

April 2022



The LIGHT of MARY

To bring Jesus - the Light of Mary



*„I am calling you to return to God
and to God's Commandments...“ (more on p. 3)*

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The LIGHT of MARY

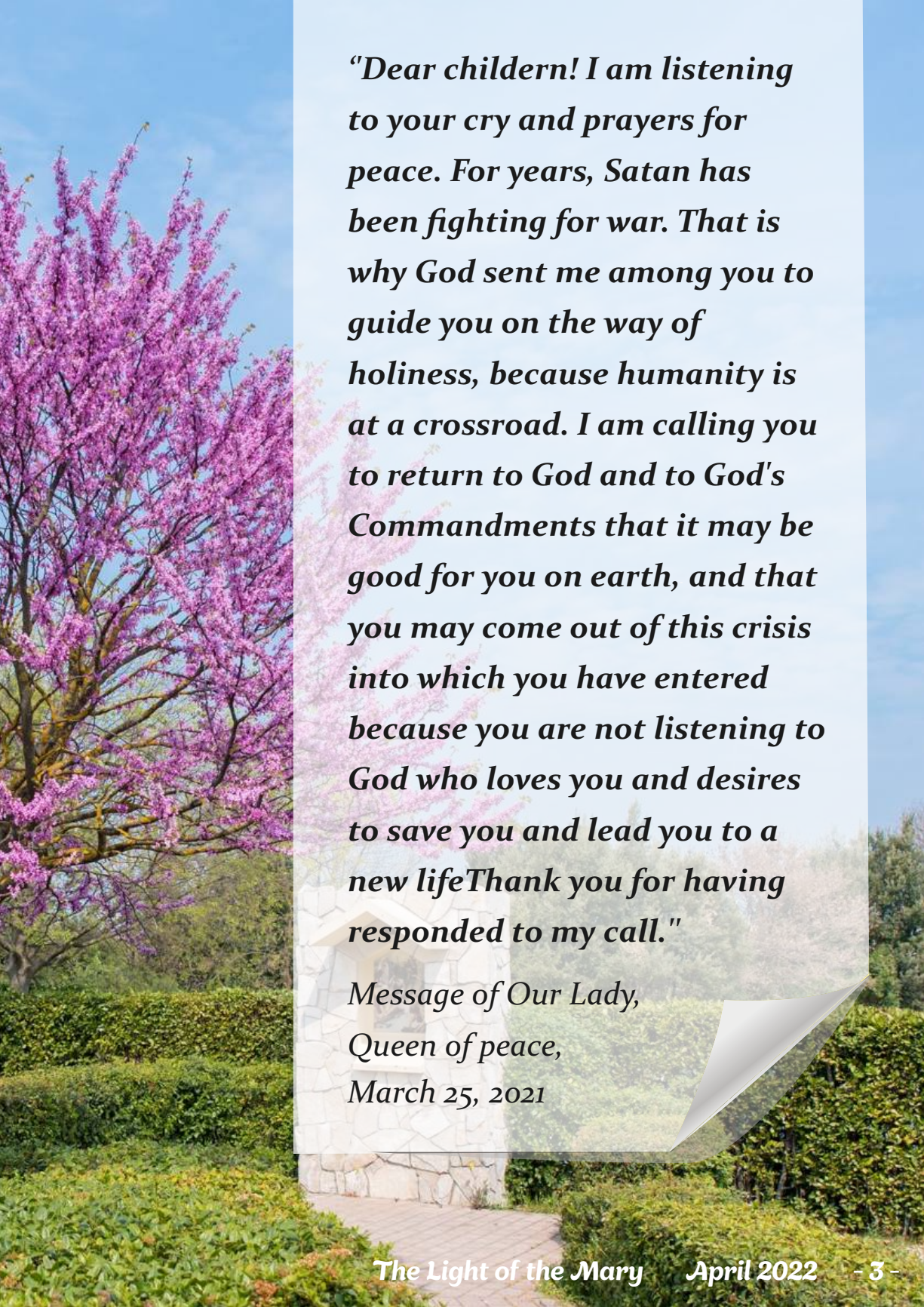
INTERNET NEWSPAPER

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
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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! I am listening to your cry and prayers for peace. For years, Satan has been fighting for war. That is why God sent me among you to guide you on the way of holiness, because humanity is at a crossroad. I am calling you to return to God and to God's Commandments that it may be good for you on earth, and that you may come out of this crisis into which you have entered because you are not listening to God who loves you and desires to save you and lead you to a new life Thank you for having responded to my call."

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

RETURN TO GOD



Father Ljubo
Kurtovič,
OFM

In this message, as well as in the message of last month, the Virgin Mary, with the power of her maternal and Immaculate Heart, invites us to return to God, conversion and repentance.

Sacred scripture reminds us how God has sent prophets to his chosen people many times in the history, who have gone astray and turned away from God. "Return, you Israelites, to the One you have so greatly revolted against." (Isaiah 31:6). "Return, faithless people," declares the LORD, "for I am your husband. I will choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and bring you to Zion." (Jeremiah 3:14). "So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions." "Now therefore say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem, 'This is what the LORD says: Look! I am preparing a disaster for you and devising a plan against you. So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions.' (Jer 18:11).

The Lord Jesus also assures us in the Gospel that by converting, returning to God, we can resist war, violence and the death of people. Let us remember how in the gospel they tell Jesus about what happened to the Galileans, whose blood

Pilate mixed with the blood of their victims. "Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? (Luke 13:2).

We too are tempted today, as in the days of Jesus, because of some problem that afflicts us or our neighbors, to look for the culprits or to think that this problem happened because of the sinfulness of these people. Jesus is changing the way we look at things. He does not respond to our curiosity, but directs our heart's gaze to conversion, to return to God, to the source of life.

Return to God is a decision for the good, for life. Only God gives life, and only in him is the source of the fullness of life. There is nothing beyond God that gives us life. To this God we must turn, head towards him, that is conversion. In this decision lies the safety, wisdom and joy of walking on this earth. Therefore, the word of God says: God promises peace to those who return to him with all their hearts. And in another place the



Word of God rebukes us: return to first love. Remember where you failed and start doing your first deeds.

Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.” (1 Kings 18,21)

If people are gods to you, if you expect life from money, if you think the earth can give you security, follow it, but know that you will fall apart along with it.

Only God is the Lord of heaven and earth. He designed the landscape as a garden and a vineyard and placed a man in it. He expects fruits from the tree of our life. God doesn't want to take you out of your land and your family. But he seeks the fruits of your life and your faith. Returning to God is a condition for us to live and be free in ourselves and on this earth. Let us help Mary, Mother of God, to draw us strongly and to lead us to

God in our crossroads, in our indecisiveness and lukewarmness.

Let us pray: Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace, you lead us to Jesus, Prince of Peace and the conqueror of all evil and war. To you, Mother, we cry out from this valley of tears, so that all who are affected by the evil of war may feel your maternal closeness and your intercession. Help all those who experience suffering and pain in their families and in family relationships. Help all wounded hearts that have closed and hardened because of the injustices and evil. Pray for all of us, mother, who have moved away from God, the source of peace, freedom and fullness of life. Strengthen our lukewarm and weakened will so that we can decide for life, for the truth. Grant us the grace of sincere repentance to experience that God is makes everything new in our lives. Amen.

I HEAR YOUR PRAYERS FOR PEACE



Terezia
Gaziova

After the Holy Father Francis dedicated Russia, Ukraine and the whole world to the Immaculate Heart, Our Lady in Medjugorje seemed to answer: "I hear your call and prayers for peace. We can say that on March 25, 2022 the whole world again hid in her heart.

Mary travels with us and with her daily apparitions to Medjugorje she helps us. Saint John Paul the II. in his encyclical *Redemptoris Mater* speaks of the Marian times. About the role of the Virgin Mary, which she experiences as a mother of the pilgrim Church.

The Lord offers us her Immaculate Heart as a safe protection and refuge, as she also said in Fatima to Sister Lucia – "My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God." Thanks to heaven that he still appears to us in Medjugorje. As we try to live her messages, we can experience her powerful intercession, guidance and protection wherever we are.

According to the testimony of the visionaries, the Virgin Mary comes at this time in silence and prayer. She is our example. Love does not make noise like evil. "Love is patient, love is kind, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not

dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil, but rejoice with the truth. It always protects, always trust, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." - writes St. Paul in the letter to the Corinthians.

Love has the last word. When Mary invites us to return to God's commandments, it is an invitation to return to love. Love each other as Jesus loved us. Satan has wanted a war for years, and Mary teaches us to win over in it with goodness like Jesus. The path to the victory of her Immaculate Heart is our personal conversion. There is no other way. The more of the good hearts on earth, the faster her victory will come.

At the crossroads before which the world now stands, there are only two possibilities: good and evil.

We know from experience that it is important to know the goal when



making decisions. Mary is given to us from heaven to make the right decisions. God sends her to us to lead us out of this crisis with an insistent cry, "Return to God and His commandments, that you may be well on Earth."

We all want to be well and expect it from others. Let's start first. A good man brings good out of the good treasure of his heart, and a bad man brings evil out of the bad.

Much of what happens depends on our prayer and our personal conversion, Mary teaches us. Let us remember how she appeared with the Child Jesus in her arms at Christmas 2014 and said: "I am your peace, live my commandments".

In Mary's messages we always find an echo of the words of Jesus:

"God has given you the grace to live and protect all the good that is in and around you, and to encourage others to be better and holier. But even satan does not sleep, and through modernism he

diverts you and leads you on his way. Therefore, my children, in love with my Immaculate Heart, love God above all things and live His commandments. So your life will have meaning and peace will reign on Earth" (May 25, 2010). "My children, live paradise here on Earth, so that you may be well and may the commandments of God be a light on your way" (July 25, 2018). Let us obey Mary and God will save us and lead us into a new life through her.

Let us pray: Thank you, Mary, for listening to our calls and prayers for peace. Draw us to you, the Immaculate. Help us to live according to God's commandments, so that we may be well on earth as you wish. May we never tire of being inspired by your example. Help us to hide our sufferings in love, like you. With you we pray for those who decide the fate of humanity and carry war in their hearts. Help humanity to obey your cry, "Return to God and the commandments of God." Amen.

Return to God

*«Little children, in humility of heart
return to God and to His commandments
so that with all of your heart
you are able to say: as it is in Heaven
so may it be on earth. (January 25, 2016)*

*«My Immaculate Heart bleeds as
I look at you in sin and sinful habits.
I am calling you: return to God
and to prayer that it may be
good for you on earth. (April 25, 2016)*

*«In your hearts , little children,
you know what needs to be changed.
Return to God and His Commandments,
so that the Holy Spirit
may change your lives and the face
of this earth, which is in need
of renewal in the Spirit. (May 25, 2020)*

*«Little children, return to the love for God
and He will be your strength and refuge.
(October 25, 2020)*



*Our Prayer meeting
will take place
on the first Saturday,
April 2, 2022.*

*In this month
we pray for the gift
of God's love
for all who are
affected by war*

To the Priests



Father Slavko
Barbarič,
OFM

My brother-priests, I ask you in front of this people of God:

- *Are you ready at this moment to be servants of the reconciliation and absolve these young people from sin in the Name of the Lord?*
- *Are you ready to carry the light and peace to the souls of these young people?*
- *If you are ready to carry the light, please, approach this altar, lighten your candle on the Paschal candle which represents Christ, and with this candle, enter in the Church which is in the dark. Bearing this light, wait for those who will come to you.*

(While the priests enter the Church in silence, we pray for them...)

Prayer for Priests

Lord Jesus Christ, I pray for my brother-priests. Ignite the fire of Your love in their hearts while they now light their candles from Your candle. Help them to keep this light and bring it to others.

Lord Jesus, give to these priests Your Word, inspire them by Your Holy Spirit and help them in their service of reconciliation. Through them, give to the faithful reconciliation and peace, heal whatever was broken and wounded by sin. Heal their hearts, O Lord. Give them joy and peace.

Bless all the priests and all confessors who put themselves readily at the disposal of their brothers and sisters who have been

redeemed by Your Blood.

Bless those who are tired and who are going through difficult times.

(The leader prays for the faithful as they approach the priests. After confession and absolution, the penitent lights his candle from that of the priest. It is the symbol of reconciliation and service. He prays his penance before his lit candle. Everything must be done with dignity... Those who will not go to Confession can ask the priest to give them his blessing... and can also light their candle from that of the priest.)

To the Faithful

Dear brothers and sisters, I ask you now: are you ready to approach



the priests, confess your sins and light your candle from that of the priest?

Please, approach the altar. Take a candle and go to a priest. Ask for his blessing, and if you want to make Confession, do it. If you do not want to confess, tell the priest what was your decision during your last Confession, and ask his blessing in order to implement this decision, and then light your candle. Let the church be illuminated. With each Confession, the light spreads more and more.

Prayer for the Faithful

Lord Jesus Christ, I pray for my brothers and sisters who take the candles and approach the priests. Through the priest, welcome Your children who seek forgiveness and healing. Let each of their decisions be firm and permanent!

Lord Jesus Christ, grant the fullness of Your grace to all who go to Confession now. May all darkness disappear from their hearts, their families, the Church

and the world.

Mary, you are our mother. You want our renewal and you invite us to renewal through conversion and reconciliation. You want us to receive you as you received us. Intercede for us, your children, that we may really become yours, that we become the light of the world, a new hope and a new peace with you, who – by the power of God – became the dawn of a new day.

We implore You, O Lord, send us Your Holy Spirit. We pray with Mary, Your humble servant: enlighten our hearts, fill us with joy and love, heal us completely. May Your Spirit heal the world through us.

(While the penitents confess, it is good to sing meditative songs on forgiveness and mercy, to read biblical passages or to explain them in a meditative way.)

Your sin is maybe very big, very serious, and your heart condemns you, but fear not, because even if your heart condemns you, the Lord God is greater than your heart.

Although the sin is big, and precisely because it is big, the Lord has in store for you great graces, and this is why our hope also can be great.

Do not ask the Lord what you will win if you renounce a sin, a fault, a bad habit. Do not ask the Lord what He will give you in return, because He is Mercy and gives much more than our heart could desire. The Lord is love and forgiveness.

(After Confession, the leader invites the faithful to stand up and sing an Easter song. After the song, he invites them to extinguish their candles, because their hearts have become burning lamps that carry the light.)

Dear friends, brothers and sisters, we started this celebration in darkness. We recognised that we often begin our day and our work in the darkness of sin, and that we lived in darkness. We now feel that we can live in the light. Thank you, O Christ, because You are the light. We adore You and we bless You, because You are our hope, our love and our salvation.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

On behalf of the Church, after confession and before you go in the world, I ask you now:

- Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?
- Do you believe in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer?
- Do you believe that love is stronger than hate?
- Do you believe that light is stronger than darkness?
- Do you believe that you can

accomplish the will of God in your life?

- Do you accept Mary for your Mother?
- Do you consecrate yourself now to Mary with your whole being?

Before you go in the world, receive the blessing.

In the Name of the Father,
who is our Creator,
in the Name of Jesus Christ,
whom you have accepted
as your Redeemer and Saviour,
in the Name of the Holy Spirit,
who sanctified you,
may an abundance of blessing
descend upon you:
a blessing of peace, joy, love and
hope,
a blessing of fellowship and
forgiveness,
of light and goodness,
a blessing of the spirit of prayer
and the spirit of obedience to the
will of God,
a blessing of inner strength to
withstand all temptation,
a blessing of protection against
all evil,
a blessing of the fullness of life
with God.

Live in grace and you will be
forever blessed!

Peace be with you! Amen.

(It is recommended to take home the candle in memory of this decision for Christ. Let it be an invitation to prayer, love and forgiveness. At home, pray in front of this candle.)

The fruits of the 33-days of spiritual retreat

On 25 of March, 2022 we celebrated the Feast of the Annunciation and at the same time it was the day of great grace and hope for all mankind. The moment of the Conception of the Lord Jesus is connected with the moment of Annunciation. The Virgin Mary agreed with God's plan, and the Messiah could come to earth to redeem humanity by His death and resurrection. In the Book of Genesis, God made his promise that he won't leave his people alone. Throughout history, God has repeatedly confirmed his promise.

This feast day reminds us that God kept his promise to send his Son to redeem the world. Many on this day dedicated themselves to Jesus through the Virgin Mary. For this act we were preparing ourselves with 33-days spiritual retreat attended by approximately 8,000 brothers and sisters from Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, Israel and other countries.

This day was very special because the Holy Father dedicated Ukraine, Russia and all humanity to Immaculate Heart Of Mary.

We want to share with you some of our testimonies:

"I am thankful for 33 days with our Heavenly Mother who taught me to get closer to her Son and our God. I believe that her Immaculate Heart will defeat all evil. Let the Lord bless and protect you."

«Thank you, Mary, for everything you do for us, for our salvation. Time with you and Jesus was very precious and everything I lived with you throughout this period touched me deeply. Thank you, Mother, for everything and I look forward to another time with you in your fellowship.»

"Thank you for the wonderful spiritual retreat. I felt peace on the day of consecration. It was fulfilled day thanks to personal consecration, but also thanks to the consecration of Ukraine, Russia and the whole world to the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady. I felt the joy and above all hope in the context of this war situation. I am happy with my personal consecration and I want to belong entirely to Jesus, to the Virgin Mary and more to cling to her Immaculate Heart."

"I thank the Triune God and our



Queen of Peace for a wonderful time of grace and peace in the hearts of all of us united in prayer during this solemn time. I have repeatedly joined you in Medjugorje, and the whole family we have dedicated ourselves to the Holy Trinity through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Thank you for preparing our hearts for consecration."

"Praise and thank you, our dear Mother. Thank you with all my heart! Our marriage was in crisis and at risk of separation. I asked the Virgin Mary for the grace of fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays and for help to give everything to her. On the day of consecration, the very morning I returned from the holy mass and my husband suggested that we go together for spiritual retreat for married couples. My heart rejoiced. We had a wonderful day together. Thank you. Amen."

"Although I have never been very Marian, because I have always considered Jesus to be the foundation of my faith, it happened to me that my faith became

lukewarm and I turned away, until it led me to despair, disgust and hopelessness. But God gave me grace through the Virgin Mary, who strongly called me and led me to this consecration. Our Lady has been calling me for a long time, showing me the importance of surrender, prayer and fasting. She showed me many connections in the faith and in her, which I did not understand at all before and had difficulty accepting. She took my hand to bring me back to the living Christ, and I found myself on the path of Faith, Hope, turning away from evil, and praying as much as I had never done before. Thank you."

"I sincerely thank you for the work and service of all who participated in the preparation for the consecration. It was a time I looked forward to every morning. It opened my heart wide to know God's goodness. Mary's motherly heart attracts me more and more and I recognize that it leads me closer to her son Jesus. Thank God."



The DIVINE MERCY Novena

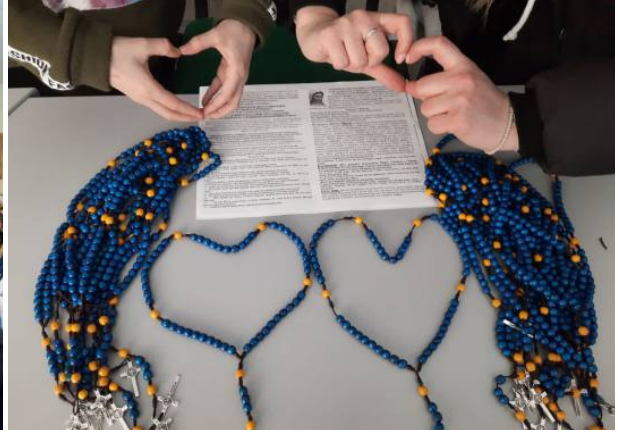
Dear friends, let us prepare together for the Feast of Divine Mercy 24.04.2022. Let's start novena, which begins on Good Friday and ends on the Saturday before Divine Mercy Sunday.

The Lord Jesus spoke of this day to St. Sister Faustina: "On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened." (Diary 699).

Link to the novena: https://divinemercy.life/the-divine-mercy-novena/?gclid=CjwKCAjwxZqSBhAHEiwASr9n9P2-Ga15hxDYt2zLn64m5Pmg8YmU2-3JHcl8CXmsuyh3fg6xh8bKTBoCkGgQAvD_BwE

United with you in prayer,

The Light of Mary



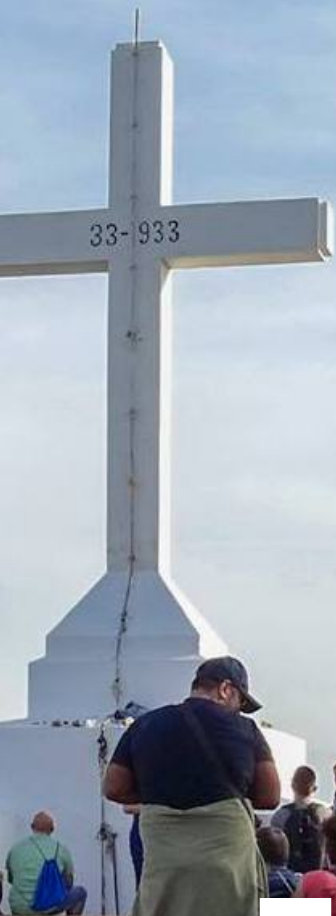


THE LIGHT OF MARY COMMUNITY – it is a Private Association of Believers. By following the life of Our Lady, the desire of the members of the LM Community is to bring the Light – Jesus into the contemporary world, to pray and to bring sacrifice in fulfillment of God's plans of salvation through Our Lady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





PRAY FOR UKRAINE

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and support the mission of The Light of Mary,
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Thank you!

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