



The LIGHT of MARY

To bring Jesus - the Light of Mary

December 2022

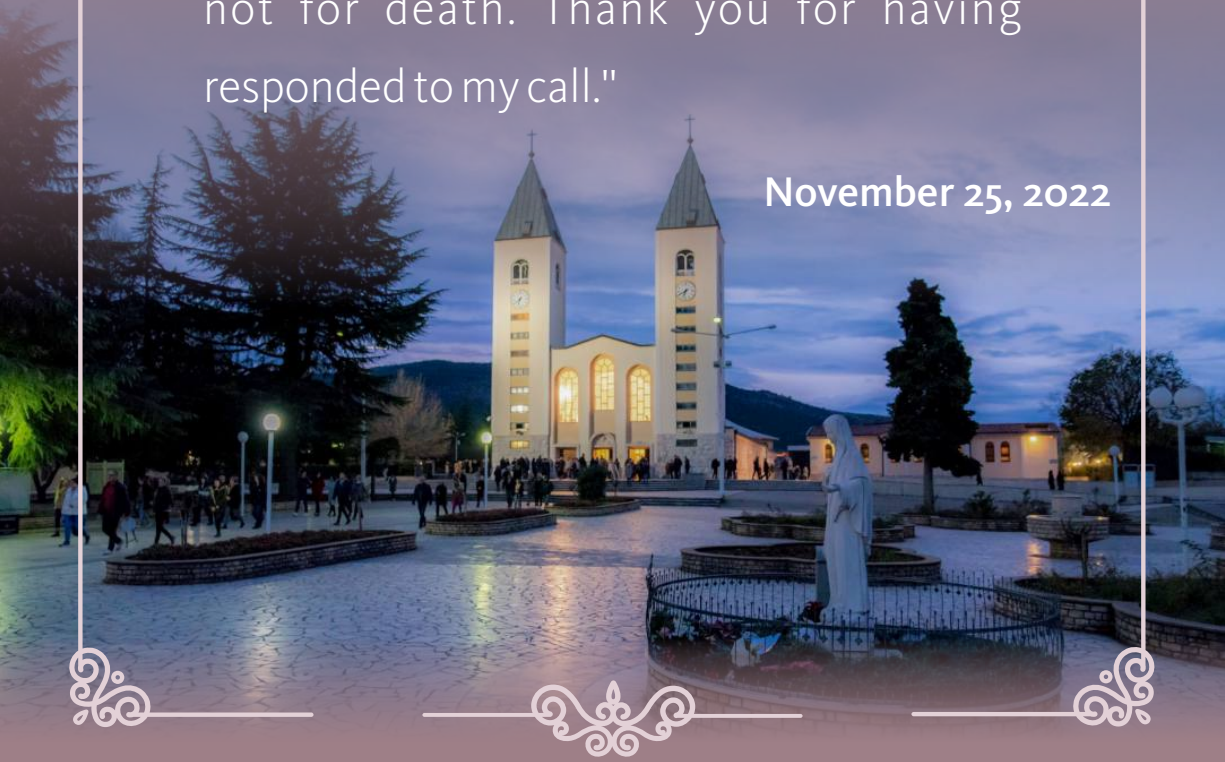
*„Prayer
opens hearts
and gives hope,
and faith is born
and strengthened...“*

(more on p. 3)

Message of Our Lady, Queen of peace

“Dear children! The Most High has sent me to you to teach you prayer. Prayer opens hearts and gives hope, and faith is born and strengthened. Little children, with love I am calling you: return to God, because God is love and your hope. You do not have a future if you do not decide for God; and that is why I am with you to guide you to decide for conversion and life, and not for death. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

November 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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*In conformity to Pope Urban VIII'
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about the supernatural character of
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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.*



PRAYER, HOPE AND FAITH



**Fr. Ljubo Kurtovič,
OFM**

In the last month's message, Our Lady told us that God sent her to be our joy and our way of hope. Her presence and messages are full of joy, hope of optimism. She does not come to intimidate us, but warns us and detects the present spiritual state in which the world is.

Our weak human memory may ask: What did you, Jesus, redeem us and set us free from? We see the world full of wars, hatred, murder and suffering of the innocent. The world lives in fear of nuclear war, environmental pollution, food shortages. The news and forecasts are getting more and more pessimistic.

And on the other hand, we hear Our Lady who speaks to us of joy, hope and goodness.

The world of war, hatred and killing is not the world of those who follow Jesus Christ and follow the call Our Lady from heavens. Even in this message, She does not give up on us, but invites us to pray

with even greater zeal. Prayer is the only way and path to God, hope and faith.

Through Her messages, Our Lady brings to life the words of Jesus in the Gospels, which will never pass away, "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21,34-36).

Prayer opens hearts and gives hope, and faith is born and strengthened. When prayer withdraws from our lives, we gradually, unnoticed, see how we have drifted away from the source of life and how we lose the ground beneath our feet. Prayer helps us to stay alive, united with Jesus' promises and words. Jesus has never deceived anyone, nor has anyone been deceived who has put his trust in him.

The greatness of Our Lady's holiness is in the words She said to God, "Let it be done to me according to your word". Because of Our Lady's 'yes', Jesus was able to be conceived and become a man. To love Mary is to speak and act like her. This is what Our Lady asks of us. Remember the wedding in Cana of Galilee when the wine ran out. What firm faith Our Lady has in going to Jesus and expecting a miracle from him. Although it might seem on the outside that Jesus rejects Our Lady's request,

She calmly says to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

So let us not stop praying, even when our prayers are answered. When God does not immediately hear our prayer, then He is preparing our hearts for even greater graces and gifts that He wants to bestow upon us.

We are all familiar with the words of St. Mother Teresa, which echo Our Lady's call and message, "The fruit of silence is prayer, the fruit of prayer is faith, the fruit of faith is love, the fruit of love is service, the fruit of service is peace".

Let us decide to walk the paths that Our Lady leads us to experience the fullness of life.

Let us pray: Our Lady, Queen of Peace, thank you for coming to us and for not being tired of speaking, even though we are not always your obedient children. We want to pray with you and we ask you to pray with us and for us, as you prayed with the first Church, with the Apostles, who were waiting for the promise of Jesus – for the Holy Spirit. We thank you, Our Lady, for every heart that has opened and that continues on the way of conversion and prayer. To you we entrust all of us, all those who are in the difficult trials of life, all those who are weary and disappointed. With your motherly heart, look also upon all those who have drifted away from God and prayer. We want to persevere on the way of prayer so that we may experience God of love and hope. Amen.

A DECISION

In the last month's message, Our Lady told us that God sent her to be our joy and our way of hope. Her presence and messages are full of joy, hope of optimism. She does not come to intimidate us, but warns us and detects the present spiritual state in which the world is.



*Terezia
Gaziova*

Medjugorje is called to be Her school of prayer. The visionary Ivan shares his experience, “Our Lady invites us to the school of prayer. In the school of prayer there are no holidays. Whoever wants to pray better must pray more. To pray more is a personal decision and to pray better is a grace given to those who pray more”.

Our Lady teaches us that prayer is merciful love, that prayer saves the world. We can say that Our Lady is prayer. We are called to be like Her. In Her messages, She tells us, “You be prayer, you who from the very beginning said `yes` to my call” (February 25, 2014). „ Open your hearts to the grace which God is giving you through me, as a flower that opens to the warm rays of the sun. Be prayer and love for all those who are far from God and His love“ (April 25, 2014). “Be prayer and a reflection of God’s love for all those who are far from God

and God’s commandments” (July 25, 2017). “Little children, do not permit that the wind of hatred and peacelessness rule in you and around you. You, little children, are called to be love and prayer“ (April 25, 2019).

Our Lady stretches out Her hands to God, and then stretches them out to us. Everything She receives from Him belongs to us, Her children. This is the attitude She teaches us to have in prayer. To receive graces from God and to be ready to serve as She did.

Throughout Her earthly life of joy and pain, Our Lady never lost sight of God; She was constantly immersed in God’s love. In spite of difficulties, perils, She persevered in prayer with only one desire – to accomplish all that the Father desired.

In her messages we find a call to pray without ceasing, to pray in the morning and in the evening. To pray to the Holy Spirit. To return to God by

FOR LIFE

praying the Rosary. To pray the words of life by meditating on the Gospel. To adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and to receive special graces. To pray at the foot of the Cross, to embrace suffering with Jesus and to know that this is the most powerful prayer. To stop evil and war by prayer and fasting. To change the world by prayer and love.

What is needed is both personal and communal prayer. In particular, She calls us to pray together in families. She tells us, “You alone can do nothing, but together with me you can stop evil and change this world. That is why I am with you to guide you to decide for conversion and life, and not for death”.

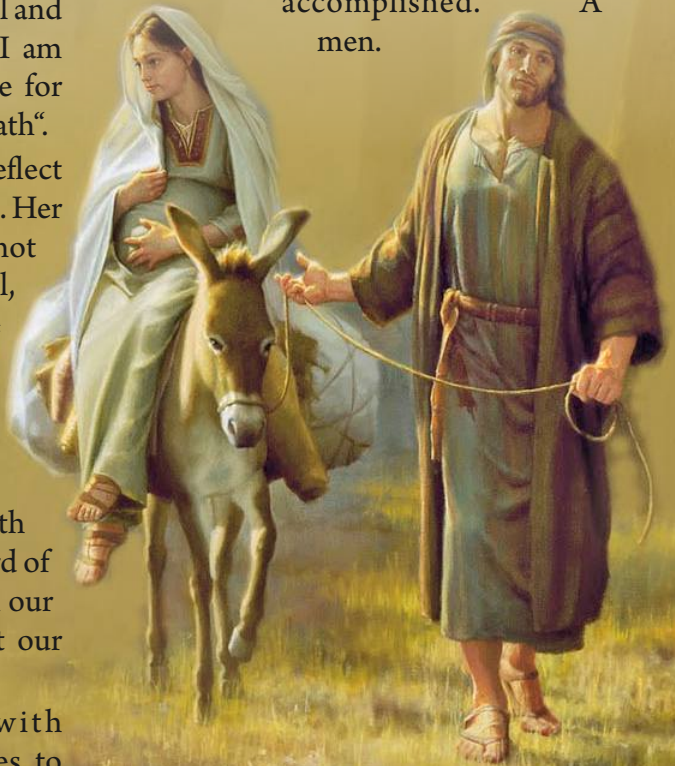
Our Lady leads us to Jesus, to reflect daily and to live the words of Jesus. Her invitation, “Decide for life and not for death” is an echo of the Gospel, where we read, “The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life”. When we walk away from the teachings of Jesus, we choose death.

With Mary, let us await the birth of Jesus by meditating on the Word of God so that Jesus may be born in our hearts and families. This is what our Teacher of Prayer desires.

Let us pray: Our Lady, with gratitude we surrender ourselves to

your guidance. We look with fascination at your example of prayer in all the events of life. In joy and thanksgiving, in pain and suffering, in the mundanity of daily duties, make us more like you. Nothing and no one could stop you from doing the will of the Father. We ask you to teach us that. We are so much in need of your help. With you we choose life and conversion. In a special way we entrust to you those who consciously choose death. May your love touch them and lead them to conversion. We desire to help you with prayer, sacrifice, good works, so that all that the Heavenly Father desires through you may be accomplished. A

men.



GOD *is* LOVE

„Today I call you to have your life be connected with God the Creator, because only in this way will your life have meaning and you will comprehend that God is love.“ April 25, 1997

„Because God is love and freedom, therefore, little children, when they want to put you in bonds and to use you, it is not from God. Because God loves and gives His peace to every creature.“ October 25, 2021

„I am with you for so long because God is great in His love and in my presence.“ September 25, 2020

„Little children, God is great and His love for every creature is great.“ October 25, 1995

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH



*Our Prayer meeting
will take place
on the first Saturday,
December 3, 2022.
In this month we pray
for peace in our hearts,
families and the world.*

BEFORE MASS, PRAY TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Father Slavko
Barbarič,
OFM*



In 1983, as we began to pray the Novena for the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Jelena Vasilj – a girl who had the grace of inner locutions – came to the presbytery and said that Our Lady asked us to invoke the Holy Spirit before Mass. We believed her words and we did it. We thought that this request concerned only the time of the Novena, and at the end of the Novena, we stopped. On 2 January 1984, Jelena came again and brought this message:



will glorify Him until the end of your earthly life. Thank you for having responded to my call.” (2 June 1984)

“Why have you ceased to pray to the Holy Spirit? I asked you to pray all the time for the Spirit of God to descend upon all of you; therefore recommence with this prayer!” (Message given to Jelena Vasilj on 2 January 1984)

We did it. This is why we invoke the Holy Spirit every evening before Mass. In the messages that Our Lady gave to Marija Pavlović, she also invited us to pray to the Holy Spirit:

“Dear children! Tonight I want to tell you to pray in the days of this novena for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on your families and on your parish. Pray; you will not regret it. God will give you the gifts with which you

The Holy Spirit was promised by Jesus and sent upon the Apostles and the whole Church. This is the Spirit who will renew the face of the earth. This is the Spirit who hovered over the waters and brought peace and order. This is the Spirit of God who brings back to life what is dead, who heals what is wounded, who warms what is cold, who gives His gifts in abundance to those who ask for them. In a very special way, this is the Spirit who can introduce us into the mystery of the eucharistic presence of Jesus. Without this Spirit, we can do nothing. It is recommended and good to invoke Him in all our needs, especially when we prepare ourselves for the encounter with Christ in the Holy Sacrifice of Mass.

OUR LADY'S APPARITION BEFORE MASS

According to the witness of the visionaries, Our Lady appears in the church about 20 minutes before the beginning of Holy Mass. Apparitions can occur at another time of the day when the visionaries are travelling, or on special occasions. For those who believe that Our Lady is appearing, the moment of her apparitions before Mass is very important in the context of their preparation for Holy Mass.

No apparitions bring new revelations or new truths. This is valid for Medjugorje, too. They only offer new incentives to live what we believe. Therefore, the basic message of Medjugorje and of other places of apparitions is that Mary, our Mother, is with us.

In different places and at different times, Our Lady presented herself under different names, but the most important fact is always her very presence. Pilgrims come to her shrines because they believe that she is present in a very special way. This is why they come to Medjugorje, too. They do not come here because someone is praying the Rosary or celebrating Holy Mass, or because they find hotels, but because they

believe that Our Lady is present. All the rest is a natural consequence of her presence: a new spirit of prayer, confessions, conversions, healings, vocations, etc.

Our Lady's desire and mission is to lead us to Jesus. The moment of her apparition before Mass can therefore be understood as a gift to the Church, as a special moment when she gathers the faithful together for Mass. Before leaving, she gives her blessing and then she goes in the light, accompanied by Christian symbols: the cross, the heart and the sun.

Mary was present at Cana in Galilee. She said, "Do whatever Jesus tells you!" and Jesus then worked His first miracle. She is our Mother and our teacher, she teaches and educates us. She knows that she is only the Servant of the Lord. She can invite us, but the Lord is the one who gives us graces and all that we need. Her simple, discreet, but so important presence has removed many obstacles in the souls of the members of other Christian denominations. There are more and more individuals, families and communities that accept her and let themselves be led to Jesus.

*(Barbarić, Slavko. 2018.
Celebrate Mass with the heart.)*



INTERVIEW WITH RITA FALSETT, CO-WORKER OF FATHER SLAVKO BARBARIC

Rita Falsett was a co-worker of Father Slavko Barbaric. She assisted him with some of his projects from 1993 until his death in 2000. After that she spent some time in Medjugorje in a hidden but effective ministry.

The reason of our interview, Rita, is your stay in Medjugorje and your help to the Parish community and especially to the late Father Slavko Barbaric, whom you assisted. First of all, can you tell us how you learned about Medjugorje and what was going on in your life at that time?

R. F. : I heard about Medjugorje in the early eighties and since I knew that my mother always liked to go on pilgrimages, I decided to suggest to her that she should visit this place. I didn't think I should go, but that she should go. So she went to Medjugorje and brought me a rosary and some prayers.

I started to pray. Then I heard that a war had broken out here. Since I worked in the social field, I decided to help the people who were suffering

here. I got in touch with an organization that was going to come here and work with rape victims. We were getting ready to come, but it turned out that we would not get the money we were supposed to receive from the state. So I decided to come here on my own. And I really did come. A number of humanitarian organizations were based in Medjugorje. After speaking with them, I started to work as a volunteer. We were transporting convoys of medicine and food to Sarajevo and Bosnia.

I thought I would stay here for some six months. At that time I met Milona von Habsburg, who was working with Father Slavko. She asked me if I could help Father Slavko with some new projects. Milona was preparing for a wedding and knew that Father Slavko needed help. I told her: Why not?! I didn't really know what that meant at the time, but I told myself that I would do everything I could for Father Slavko. That's how it all started. It was in 1993/94.

How would you describe your experience of Medjugorje during your stay here?

R.F. : When I came here, it was purely for humanitarian reasons. When I started working with Father Slavko, I started praying more, going to the evening program, to the Rosary, to Podbrdo and to Križevac. Over time, my spiritual life opened up and was renewed. I was learning about my Catholic faith. I learned a lot from Father Slavko, especially by watching him, observing him, being present at adoration. In general, I can say I started to pray more. As we all know, he lived out everything he said about Our Lady's messages. He lived fasting, prayer, conversion, he was a living example of how to live Our Lady's messages. Through that, I came to know God and Our Lady and the wonderful traditions of the Catholic faith. My life in Medjugorje during those eight years, and seven with Father Slavko, meant a lot of work and a lot of work with pilgrims.

Rita, we can say that in some way you were the right hand of Father Slavko. The Lord called him home. How did you handle that moment?

R. F.: I was there when Father Slavko passed away. I saw him slowly falling to the ground. I ran to him and saw him gasping for air. I didn't know what to do, but it was clear to me that it was surely a heart attack. Of course, I started screaming and calling for help. Father Slavko died very quickly, it probably only took 30 or 35 seconds. When he passed away, I had to tell myself that now I should cry and be very sad. It's hard to explain, but at that

moment I was filled with such a deep and strong peace. I knew that everything was going to be all right. I just knew it was meant to be that way. While Father Slavko was lying there, a physician came running and tried to feel his pulse. He said he had passed away. Suddenly, Father Slavko raised his head, opened his eyes, breathed his last, and bowed his head. The doctor and I looked at each other in surprise and knew it was over. We carried him down from Križevac. The road was very slippery. I think it took us an hour to climb down. Father Svetozar met us at the fourth Station of the Cross. He gave Father Slavko the last rites and we loaded him into the Ambulance.



How did you feel working with Father Slavko? What does the experience of assisting him mean to you?

R. F. : I noticed many things while working with Father Slavko. I think that Our Lady gave him one very special gift. When someone was near him, he had the impression that he was the only one in the world. I would compare it to the Adoration: you are there with Jesus and you feel that you are very special, the most important person, even though there may be hundreds around you. Father Slavko could talk to five or six people, but with one look he would tell you that you were the only one. He had the gift of talking to so many people and at the same time giving everyone what they needed at that very moment. He knew how to be a mother, a father, a brother, a sister if that person needed it to be healed. I truly believe that Father Slavko was an example, a true disciple of Our Lady. He was committed to Her, and She used him as an instrument for the salvation of souls. I was impressed by how steadfast and even-tempered Fr. Slavko was in all things. Everything he did, he did with love. Even when he was angry with someone, when he rebuked someone, it was with love. I truly believe that those who were close to Father Slavko here in Medjugorje received something from God's love, from Heaven. Every day I thank God and Our Lady for the gift of Father Slavko in my life. During those years of working with him, I did not realize what a gift it was.





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

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!