

November 2022



The LIGHT of MARY

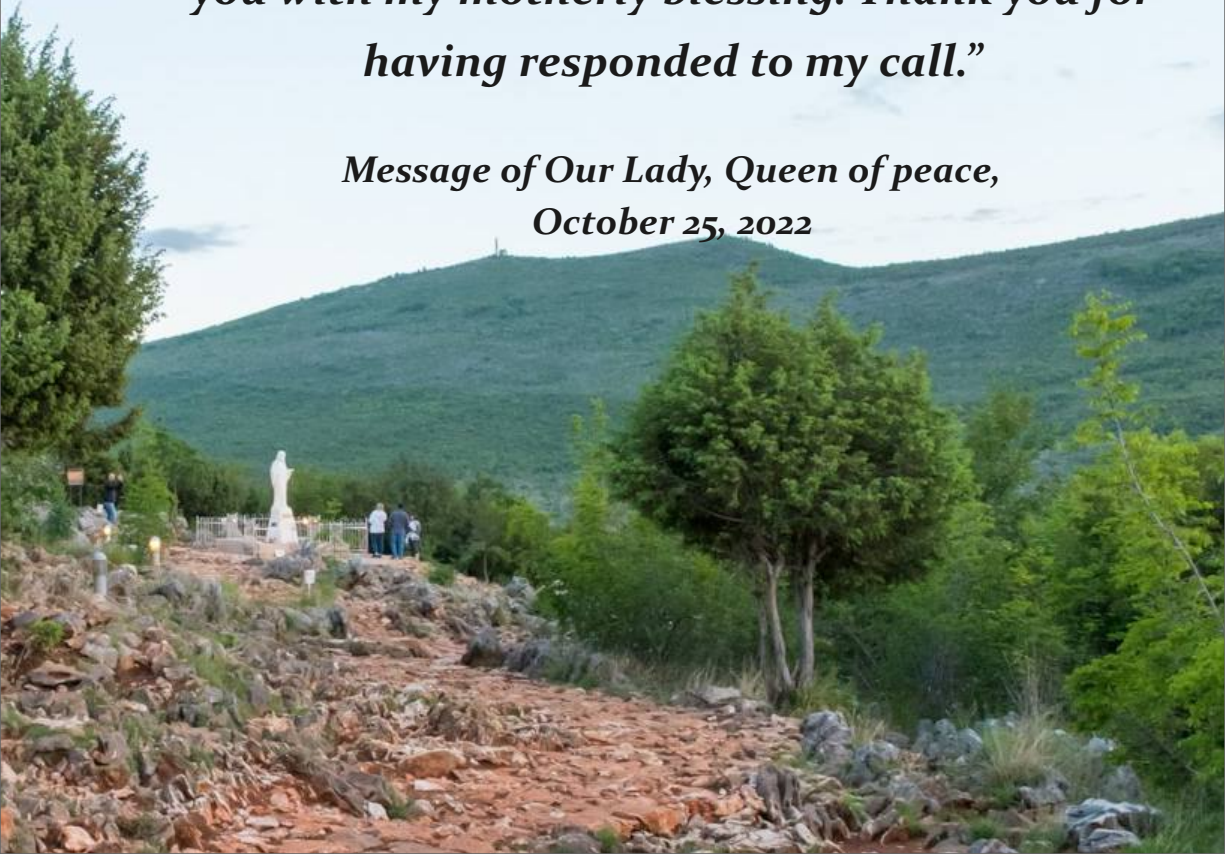
To bring Jesus - the Light of Mary

*„Do not lose hope
in a change of the human heart...“*

(more on p. 3)

“Dear children! The Most High permits me to be with you, and to be joy for you and the way in hope, because mankind has decided for death. That is why He sent me to keep instructing you that without God you do not have a future. Little children, be instruments of love for all those who have not come to know the God of love. Witness joyfully your faith and do not lose hope in a change of the human heart. I am with you and am blessing you with my motherly blessing. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

*Message of Our Lady, Queen of peace,
October 25, 2022*





The LIGHT of MARY

INTERNET NEWSPAPER

*It is a spiritual impulse for prayer groups
and individuals associated with
the Light of Mary Community.*

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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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*It is published monthly before
the first Saturday of the month.*

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E-mail: gospa3@gmail.com***

*In conformity to Pope Urban VIII'
Decree and the directives of the
Council Vatican II, the editor
declares not to have the intention to
precede the judgment of the Church
about the supernatural character of
facts and messages related on these
pages. This judgment belongs to
competent authorities of the
Church, to whom the editor submits
himself fully. Words like
"apparitions, miracles, messages"
and similar have here the value of
human witness.*



JOY AND JOURNEY IN HOPE



**Fr. Ljubo
Kurtovič,
OFM**

The Mother of God patiently and constantly speaks to us through her messages in which we see her optimism and hope in spite of the death, hatred, wars and divisions that rule the world. Our Lady is with us by God's permission, so that we may not fall into despair. In all the crosses that may befall us, She does not cease to turn our eyes to God, to Heaven and to the light that God gives us through Her.

Man and humanity always face a choice: life or death, hope or despair. Human history, too, is divided into sin and holiness. On one side there are saints who lived and died for ideals and on the other side there are people who chose selfishness, hatred and killing.

Our Lady told us, „Dear children!... Pray without ceasing! That way I will give you the joy which the Lord gives to me. With these graces, dear children, I want your sufferings to be a joy... I am not able to

guide you as long as you yourselves do not experience joy in prayer... I beseech you, surrender to the Lord your entire past, all the evil that has accumulated in your hearts. I want each one of you to be happy, but in sin nobody can be happy. Therefore, dear children, pray, and in prayer you shall realize a new way of joy... Do not be anxious nor worried. God himself will help you and show you the way... I am calling you to a complete surrender to God. Let everything that you possess be in

the hands of God. Only in that way shall you have joy in your heart. Little children, rejoice in everything that you have. Give thanks to God because everything is God's gift to you... Satan is strong and wants to sweep away plans of peace and joy... Little children, pray that you may understand that suffering can become joy and the cross the way of joy."

Also in this October message, Our Lady desires very much that we decide for the hope and joy that God gives us through her. It may seem to us, as Our Lady says, that humanity has chosen death, but there have always been, and there are today, individuals who have preserved hope and faith and have remained firm here on earth.

As one poet says, "Hope is where there is none." To have hope means to have one more possibility even in the impossible. Hope is when all human possibilities have been used up and when there is no way out. That is when God's help comes. Hope is God. Hope is that which is not yet, but already is, and that which is being realized, but has not yet come to pass. Hope is the space between faith and love.

The French poet Charles Peguy puts these words in God's mouth, "Hope astonishes me!" The only great temptation for the saints was the temptation against hope. Peguy continues, "I am not surprised, says God, that they believe in me. All they have to do is observe my creatures and they will believe! Love, neither does it surprise me, for if they love each other, it is gain for them, and they benefit each other. But hope, hope astonishes me!"

Many social analysts talk about how we are living in a post-optimistic age. Pessimism is a disease of the spirit. It is often a kind of obsession with evil. And pessimistic believers are like the deserters of life who believe the world is evil and

there is no help for it. Pope Francis speaks of hope in Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* as such, „ No to a sterile pessimism! One of the more serious temptations which stifles boldness and zeal is a defeatism which turns us into querulous and disillusioned pessimists, 'sourpusses'." (EG 85).

It is interesting to see how the Holy Scriptures speak of hope. In the Bible, hope is not some vague feeling or philosophical concept. It is something tangible, visible, a kind of passion. Hope is vigilance, struggle, and resistance.

May Mary, the Mother of Hope, lead us to God, who alone is the source of hope, optimism, faith in the good, and the belief that our lives will end well, in God's arms.

Let us pray: ***Our Lady, the Mother of Hope and Faith, you who have gone through all the trials of life since the moment when the angel Gabriel announced to you that you would conceive and give birth to the Son of God, intercede for us who so often lose hope and faith in goodness, in God. You who have come to the destination of our earthly journey, but who do not forget us, your children, intercede for us with Jesus that we may live our daily lives illumined by the light of Jesus' victory over sin, evil and death. In a special way, we hand over to you, Mother, all those who are in despair, who have lost hope and who find themselves in the difficult trials of life. Into your hands, Mother Mary, we also place all those who are wounded by human wickedness, all those who see no way out of their difficulties in life and find themselves in danger of taking their own lives. Be a comfort and a hope to them, for it was never heard that you had abandoned anyone who had fled to thy protection. Amen.***

OUR LADY - THE

*According to the testimony of the visionaries,
Our Lady always appears joyful and happy.
Sometimes we hear the question: I do not
understand how She can come being so joyful
when the world is filled with the horror of war,
fear, restlessness, hatred? Peace is disturbed
and Satan wants war; his power of death has
invaded the earth, says Our Lady to us in the
messages of the previous months.*



*Terezia
Gaziova*

The answer is clear. She appears joyful and happy because the Most High allows her to come among us and to lead us out of the misery in which the world finds itself. Mary is a mother and sympathizes with every child who suffers. She rejoices when She can visit us, comfort us, bring us relief.

Such are Our Lady's visits to Medjugorje. But also, our prayers to her. She is the Cause of our joy, the Comforter of the sorrowful, the

Mother of hope. She is the light in the thick darkness. She faithfully stands by our suffering to the end, as She did then at the foot of the cross of Jesus, where She was given to us as a mother.

We need Mom more than ever to help us survive.

“Who would understand you better if not your mother”, She tells us in one of her messages. She never walks away from her children, She sympathizes with us.

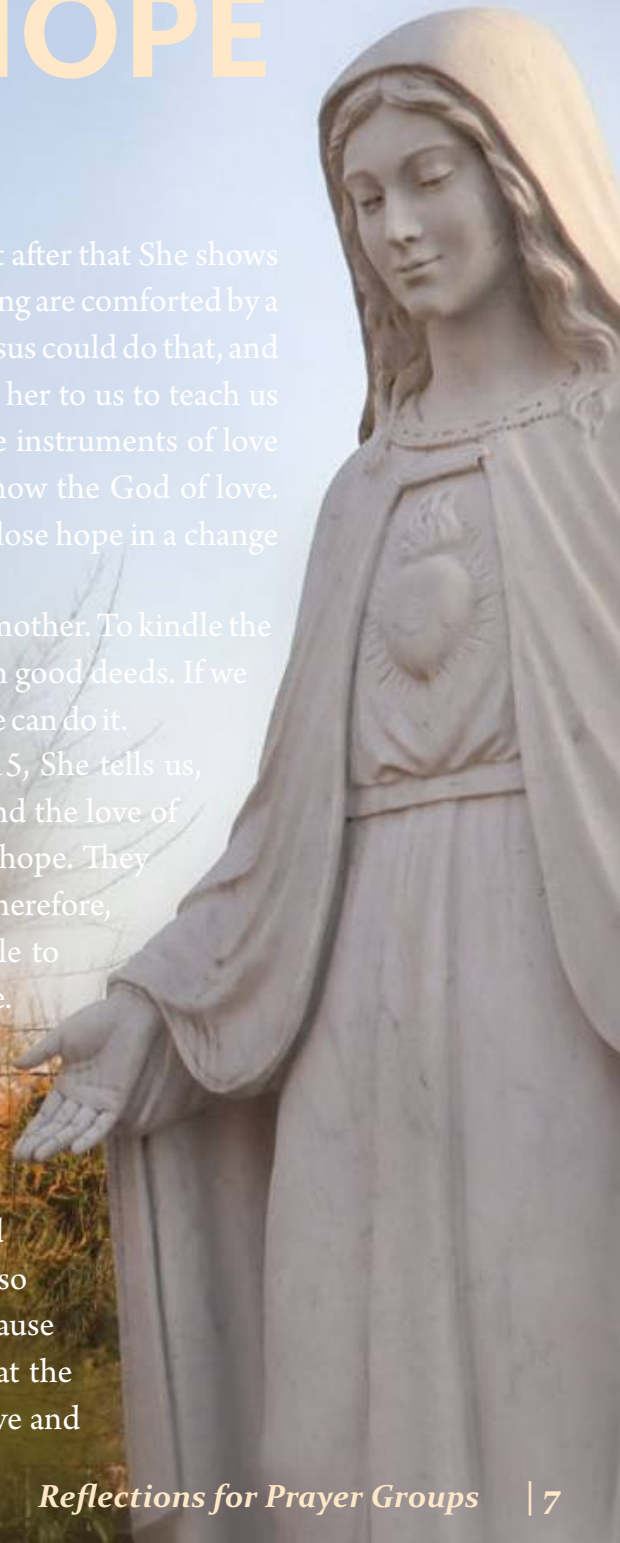
It is hard to hear Her words today –

WAY OF HOPE

“humanity has chosen death”. But right after that She shows us the way out of death into life. The dying are comforted by a visit that brings comfort, hope. Only Jesus could do that, and Mary was there. That is why He sends her to us to teach us this. She invites us, “Little children, be instruments of love for all those who have not come to know the God of love. Witness joyfully your faith and do not lose hope in a change of the human heart.”

This is an invitation to resemble the mother. To kindle the light of hope with prayer and love, with good deeds. If we live her main messages, with her help we can do it.

In the message of November 2, 2015, She tells us, „...those of my children who understand the love of my Son and follow it, live in love and hope. They have come to know the love of God. Therefore, my children, pray, pray so as to be able to love all the more and to do works of love. Because, faith alone without love and works of love is not what I am asking of you: my children, this is an illusion of faith. It is a boasting of self. My Son seeks faith and works, love and goodness. I am praying, and I am also asking you to pray, and to live love; because I desire that my Son, when He looks at the hearts of all of my children, can see love and



goodness in them and not hatred and indifference. My children, apostles of my love, do not lose hope, do not lose strength. You can do this.”

Our Lady promises to be with us, to bless us. Her heart carefully watches our every step. It has never been heard that anyone has been disappointed who has fled to her. This is witnessed by the many who have asked her help in mortal perils. “Every day, every second, I had to think of Our Lady,” says Immaculée Ilibagiza from the Tutsi tribe in Rwanda, testifying of the power of the prayer of the Rosary that saved her and seven other women during the terrible genocide of 1994. Immaculée attributes her rescue primarily to prayer and the rosary given to her by her father, a devout Catholic, before She went into hiding. The situation was so terrible that their mouths often dried up and they ran out of saliva - but not only from thirst, fatigue and exhaustion, but also because of prayer. They prayed constantly. Unceasingly. It was the only way they could survive - and eventually they did. It was only through constant prayer that She was able to forgive those who had

murdered her entire family and village. With gratitude, She remembers Our Lady's help. Every bead of the Hail Mary was like a breath of life in the hell that surrounded us.

St. Bernard, who greatly loved Our Lady, left us precious prayers to her, „ In dangers, in doubts, in difficulties, think of Mary, call upon Mary. Let not her name depart from your lips, never suffer it to leave your heart. And that you may more surely obtain the assistance of her prayer, neglect not to walk in her footsteps. With her for guide, you shall never go astray; while invoking her, you shall never lose heart; so long as She is in your mind, you are safe from deception“.

Let us pray: Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of Virgins, my Mother. To you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your clemency, hear and answer me. Amen



ary, Our Lady is indeed that noble star whose beam enlightens this earthly globe, warming our hearts far more than our bodies, fostering virtue and cauterizing vice. She, I tell you, is that splendid and wondrous star suspended as by necessity over this great wide sea, radiant with merit and brilliant in example. O you, whoever you are, who feel that in the tidal wave of this world you are nearer to being tossed about amongst the squalls and gales than treading on dry land, if you do not want to founder in the tempest, do not avert your eyes from the brightness of this star. When the wind of temptation blows up within you, when you strike upon the rock of tribulation, gaze up at this star, call out to Mary. Whether you are being tossed about by the waves of pride or ambition or slander or jealousy, gaze up at this star, call out to Mary. When rage or greed or fleshly desires are battering the skiff of your soul, gaze up at Mary. When the immensity of your sins weighs you down and you are bewildered by the loathsomeness of your conscience, when the terrifying thought of judgement appalls you and you begin to founder in the gulf of sadness and despair, think of Mary. In dangers, in hardships, in every doubt, think of Mary, call out to Mary. Keep her in your mouth, keep her in your heart. Follow the example of her life and you will obtain the favor of her prayer. Following her, you will never go astray. Asking her help, you will never despair. Keeping her in your thoughts, you will never wander away.

(sv. Bernard)

Do not lose HOPE

„Pray with the heart, little children, and do not lose hope because God loves His creatures. He desires to save you, one by one, through my coming here.“ March 25, 2003

„My apostles, pray and act. Bring the light and do not lose hope. I am with you.“ May 2, 2014

„My children, apostles of my love, do not lose hope, do not lose strength. You can do this. I am encouraging and blessing you.“ November 2, 2015

„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.“ July 25, 2016

„Pray, little children, and do not lose hope. May joy and peace be in your hearts.“ April 25, 2018



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

*In this month we pray
for all the desperate,
wounded and disappointed.*

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

TO COME OR NOT TO COME



Father Slavko
Barbarič,
OFM

Personally, I have learned a very important lesson. I realized that as a priest, and others often do this as well, I used to rebuke those who didn't come to Mass and encourage others to call them and bring them in. I used to make this point especially to parents if it was their children, but I don't know how much those rebukes increased the percentage of those who did come. I am rather more inclined to the conclusion that such invitations did not do much good.



Therefore, the more important question for me at this point is: How do I work with those who come to Mass? How do I celebrate Mass? How do I prepare myself, and then how do I prepare others? At this time, this seems to me considerably more important than admonishing and challenging those who do not come, because one thing is certain: no one, at any time or place, can renounce the desire for peace, love, justice, mercy, forgiveness. When our encounters with Christ, that is, the sacrifice of the Mass, become joyful encounters, encounters full of

mutual love and a shared love for Christ, when we begin to live a true gratitude for one another and a shared gratitude to Christ, then the things we want to happen will start to happen. When those who come to Mass are transformed, then people will start coming back to Mass again. When the faithful return home filled with joy and when they start sharing joy with one another, people will start coming to Mass again because of the joy that God gives. When those who come back from Mass deeply affected by what happens at Mass begin to go to



ask forgiveness for those who have hurt them or who have been hurt by them, people will start to come to Mass. Therefore those who no longer come to Mass have not renounced God or what God promises and gives, but have partly or fully renounced communion with those who seem to celebrate

and do not celebrate, who seem to forgive but do not forgive, who choose good and often immediately return to evil, who seem to seek the kingdom of God but persist in the kingdom of restlessness and disorder, serving the works of darkness.

TIME OF PREPARATION

Our whole day or our whole week should always be a conscious preparation for the living encounter with Christ at Mass, with Christ who wants to cooperate with us and wants to make us more ready to cooperate. When a person seeks him in the depths of the soul, then every success and failure, every joy and sorrow, every failure and sin become, in their own way, a

preparation for the encounter with Christ.

In Medjugorje there is a real preparation before every evening Mass. We pray the rosary, the hymn to the Holy Spirit and sing the Loreto Litany. Our Lady asks us to prepare. In Medjugorje, this preparation is organized in the simplest way for several reasons. One reason is the presence of

pilgrims from different parts of the world. The prayer of the Rosary is available to all, even if we do not understand the language. The prayer of the Rosary and short songs are an opportunity for a person to slowly but surely overcome the daily distractions, to concentrate and unwind in order to understand and prepare for the encounter with Christ from the depths of the soul. The Rosary is simply befriending Jesus and Mary, contemplating their conduct as examples of faith in joy, in pain and in glory.

In Medjugorje, this preparation takes one hour, but if we cannot set aside that much time before Mass in the church, it does not mean that we should miss the preparation. Whether I am driving, walking alone or in the company of family and friends, I can pray and be aware

of the reality of encountering Christ. Therefore, we should leave all other conversations and start praying.

The various intentions and graces that we can ask for are certainly an expression of love for Jesus, an expression of faith in his Eucharistic presence, an expression of love for his Word, and a prayer for the gift of the Holy Spirit for me personally, for others who come to Mass, and for the priest who celebrates Mass. It would also be good to pray for inward enlightenment to recognize the obstacles and reluctance that hinder our encounter with God. It is also good to pray for healing of the wounds that remain in the heart because of our personal sins, the sins that others have done to us, and the sins that we have done to others.



HE IS ALWAYS WITH ME

The Lord has shown me that when I talk to Him, I always ask Him for something: give me this, do this, do that. And during adoration I felt the need to be in dialogue. I imagined that if there was a person next to me who kept saying: give me this, give me that, I would not last long with him.

I felt a strong protection here, a strong affirmation that God is always with me, that He is strengthening me, and that filled me with joy. And there was one other moment in the lecture that touched me, when they talked about prayer. I understood that I had not worked on my weaknesses and that I had been lazy. I felt a sense of shame and ran to confession. I

Whenever I came to Medjugorje, I left everything here and went home free from everything. This time I also came with something and I am leaving it here, but now I am going away with something even greater, because the Lord has shown me that I have to work on myself, I have to cooperate with God, because He will not do everything for me.

I felt a deep peace here. For me, this is an example of how I should be. I will take this peace with me. I will try not to lose it. I am grateful for everything.

One evening I felt peace in my heart. It is a great gift to me. I can't remember the last time I felt such peace and I can't remember the last time I laughed. These are miracles for me. Thank you.

As for me, I was very touched by the lectures. I was especially touched by the lecture on Our Lady and Her attentiveness to others. In that moment I understood how much I still needed to grow and I liked that I should not choose who to help, but I should help everyone. I also liked the beautiful

I want to learn from Our Lady to reflect God, not to be somehow great, but to allow others to be warmed in God's embrace, to allow that to those He sends into my arms, and into my heart. I have received so much love here. I have not felt rejected. When I was climbing Mount Krizevac, I was carrying everything that was in my heart. When I came up, I felt the greatness of God and the love of God. I understood that He was waiting for me and loved me without limits.

Participants of Prayer, Fasting and Silence seminar from Latvia





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.



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

Pray for Ukraine

A group of people, including a priest, are gathered on a rocky path in a forest. The priest is kneeling in the foreground, holding a microphone and a book. Other people are also kneeling or standing around him, some with their hands clasped in prayer. A large wooden cross stands on the left side of the path. The background is filled with trees and rocks, suggesting a natural, outdoor setting.

If you want to make a financial donation and support the mission of The Light of Mary, you can transfer money online to:

Bank Account Name: **SVETLO MÁRIINO**,
Bank: **Slovenská sporiteľňa**
(Erste Group bank)

Account No.: **5058517603/0900**

IBAN: **Sk5409000000005058517603**

BIC/SWIFT: **GIBASKBX**

IČO: **45743304**

Thank you!