

May 2022



The LIGHT of MARY

To bring Jesus - the Light of Mary

*„and the Holy Spirit
will fill you
with His love
which gives joy
to the heart...“
(more on p. 3)*

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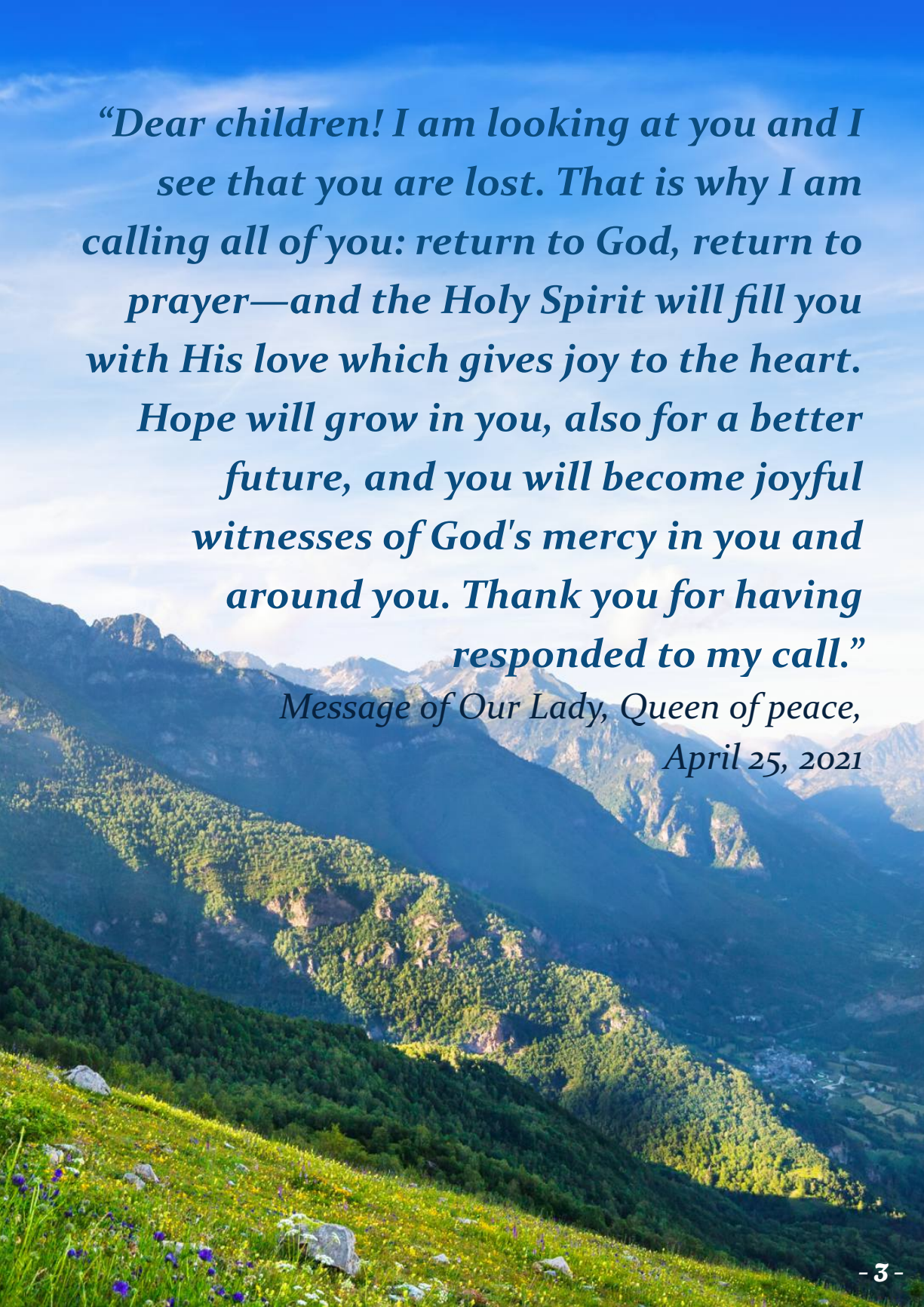
INTERNET NEWSPAPER

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.

Newspaper distribution without alteration is welcome and permitted. When copying particular parts and their use in another context, the editors of the newspaper reserve the right to give their consent.



“Dear children! I am looking at you and I see that you are lost. That is why I am calling all of you: return to God, return to prayer—and the Holy Spirit will fill you with His love which gives joy to the heart. Hope will grow in you, also for a better future, and you will become joyful witnesses of God's mercy in you and around you. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

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

Return to God



Father Ljubo
Kurtovič,
OFM

The letter to the Hebrews begins with the words, "In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he spoke to us through a son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe." (Hebrews 1:1-2).

God never abandons his people. He is inventive in ways how to reach the human heart and draw it to himself, in order to save it from itself and to bring it to the fullness of the life he wants to give us. Also in our days, Our Lady, following the example of the Old Testament prophets, does not give up on us, her children. She is tireless, patient and persistent in her motherly invitations. She does not give up even when we give up on God and ourselves.

She went through a life similar to ours. She grew and progressed along the path of faith. She went through all the experiences of human life, all the suffering, pain, joy, loss and, finally, the death of her Son, Jesus.

Today she speaks to us from heaven, from where it is easier to see our spiritual condition. We, who live busy with daily worries and on the level of the body and the world, do not perceive another reality, the spiritual one, which alone gives and brings life. It is surprising how a person

can be blind and not see that in God we live, move and have our being.

She, as our mother, best diagnoses our spiritual condition and sees our lostness. That is why, not only in this message, she calls us to return to God, to prayer, to God's commandments, to fasting, to renunciation. In her words we hear the echo of the words of the Old Testament prophets who called God's chosen people, "Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts." (Malachi 3:7).

Even through the prophet Joel, God calls us, "Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment." (Joel 2: 12-13). And Jeremiah writes this: "Return, each of you, from his evil way; reform your ways and your deeds." (Jeremiah 18: 11)



When a person begins to return to the right path, he feels as if at the same time God would be returning to him, because he begins to become more and more aware of him. Return, man, to the Lord, your God! (Cf. Hosea 14:2).

Our Lady as our Mother tells us how lost we are. The hardest thing is to realize this lostness. The younger son from Jesus' Gospel parable of the merciful Father tells us how difficulties were an opportunity for him to awaken spiritually. Difficulties and sufferings can be given moments in which our eyes are opened to see our lostness and to come to know God who is tenderness and mercy.

The gaze of God, which is gentle and full of tenderness, rests on us through Our Lady's presence and closeness during all these years. Our Lady's gaze is the gaze of a mother who loves her children and longs for us to begin to see God, ourselves and the world through her eyes, to become those who do not wander but walk in God's ways of peace, joy and fullness of life.

Let us pray: Our Lady, to you we take refuge, to you who tirelessly call us to the paths that lead to God. You have been and are all focused on God, you are filled with God, and you desire that from day to day we should be like you. Embrace and touch every heart with your motherly Immaculate heart. In a special way, we hand over to you hearts that are wounded, hard, desperate and without hope. Our Lady, pray with us and for us, for all of us who are lost, without light and wander aimlessly. You, Mary, who are full of grace, the Bride of the Holy Spirit, hand us over, bring us to your Son so that we may be more and more like him. Above all, we offer to you all those who have gone astray, those who are lost, and all those who have moved away from God.

Grant us all, O Mary, strength and humility for sincere repentance, conversion and return to the Father who awaits us all like the merciful Father in the Gospel who rejoices over each of his children who return to him. Amen.

Hope

for a better future



Terezia
Gaziova

In the eyes of Our Lady, we can sense the pain and compassion of a mother for us who are lost. The visionaries testify that in this time of great turmoil in the world, she still appears in silence and prayer. She suffers more than we do, seeing the horrors of war. Any mother who would have a son sentenced to death would confirm that she suffers more than her son.

Heaven does not leave us without a way out. Our Lady comes as a mother of hope. In the message of February 2, 2016, she told us, "I am looking at you with love, with a motherly love. I know you; I know your pain and sorrows, because I also suffered in silence. My faith gave me love and hope. I repeat, the Resurrection of my Son and my Assumption into Heaven is hope and love for you. Therefore, my children, pray to come to know the truth; to have firm faith which will lead your heart and which will transform your pain and sufferings into love and hope." Also today she calls us, "Return to God, return to prayer—and the Holy Spirit will fill you with His love."

We are called to resemble our Mother. In prayer and silence, the Holy Spirit comes. "My children, in the silence of the heart, remain with Jesus, so that He may change and transform you with His love; who are far from prayer, convert and, in the silence of your heart, seek salvation for your soul and nurture it with prayer; fold

your hands in prayer and look at the Cross in silence; open yourselves to God and surrender to him all your difficulties and crosses so, God may turn everything into joy. Little children, you cannot open yourselves to God if you do not pray. Therefore, from today, decide to consecrate a time in the day only for an encounter with God in silence; In silence may the Holy Spirit speak to you and permit Him to convert and change you I am looking at you and I see you lost; and you do not have prayer or joy in your heart. Return to prayer, little children, and put God in the first place and not man. Do not lose the hope which I am carrying to you. May this time, little children, every day, be a greater seeking of God in the silence of your heart."

Silence is God's presence within us and we need to free it from the noise of the world. In silence we can find out both why we have become lost and how to find ourselves again. Silence leads us to listen to God's voice and word. Our Lady calls us



to pray daily in silence with the Word of God. In the Gospel of Luke, chapter 15, Jesus speaks in three parables about the loss and the joyous finding. The sheep got lost because it might have seen better food behind the fence. The woman lost the drachma perhaps because she was untidy, and the son was lost because he himself chose to be so.

The school of Our Lady is the joyous finding of the one who has been lost. As we live her messages, we will find ourselves at home with the Father again.

The Holy Spirit will fill you with love that brings joy to the heart. "Hope will grow in you, also for a better future, and you will become joyful witnesses of God's mercy in you and around you."

This is Our Lady's experience. The Holy Spirit filled her and gave her the strength to overcome obstacles such as the flight to Egypt and the life of a refugee, enduring suffering as she watched Jesus' pain and death... Filled with the Holy Spirit, she rushed to Elizabeth and brought her joy. Elizabeth and little John recognized this.

Whenever and wherever we invite Our Lady and the Holy Spirit, hope for a better future, joy, works of mercy, a return to God is born. And this is Medjugorje. For almost 41 years we have witnessed the joyous finding of faith, hope, joy and meaning of life that has been lost.

No one can teach us better than Our Lady to open our hearts to the hope of a better future in the work of the Holy Spirit. Let us surrender ourselves to Our Lady, with her we will not be lost.

Let us pray

We thank you, Our Lady, for your gaze with which you carefully watch over our lives. Help us to return to God in silence and prayer whenever we are lost. With you we cry, „Come, Holy Spirit.“ Comfort the weeping, strengthen the despairing. Renew hearts and the face of the earth where the flames of war and hatred are burning. Come, Holy Spirit, and make us like your beloved bride, faithful, responsible, ardent witnesses of God's mercy. Amen.

Holy Spirit



„Little children, allow the Holy Spirit to lead you on the way of truth and salvation towards eternal life.

Thank you for having responded to my call.”

May 25, 1998

„By prayer and the reading of Sacred Scripture, may the Holy Spirit, who will renew you, enter into your families.“

April 25, 2005

„In silence may the Holy Spirit speak to you and permit Him to convert and change you.“ July 25, 2006

„Little children, pray so that the Holy Spirit may lead you on the real way of joy and peace.“ May 25, 2016



*Our Prayer
meeting
will take place
on the first Saturday,
May 7, 2022.
In this month
we pray
for the gift
of God's love
for all who are
desperate,
without hope,
lost and led
astray.*

Monthly confession – reconciliation day



Father Slavko
Barbarič,
OFM

Therefore, let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

(1 Cor 10:12-13)

According to the testimony of the visionaries, in her education for peace, Our Lady invites us to regular monthly Confession. In the parish of Medjugorje, the days of reconciliation are the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the month.

A question arises: Why go to Confession so often? In the light of what we know about the laws of spiritual life, it is easy to understand the call for monthly Confession. The sacrament of reconciliation is not only about the wrong we have done, but is deeply linked to our growth in love, peace, mercy and forgiveness.

Therefore, even if we say that we have not sinned, it does mean that we do not need to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation. This sacrament is a festivity, a celebration, joy, fellowship, healing, and life. Those who approach

monthly Confession in this spirit will understand the laws of spiritual growth. In the encounter with the priest, they will know better what to do, will more easily decide for personal growth, will more easily discover the dangers, and will more easily be healed of the wounds caused by sin.

The inner life of the human soul is like a space. We can see what and who is in a space. Pictures and objects that are in this space show the taste and preferences of the person, and what this person loves and adores. It is the same for the soul. If we often enter in with the light of God, the soul will be in order and we will easily be able to notice even the smallest faults. We will more easily fight against addictions, and resist the dangerous and negative influences of the world in which we live and work. The more difficult are the circum-



stances of life, the more we need to take care of the soul, to purify and heal it and set it free. Everything that happens in the world enters our soul, influences our experiences, and provokes our anxieties, mistrust, or restlessness. We can easily get used to evil and negative things, lose the sense of what is good, beautiful and noble, and lose faith in love and peace, sincerity and friendship. Monthly Confession helps us greatly to eliminate in time the residues of sin and prevent probable negative consequences.

Each person radiates outward what he carries in his heart. If he carries what is good, he radiates what is good. If he has love in his heart, he radiates love. If he has hatred in his heart, he radiates hate. We are responsible for each other.

Monthly Confession can be understood not only as the purification of evil which is already in our hearts, but also as a sacrament of protection against evil.

If we work in a factory which deals with toxic chemicals, or in polluted premises that threaten health, it is normal to take special precautions and protective measures. If we do not, we act irresponsibly.

We should not judge the contemporary world, as we should not judge a sick person, on the contrary: we should help him, understand and heal him, and we have to protect ourselves from diseases that are caused by the sin of the world in order to live a healthy life, and help others to reach inner spiritual health.

The experience of prayer groups in Medjugorje shows that Our Lady also recommended weekly Confession, mostly in the weeks leading up to the great feasts of Christmas, Easter, Pentecost etc. Mary, as a mother, desires for her children spiritual healing and lasting health so that they may always live in peace.

Consecration to St. Joseph

On the Feast of St. Joseph, the Worker, on May 1, 2022, we consecrated ourselves to St. Joseph after 33 days of preparation. About 2,200 brothers and sisters from Slovakia, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, Israel and other countries participated in the spiritual exercises. The life of St. Joseph is an inspiration to many. The whole Church recognizes him as her patron and protector. Let us be guided by St. Joseph to grow in our love for God and our relationship with Jesus and Our Lady.

We are pleased to share with you some testimonies and experiences with St. Joseph.

"Thank you for this spiritual exercises. I thank St. Joseph for being my father. Thank you for everything. I have learned a lot about St. Joseph and now he is the father of me, my husband, my children and my granddaughter."

"I thank St. Joseph for the blessed time I spent with him, for the deep knowledge of this saint. I thank him for protecting and blessing our families. St. Joseph be our patron and accompany us in all our difficulties and joys."

"My heartfelt thanks for your kind, sacrificial service, especially at this time when we so desperately need to live in the truth and love, close to the Lord and His Mother. This closeness is increased for me with St. Joseph. I give thanks that I have been able to get to know him more

and make him part of my everyday life, and I look forward to the days ahead, filled with joy and hope that with St. Joseph it will not so mundane, but beautiful, blessed, sanctifying. May the Lord bless you."

"During these days, I learned to marvel at St. Joseph. I never realized that he has been my Father, protector and defender. Amen."

"Praised be Jesus Christ! Many thanks are due to St. Joseph. In my hometown and in my family, we venerate St. Joseph in a very special way. We entrust him the keys of our home and pray for all the dying. Last year, for the first time, I made a consecration from a book from which this spiritual exercise is adapted. I still entrust myself to his protection and to



the protection of our Heavenly Mother. This time I saw this preparation for consecration as a great gift from the Holy Family. Thank you."

"When I read these comments and thank you notes, everything I would like to write has been written so far. But still I would like to add something. I've already made a consecration to St. Joseph, but only now have I come to realize how little I think of him and don't ask for his help. But then something has happened to me that has made me fold my hands in prayer and ask for his help. And St. Joseph immediately intervened. I thank him from the bottom of my heart."

"Thank you for this wonderful opportunity. This approach suited me very well. I felt as if St. Joseph would always be with me and I still feel that way now. He is a wonderful man, a protector, a father and I believe he is also responsible for my job, which I asked him for very much. I feel as if he would always be standing behind me on my right side. And I can just call for help

anytime... Amazing! I like him even more and I've grown very fond of him."

It's wonderful to be under the protection of St. Joseph. I love him very much and he has worked many miracles for me. The biggest one was when we needed to sell the house. There were several houses for sale in that area and much nicer ones than ours. Unfortunately, my sick sister could no longer live in it. I asked St. Joseph for help. He not only found buyers right away, but also an apartment for my sister. To this day I am very grateful to him, because my sister had the apartment she longed for the past six months. I really wanted to have a statue of him but I couldn't find one that I imagined anywhere. When my son bought the house, there was a statue just like that waiting for me."

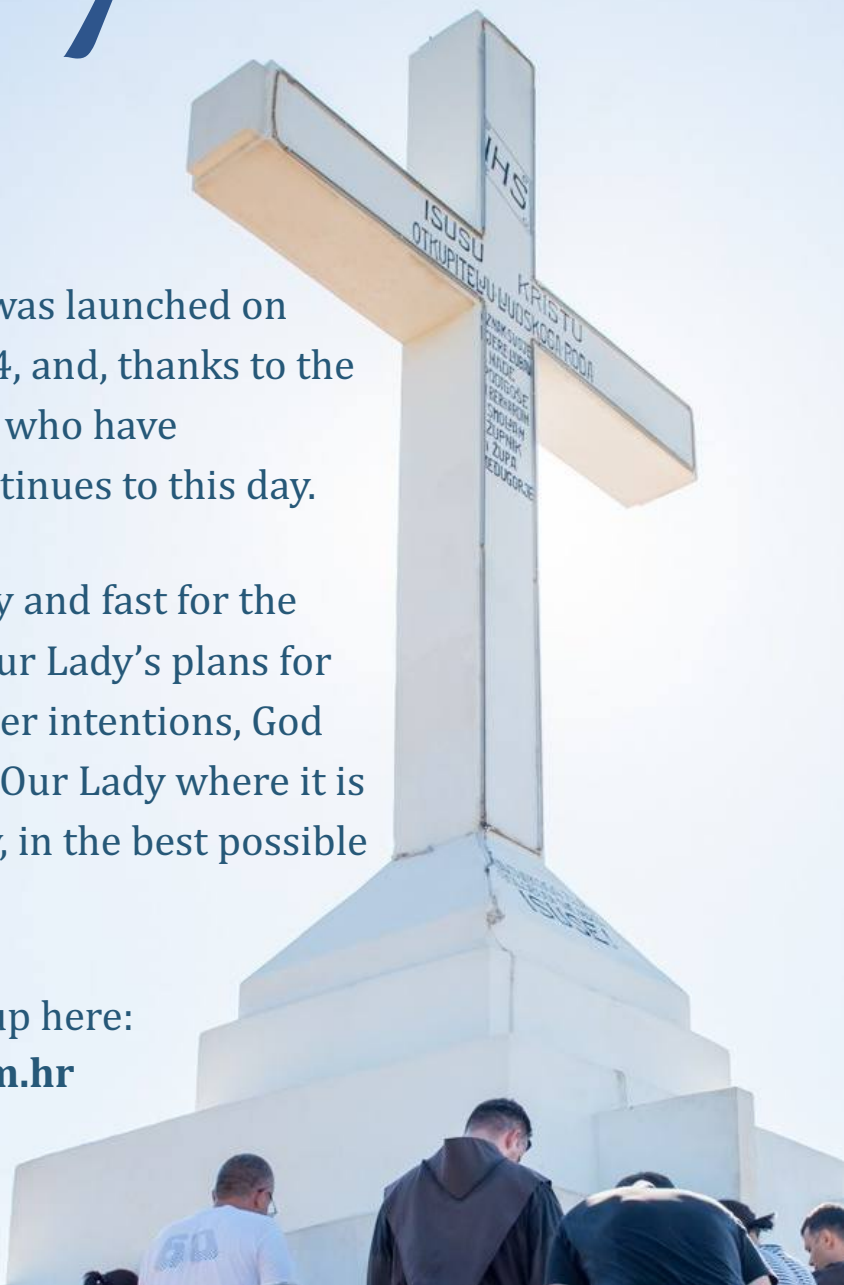
"Thank you for all that you do for us and for bringing us together into the family of God's children. Thank you St. Joseph for all your graces. We ask for God's blessing for you all."

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
and you will find peace

We invite you to the 25th INTERNATIONAL SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR PRIESTS to be held in Medjugorje from July 4-9, 2022

The theme is:

Learn from me and you will find peace (Mt 11: 28-30)

The Lecturer at the retreat is Fr. Damir Pavić, OFM





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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