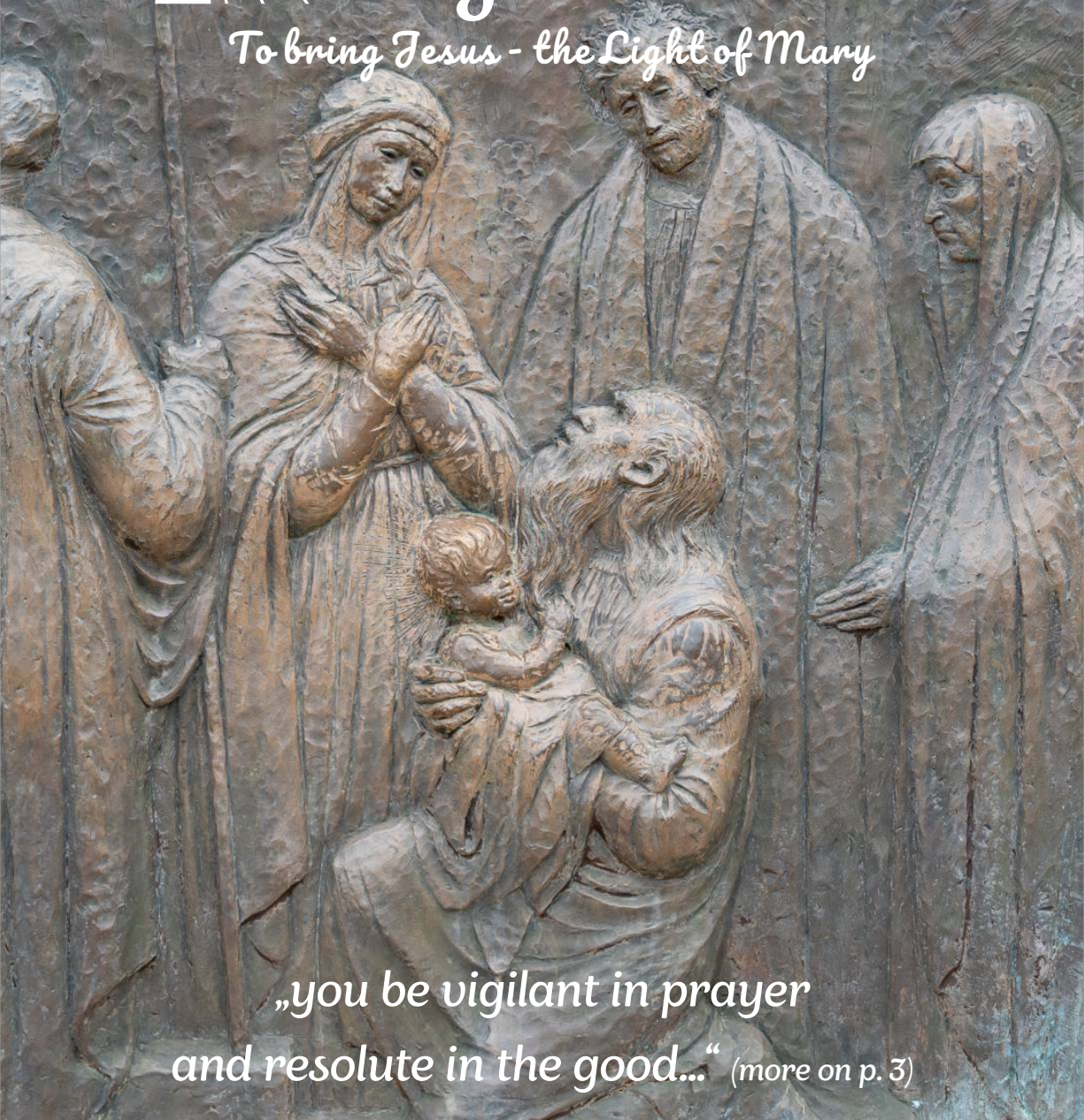


February 2022

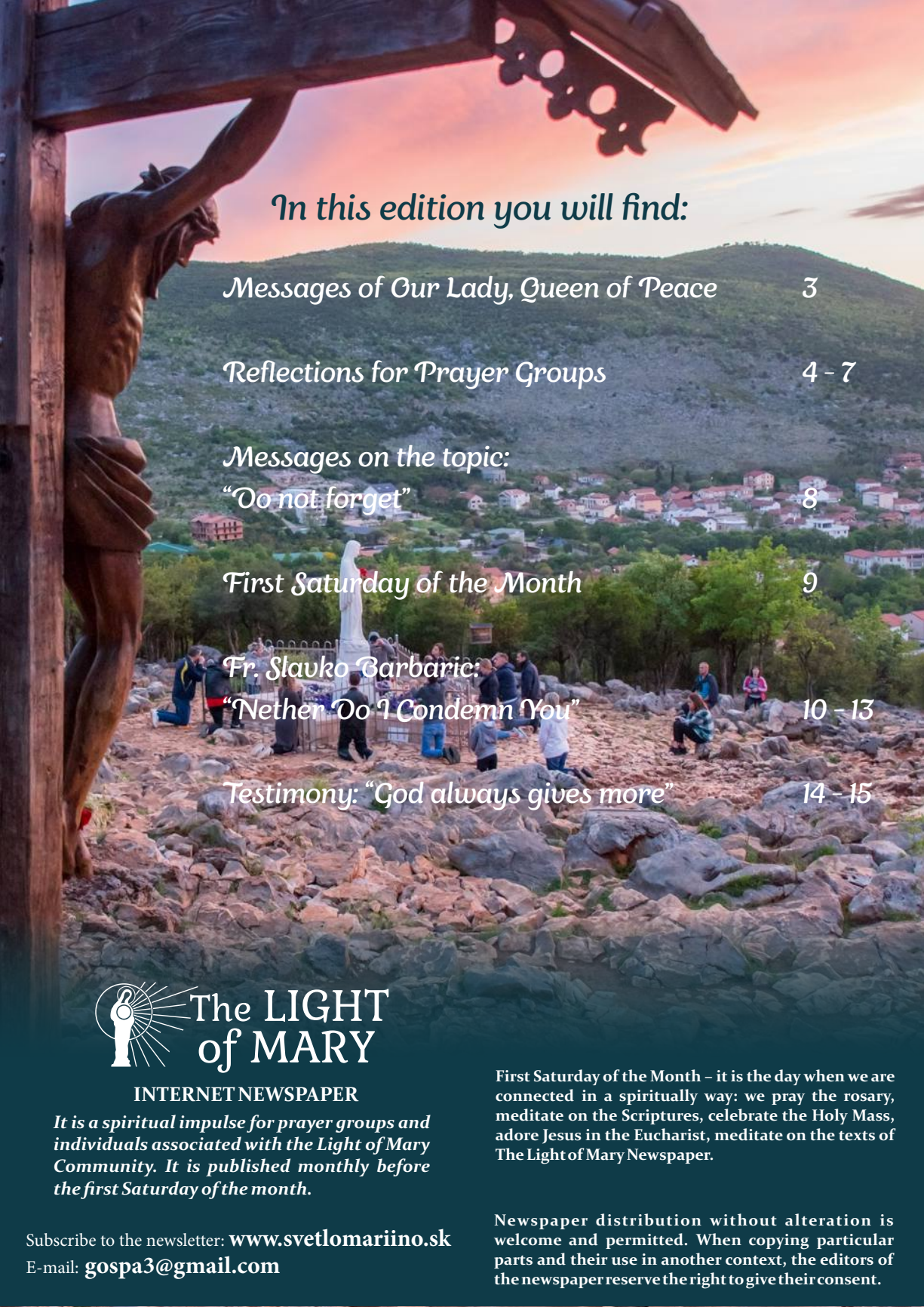


The LIGHT of MARY

To bring Jesus - the Light of Mary



*„you be vigilant in prayer
and resolute in the good...“ (more on p. 3)*



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 **The LIGHT
of MARY**

INTERNET NEWSPAPER

It is a spiritual impulse for prayer groups and individuals associated with the Light of Mary Community. It is published monthly before the first Saturday of the month.

Subscribe to the newsletter: www.svetlomariino.sk

E-mail: gospa3@gmail.com

First Saturday of the Month – it is the day when we are connected in a spiritually way: we pray the rosary, meditate on the Scriptures, celebrate the Holy Mass, adore Jesus in the Eucharist, meditate on the texts of The Light of Mary Newspaper.

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“Dear children! Today I am calling you to return to personal prayer. Little children, do not forget that Satan is strong and that he wants to attract all the more souls to himself. That is why, you be vigilant in prayer and resolute in the good. I am with you and am blessing all of you with my motherly blessing. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

***Message of Our Lady,
Queen of peace,
January 25, 2021***

Return to personal prayer

St. Louis de Montfort wrote: "Therefore, indeed, it must be said with the saints: There is never enough of Mary." In the same way, we could speak of Our Lady's messages, "It is never enough to speak of prayer and to invite others to prayer."



Father Ljubo Kurtović, OFM

Also, in this message Our Lady is very brief and specific: "I am calling you to return to personal prayer." We can read and listen to beautiful words about God. These nice words can awaken in us hunger and thirst for God, but they cannot quench it. Only the experience of encountering God can do that. And, this experience comes only through the struggle and effort of personal prayer.

Gabriel Bunge, a priest and monk, speaks in his book *How to Pray* of the crisis of faith in the western world on the one hand, and on the other hand about the abundance of theological and spiritual literature that is increasing year by year. This abundance of books with spiritual content expresses the restless search of a man who does not reach the goal. We can read spiritual writings, books, the wise thoughts of the Church and Desert Fathers, and yet nothing changes in our hearts and lives.

We seem to have lost the key to the treasure of faith and tradition that we have in the Church. We can only understand the faith when we practice it. It is the same with the Word of God, i.e. the Holy Scriptures. The Word of God needs a soil to fall into, it needs a heart that will receive it. Only when the Word of God is incarnated it becomes real, tangible and apprehensible. The saints

are living examples of the incarnate Word of God. They allowed God's word to enter their hearts and they became new, transformed people. When we read the biographies of the saints, we see God's word so clear, tangible, and real.

Only through prayer can we become who we truly are, the image and likeness of God. Our deepest nature is in our devotion to God. The manifestation of our devotion is prayer, to which Our Lady, as Mother, calls us also in this message.

Our Lady, before whom Satan trembles, warns us of the danger we are in when we do not pray. The danger Our Lady warns us about is Satan and all his traps, lies and deceptions. Satan's goal is to tranquilize us, to draw us to himself with his alluring promises, after which, if we agree to them, we will experience desolation and slavery. Very easily we fall into forgetfulness, spiritually fall asleep, and move away from the Lord. There are many factors that keep us away from the Lord. These include our distractions, worries of life, grumblings, ideologies, fears, and various temptations. Also, this pandemic time that we are living is a time of crisis that reveals to us our spiritual richness or poverty. In this time also we can see how much we belong to the Lord or to this world and its laws.



Our Lady invites us with very simple words that recall the words of the Apostle Peter in the first letter, "Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Also St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians says, "Finally, draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power. Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens." (Ephesians 6:10-12) In his letter, St. Paul puts our human existence, our human life, into the war category. There is a state of war. We are in a spiritual warfare, a war for souls. In this war we are not without "weapons" and the possibility of resisting evil. Our enemy surpasses us in strength and cunning. And our struggle is not against flesh and blood. The flesh is not the enemy we must kill. It is the power of evil.

Both evil and the evil one were defeated

by the one and only - our Lord on the Cross. We cannot fight evil in our own strength, but by prayer we can turn to the Lord, build a relationship with him, decide for good, and choose good to be protected from evil.

Let us pray: Our Lady, you are blessed because you believed. You are the Immaculate Mother who crushed the head of our enemy. You are the one who brings and gives Jesus to us. You are the one who leads us to Jesus. By your intercession, grant us the gift of faith, awaken in our hearts a deep longing for the Lord whom you served and remained faithful to until his death at the Calvary. Many times, in your messages you say to us: "I am with you." We also want to pray until the Lord gives us a profound experience of His closeness and love. An experience of freedom and protection from evil and the evil one that lurks over our souls. Pray, Mary, with us, for us and for all those who have abandoned prayer and God. May every human heart, which is made in the image and likeness of God, experience the beauty and depth of God's love and mercy. Amen.

To be vigilant with Our Lady and resolute in the good

From the heavenly perspective, Our Lady tells us simply and clearly about what is happening on earth, "Do not forget that Satan is strong and that he wants to attract all the more souls to himself." She gives us three means of resisting him - prayer, good works and Her motherly blessing.



Terezia Gaziouva

When She calls us to personal prayer, it certainly includes the prayer of the rosary. She said: "I give you the most powerful weapon against Satan." In times of restlessness, fear, temptation, She places the rosary in our hands. „With the rosary you shall overcome all the adversities which Satan is trying to inflict on the Catholic Church. All you priests, pray the Rosary! Dedicate your time to the Rosary!“ (June 25, 1985).

„Do not be afraid. If you pray, Satan cannot injure you even a little bit because you are God's children and He is watching over you. Pray and let the rosary always be in your hand as a sign to Satan that you belong to me.“ (February 25, 1988). „When you are tired and sick and you do not know the meaning of your life, take the Rosary and pray; pray until prayer becomes for you a joyful meeting with your Savior.“ (April 25, 2001). „Today I call you especially now to advance against Satan by means of prayer. Satan wants to work still more now that you know he is at work. Dear children, put on the armor for battle and with the Rosary in your hand defeat

him!“ (August 8, 1985). „Pray that you can be apostles of the divine light in this time of darkness and hopelessness. This is a time of your trial. With a rosary in hand and love in the heart set out with me.“ (March 2, 2012).

The second means is: be resolute in the good. We are daily confronted with growing tensions. The danger of sickness and war is in the air. We so easily slip and join the nervous crowd. Our human nature is more inclined to evil than to good. That is who we are. Our Lady calls us, as Jesus did in the Gospel, to respond to evil with good: "To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic." (Luke 6:29).

St. Peter writes: "The end of all things is at hand. Therefore, be serious and sober for prayers. Above all, let your love for one another be intense, because love covers a multitude of sins." (1 Petr 4:7-8). To be able to be good, we need to befriend the One who is the only Good. It is personal prayer to look at Jesus' example, to be saturated with his word.

Our Lady Mary was the best one to follow him on earth. Let us listen to her motherly advice in her messages. On July 31, 1986, she told us: „Let your only instrument always be love. By love turn everything into good which Satan desires to destroy and possess. Only that way shall you be completely mine and I shall be able to help you.“ „... I am calling you to be courageous and to not grow weary, because even the smallest good—the smallest sign of love—conquers evil which is all the more visible. My children, listen to me so that good may overcome...“ (October 2, 2018). „These days are the days when you need to decide for God, for peace and for the good. May every hatred and jealousy disappear from your life and your thoughts, and may there only dwell love for God and for your neighbor.“ (January 25, 1993). „Little children, tell everyone, I want the good for you and he will respond with the good and, little children, good will come to dwell in the heart of each man.“ (December 25, 1997). „Today I call you to pray in a special way that you offer up sacrifices and good deeds for peace in the world. Satan is strong and with all his strength, desires to destroy the peace which comes from God.“ (October 25, 1990).

The third means of our protection against the work of Satan is Our Lady's closeness and Her motherly blessing. The visionaries witness to us that Our Lady always comes joyous and happy because She is permitted to come and defend us. Whenever we consecrate ourselves to Her we find ourselves under Her outstretched hands that bless and protect us. She is the one through whom triumph will come. Those who take refuge under her protection will never be disappointed. This is what the Church teaches us in the words of the prayer,



“Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary, that it is a thing unheard of that anyone who had recourse to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left forsaken“.

The multitudes of saints in Heaven and the many pilgrims who have journeyed to Medjugorje and taken refuge in Her Immaculate Heart bear witness to Her mighty protection. When we draw near to Our Lady, good triumphs over evil.

Let us pray: Let us entrust ourselves to Her protection with the prayer of St. John Bosco: “O Mary, most powerful Virgin, great and illustrious defender of the Church, wonderful Help of Christians, formidable as an army in battle array, you who alone have overcome every heresy in the world, in our anguish, in our combats, in our difficulties, defend us from the enemy, and at the hour of our death receive our souls into Paradise. Amen.”

Do not forget

"Do not forget, little children, that Satan is strong and wants to draw you away from prayer. You, do not forget that prayer is the secret key of meeting with God." August 25, 2017

"Never forget that each of your brothers, within himself, carries something precious – the soul." July 2, 2017

"...my children, do not forget: each of you is a unique world before the Heavenly Father... Do not forget that in the Eucharist, which is the heart of faith, my Son is always with you." May 2, 2016

"...My children, do not forget that my Son redeemed you by his Cross and enabled you, anew, to be children of God; to be able to, anew, call the Heavenly Father: 'Father'." June 2, 2013

*Our Prayer meeting
will take place
on the first Saturday,
February 5, 2022.*

*In this month
we pray for all who are
exposed to
and enslaved
by the effects of evil.*

Nether Do I Condemn You

Father Slavko Barbarič (1946 - 2000)

From the book: "Give Me Your Wounded Heart. Confession Why? and How?"



Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You, because also today I felt Your love and mercy. Thank You for the words that You said to me through the priest who told me in Your name: "I absolve you from your sins. Go in peace!" Now I really want to bring peace to my family and to those I live with. I shall bear witness to Your love, loving You above all and loving my neighbour as myself.

To those whom I have offended, I want to bring every day joy and peace. I shall live every day in gratitude to You. I shall open my eyes and be aware of all those who do me good. I shall be aware even of the smallest gift which comes to me through Your creatures, and I shall always be grateful to You and to them.

In advance I thank You for all the good that You will be doing through me. May everything be for Your praise and glory. Since You have not condemned me, make me an instrument of Your peace and Your love in the world. I entrust to You all the future moments when I will be

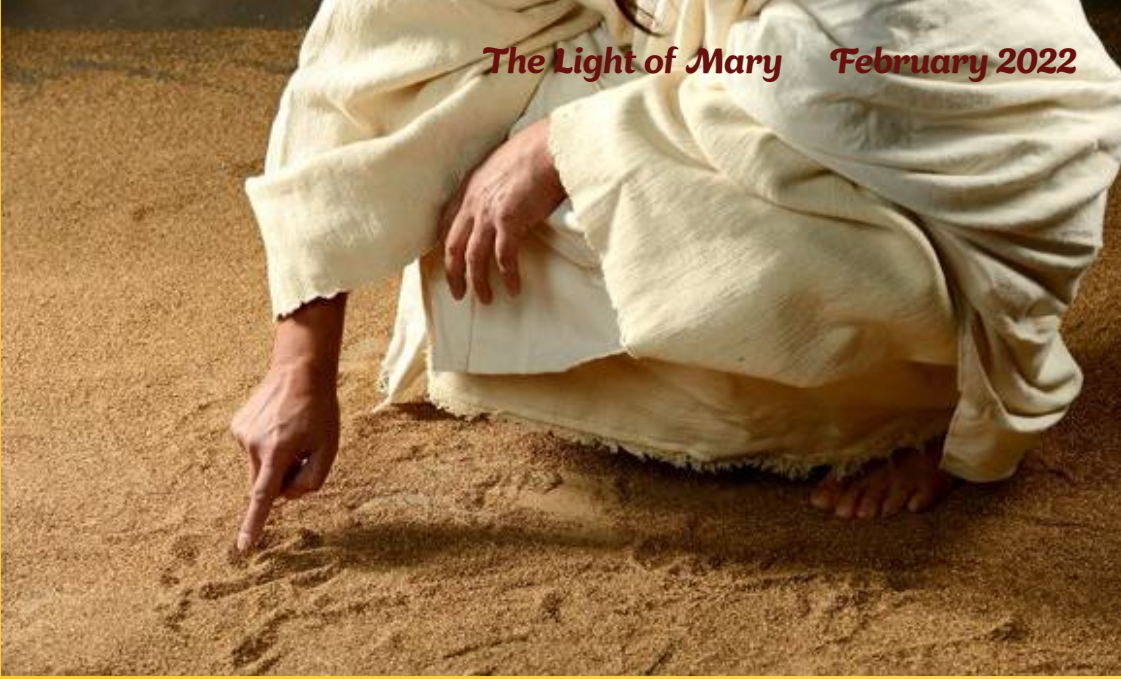
tempted and will fall because of my weakness. I entrust to You the moments in which my love will fail. May Your love heal and renew everything.

I give You my wounded heart. Do not allow me to be led by negative feelings any more. Give me strength and light to say always the right word, the word that saves, guides, encourages and teaches. I do not want to throw the stone of condemnation to people around me any more. I will rather pray for them and sacrifice myself.

My God, through the intercession of Mary, Your beloved servant, make me an instrument of Your peace and reconciliation. May peace always reign in my heart, the peace with which the priest sent me into the world. These are Your words: "Go in peace!"

O Mary, Mother of love, teach me and all your children to love. Amen.

"Dear children! Hatred causes dissension and sees nobody and nothing. I call you always to bear concord and peace. Especially, dear



children, act with love in the place where you live. Let your only means always be love. By love, turn into good all that Satan wants to destroy and seize. Only thus will you be completely mine, and I shall be able to help you. Thank you for having responded to my call.” (31 July 1986)

The Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord your God; you shall not have strange gods before Me.
2. You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Lord’s day.
4. Honour your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness

against your neighbour.

9. You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife.

10. You shall not covet your neighbour’s goods.

Christian Rules for Living

- I shall believe in God and love Him with all my heart.
- I shall praise God and pray to Him.
- I shall celebrate the Eucharist on Sunday with God’s people.
- I shall keep care of my family and not expect my parents to do this alone.
- I shall take care of my health.
- I shall joyfully lend and share with others what I possess.
- I shall always speak the truth and I will not disclose anyone’s secrets.
- I shall faithfully perform my duties.

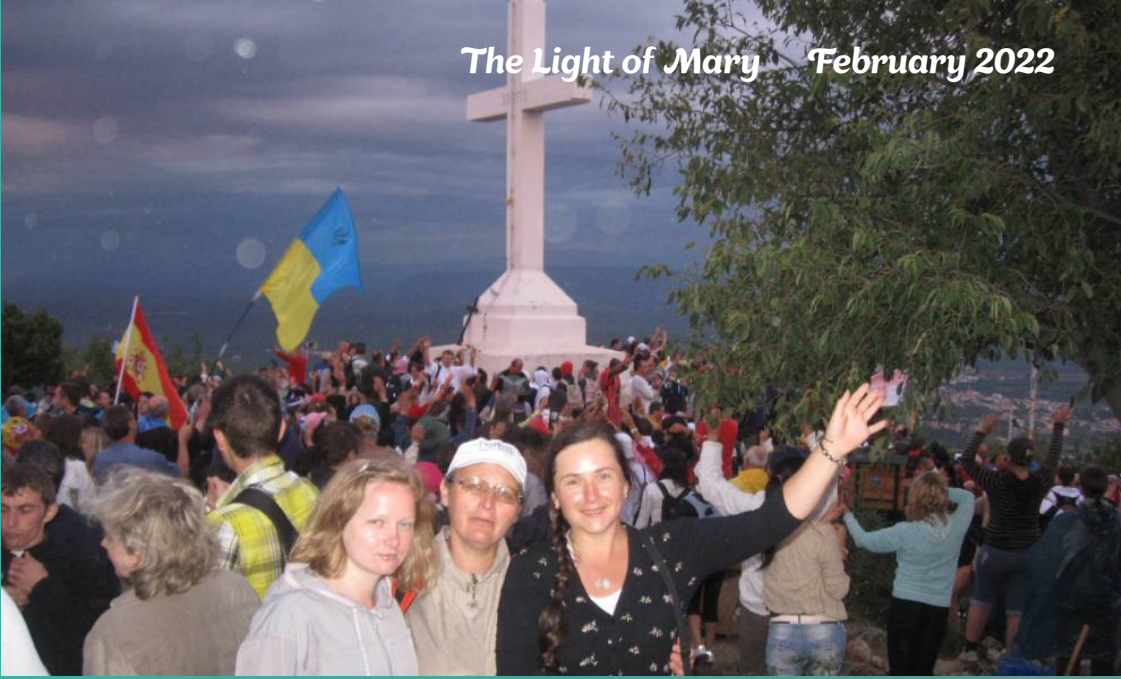
God always gives more

I first heard about Medjugorje thirteen years ago from a friend with whom I used to meet from time to time. We shared the joy of discovering God's work in our lives. The invitation to visit this present-day place of Our Lady's presence resounded in my parish community, and the very next year I there with the Ave Maria Congregation Choir.

It was obvious that we went to Medjugorje along with musical instruments (three violins and my bandura - a traditional Ukrainian musical instrument), because we really wanted to play at the Mladifest. Unfortunately, they we were not allowed to play. We learned a very important lesson in humility. And all the following years until 2019, when we played together, we never forgot it. In our work, we learned to listen to God, to go where He calls us, where He needs us, and not to go forward in disobedience. We prayed together and went on pilgrimages together. Many of our performances, especially after our second visit to Medjugorje in 2014, were done in the spirit of Our Lady's messages. We read them in nursing homes, hospitals, remand prisons, the parish church and other churches. We played during adorations, we sang Medjugorje and Taizé songs.

In Medjugorje, the pilgrims always go to pray to the grave of Father Slavko

Barbaric. When I was praying there in 2014, an idea crossed my mind. I felt I wanted to do something for Medjugorje. I sincerely asked Father Slavko to help me with that. In the evening Olinka from the Light of Mary Community approached me. We started talking. She asked me what was my job and when she heard the answer she was delighted, "Oh, I am in such a need of a Ukrainian philologist." Since then, I have been helping the community with translations of various texts from Russian, but the moment that touches me the most is when I receive Our Lady's message to proofread. I know that there are so many philologists in Ukraine who are better than me and I am entrusted with such a responsible task. It is important to be careful not to interfere in any way with the text of the message, to compare it carefully with the Croatian original and other Slavic alternatives, to check the meaning of words in dictionaries, to consult ... Sometimes even tears come to



my eyes when I realize how small I am touching something so big.

On the 40th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady, I translated Mirjana Soldo's book *My Heart Will Triumph*. I started translating it at the end of the school year when I was busy at school, but despite the sleepless nights, I was happy.

I once read in a book about Medjugorje that the visionaries had their prayer groups with which they prayed from the very beginning of the apparitions. I thought how happy these people were because they could pray together with those who see the Mother of God. And then one day I was offered to pray in a prayer group with the visionary Ivan. I just bowed before the Lord in gratitude because He had again fulfilled the desire of my heart.

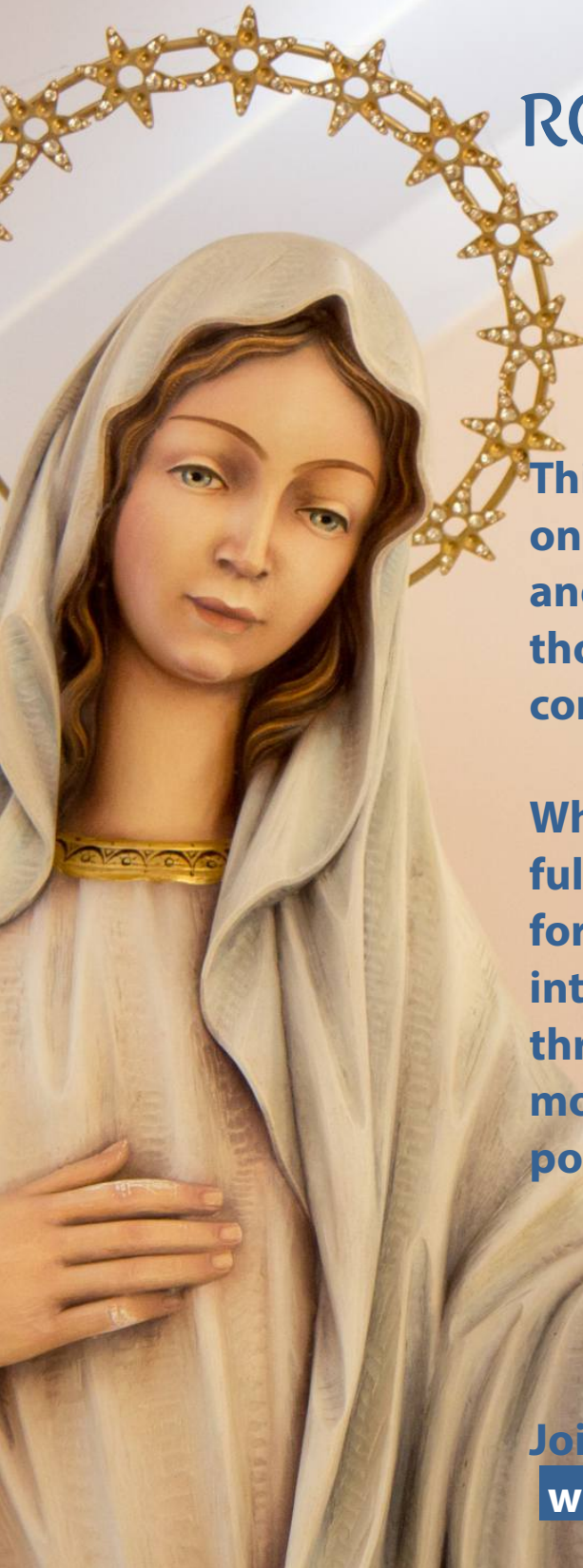
After returning from Medjugorje in 2014, I asked Our Lady to help me bring my husband here. And She came up with

an amazing way. In 2018, the Light of Mary Community invited the two of us to a spiritual retreat for married couples. It was something special when my husband said to me on the last night before we went home: "You know, I wanted to make you happy so I went to confession. Our priest was on his way to the hotel and I asked him if he could hear my confession. He did it while walking to the hotel." My husband had not received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for many years, but his heart was touched right here in the "confessional of the world," as Medjugorje is called.

Medjugorje is the place where I have a strong sense of Our Lady's presence, of Her maternal tenderness, where I receive love and peace and I want to bring them to the world.

Thank you, Mom!

Liliana, Ukraine



Perpetual ROSARY PRAYER and FASTING for PEACE

This activity was launched on October 1, 2014, and, thanks to the Lord and those who have responded, continues to this day.

When we pray and fast for the fulfillment of Our Lady's plans for peace and for her intentions, God works through Our Lady where it is most necessary, in the best possible way!

Join us! Sign up here:

www.mir.com.hr

Learn from me...



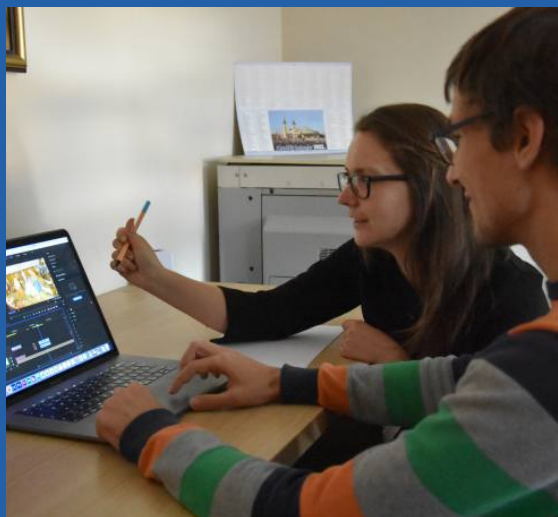
We invite you to the 27th International Spiritual Renewal for Pilgrimage Organizers, Leaders of Centres of Peace and Medjugorje Prayer and Charity Groups, which will take place in Medjugorje from 14 to 18 March, 2022. "Learn from me and you will find rest" (Mt 11:28-30)

Behold your mother



ONLINE PRAYER MEETING on the fruits of Medjugorje in former Soviet countries - Belarus, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine will be held on March 26-27, 2022 on the theme: "Behold your mother!" We invite all of you to join us in prayer and joy. You can watch the live streaming at: www.medjugorje.hr



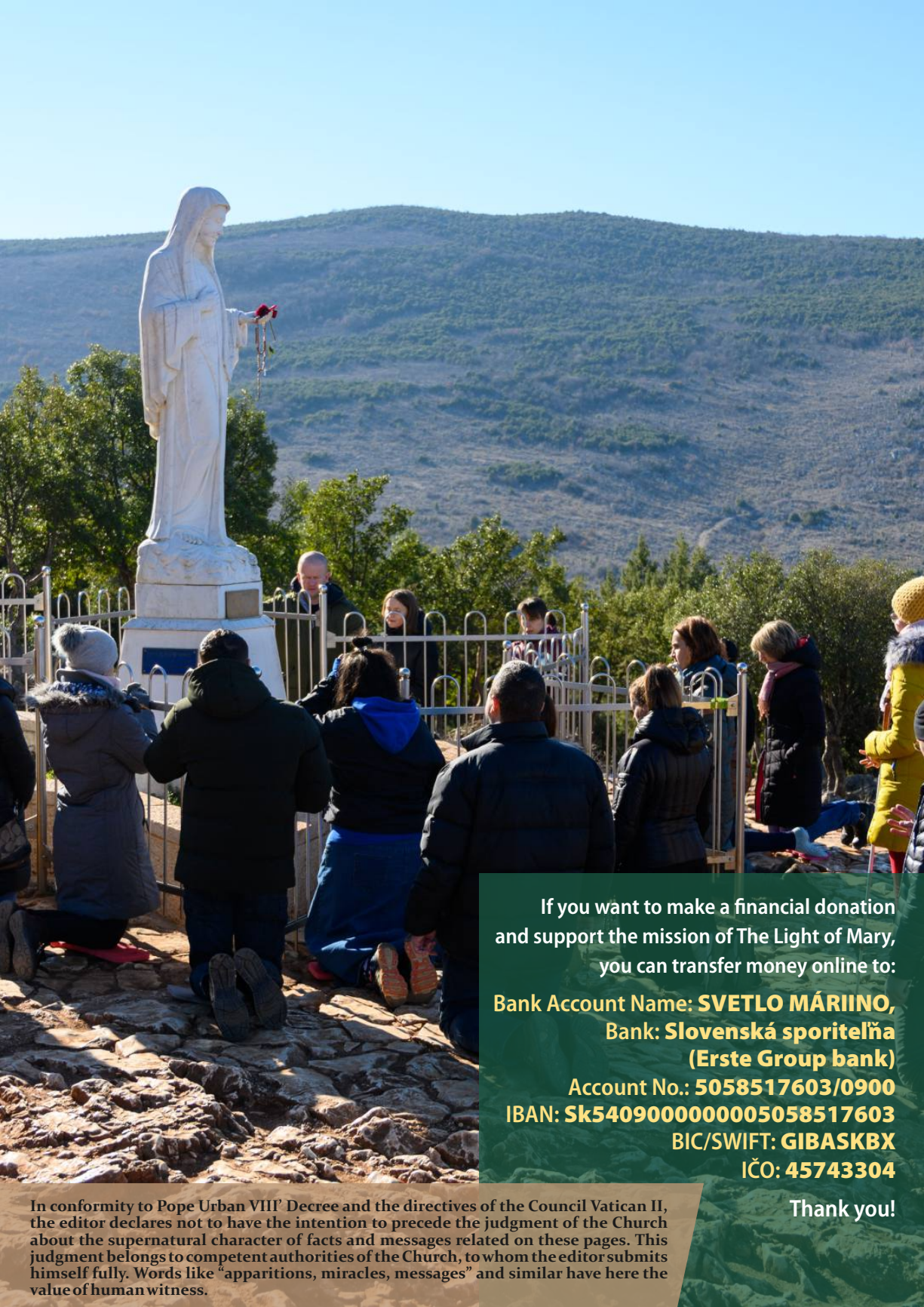


THE LIGHT OF MARY COMMUNITY – it is a Private Association of Believers. By following the life of Our Lady, the desire of the members of the LM Community is to bring the Light – Jesus into the contemporary world, to pray and to bring sacrifice in fulfillment of God's plans of salvation through Our Lady in our times.

For more information: www.svetlomariino.sk

PRAYER GROUPS – members usually meet once a week to pray the rosary for the intentions of Our Lady, for the needs of others, meditate on the Scriptures, and consecrate themselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.





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