preserved from. She never sinned. Like us, Mary was saved by the Cross of her Son. But in anticipation, in view of her divine motherhood she is the first of the saved ones, the first of the redeemed ones. Our sins hurt her as much as they hurt her Son, but she responds by overflowing us with the treasures of her virginal heart. She is therefore close to sinners. **She is intimately close to the worst of great sinners.** Her compassion for us is immense! The more miserable and sinful we feel and the more ugly and dirty we feel, the more we are entitled to Mary's closeness. She then leads us to the source of mercy that flows from the Heart of her Son. **Within her and through her, everything becomes pure and beautiful,** everything blooms and is reborn. Just looking at her, and invoking her, makes all evil forces

move away, hence her great power against demons, in our favor.

Dearest Mother, as I come near to the manger, I enter your world, and what a world it is! The world where Jesus lived for 30 years, a world of tenderness and love, **a world where harshness has no place,** a world that disarms evil to its root... Satan could never penetrate it, your love would have burned him then and there.

O full of grace, how I need you! From the depths of my poverty, **I cry out to you!** I happily grasp your motherly hand, O Mother, and thus I will dwell with you all the days of my life.

O Child Jesus, hidden in Mary, you are the treasure of treasures, the Savior of the world announced by the prophets! You cannot wait to see the light of day, but only Joseph and Mary know who you are. Although you are a small and unique being, **you live in total union with your mother,** a kind of fusion, and you share everything she feels.



Indeed, when a child is conceived, even if at that time the child is not able to think, he knows in his soul the type of welcome that his mother offers him. **His soul is already present in its fullness, it is not tiny like his body.** If his mother does not desire this life, the little one will understand that he is not welcome, and he will be deeply hurt, because **the gift of life must be accompanied by the gift of love!** But

if his mother is happy to give life, if she blesses God for this infinitely precious gift of this new creature, then **the little one will understand that his life is beautiful**, that it is worth living, and this will allow him to grow according to the harmony that the Creator has placed in him. He will be well equipped to face the hardships of life that await him.

You, dear Child Jesus, could not have dreamed of a better welcome from your mother! Even before she saw you with her own eyes, she cherished you with all her being, she listened to your heartbeat with rapture, she never stopped praying with you, **she sang you lullabies that she composed herself...**

Yes... the Infant Jesus in His mother's womb, although He was already a small separate being, lived in union, in total fusion with His mother in the flow of the Holy Spirit that lived in Him. He was in communion with everything that the Blessed Virgin was experiencing. Mystics like to say that **Mary's atmosphere for Jesus in her maternal womb was paradise**. Mary experienced messianic joy, in an act of constant worship. Always listening to God, she was all love, readiness, joy and jubilation, even in this tough and seedy village that was Nazareth.



Dear Child Jesus, I think of you when I receive Holy Communion during Mass. I pray that you will be happy in

my heart, even if I am a thousand miles from being able to welcome you within me as Mary welcomed you into her maternal womb. However, through the Eucharist, you are the same divine Child who seeks love in the soul that receives it. **You are and will always be thirsty for love!**

I really like the idea that Little Therese of the Child Jesus had, before her first communion, at the age of 11. She wondered how to welcome such an immense God into her little heart, and she found the best solution: she invited the Blessed Virgin Mary to come into her and welcome her Son, and she invited St Joseph too. In short, **she organized a wonderful welcoming committee for Jesus in her**. Why not do the same?

Dearest Child Jesus, I adore you in Mary's womb, and I desire to enter into her continuous longing for you! Little Child Jesus, who will be born at Christmas, while you are being swaddled by your mother, **will you allow me to embrace you**, like Joseph, like the shepherds who came to see you? **Will you allow me to hold Heaven tight to my heart**, even for a moment?

Dearest Gospa, we want to join our hearts in unity with the parish novena on your Podbrdo mountain, from the 15th to the 23rd of December, at 2 p.m. local time. Please receive our humble rosaries, and bless us all with your motherly blessing, we who have recourse to you with immense trust!

Sister Emmanuel,
Community of the Beatitudes

**Christmas greetings from the Apostolic Visitor with a special role for the parish of Medjugorje,
Archbishop Aldo Cavalli**

If I want to spend Christmas well, remember, do as the Lord does: love, love and serve, love and cooperate.

This Christmas we need to ask ourselves a great question that concerns God, concerns us, concerns Jesus, concerns Mary: Why did God become one of us? Why did God want to become a man like us? The answer is given to us by the Gospel, God's revelation.

Do you know why God wanted to become one of us? John, the Gospel according to John, in the third chapter, writes: God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son. God became one of us. God became a man like us, out of love, only out of love. Out of love for all of us, and the Son of God gave his life out of love, a life that began in Bethlehem. He gave it completely in the service of all of us. He lived until he was 30 like all of us. He worked as a carpenter, he worked to support himself. And here is the life of God. And then he began to preach that at a certain moment he would give his life for us, to the point of death on the cross, to completely empty himself for us, to serve us as a God of love for each of us.

Christmas, if I want to spend it well, I need to do the same, I need to love.



To love means to serve. To love means to cooperate with the Lord in order to achieve peace, peace where we are.

To love means to cooperate, and here we see Mary as an example of Christmas, when she said: Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Handmaid means to cooperate with the Lord, I am at the service of the Lord for my brothers and sisters of the whole world.

To love and serve, to serve and cooperate. If I want to spend Christmas well, remember, do as the Lord does: love, love and serve, love and cooperate.

Merry Christmas to everyone.
Archbishop Aldo Cavalli

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

June 2, 2012

THE 'FIVE STONES' OF MEDJUGORJE

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

O Lord, we thank You for Melinda's gift and for the beauty she spreads through her violin. Illuminate his steps, protect his vocation, guard his faith and let his music continue to be a bridge to hearts, to the glory of Your Name and comfort of Our Lady.
Amen.



God bless you

Melinda Dumitrescu, born in Romania in 1975, was a child prodigy of the violin. Since the age of 9 she has performed as a soloist, obtaining numerous international awards and recognitions that have launched her towards a brilliant career.

A significant episode occurred in Japan, where a heartfelt performance of the Ave Maria deeply moved a non-Christian audience, revealing to Melinda the deepest meaning of her music: a means of touching souls, which goes beyond personal success.

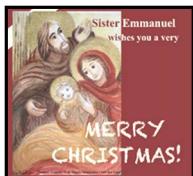
Despite excellence and opportunities (such as studying in Germany with maestro Zachar Bron), Melinda felt an existential emptiness. This led her to Medjugorje, where she discovered her vocation.

After graduating in 2000, at the age of 24, she abandoned her prestigious musical career. She settled in Medjugorje, serving the parish as an animator, and later understood her vocation as a consecrated laywoman within the Community of Mother Rosaria.

For years she was the "Violinist of the Gospa" (Our Lady), famous for accompanying Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Masses with the Community of the Sons of Divine Love, exciting pilgrims.

The "Little Stars" Project:

In 2013, Melinda gave life to the "Little Stars of Jesus and Mary" project. It is a reality of evangelization separate from the Community, which unites young artists through the beauty of art (sacred music, dance, theater), based on prayer, the sacraments and the commitment to chastity, organizing performances all over the world.



**"Dear Children, I am praying that every heart becomes a stable of Bethlehem, in which my Son will be born",
Our Lady tells us in Medjugorje!
(To Jakov Dec. 25, 2022)**

In the harsh reality of this world, **the infinite Goodness of God appears in the form of a newborn Child.**

O Jesus, how can we thank you enough for coming to warm what is cold, purify what is defiled, and save what is lost? **May evil be crushed against your innocence!**

You seek our hearts, however poor they may be, to dwell within them; so, we want to cry out to you with one voice: **O Jesus, welcome, we need you so much!**

May your Christmas blessing illuminate our lives and our families, may it spread the heavenly joy for which we so long!

O Savior, you who became a little child, you are our peace!

With Mary and Joseph, how could we not adore you?

Sister Emmanuel and the "Bethlehem House" in Medjugorje wish you a Merry Christmas and a Holy New Year 2026!

**December 25, 2025
Our Lady's Annual Message
to Jakov**



At the last daily apparition to Jakov Colo on September 12th, 1998, Our Lady told him that henceforth he

would have one apparition a year, every December 25th, on Christmas Day. This is also how it was this year. The apparition began at 2:38 pm and lasted 8 minutes. Our Lady came with little Jesus in her arms. Through Jakov, Our Lady gave the following message:

“Today, on this day of grace, in a special way I am calling you to complete surrender to Jesus. Little children, surrender to Him your wounds and pains, your past and future, and permit Jesus to begin to rule in your lives. My children, only with complete surrender, Jesus gives Himself in your life, and this is the greatest gift that you can receive. Pray that you may comprehend how precious you are for Jesus and how much He loves you. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

(With Ecclesiastical approval)

Jakov's mission is to
‘Pray for the sick’

Let us pray with the Holy Father:

**Prayer Intention for
January 2026**

**‘For prayer with the Word
of God’**



“

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

”

Pope Leo XIV



*Blessings
For The New Year*

Medjugorje Centre N.E