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word for peace

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OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSENGER

THE MIR CENTER OF WESTERN COLORADO

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September, 2026

Standing by the Cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." (Jn 19: 25-27)

Our Lady of Medjugorje's
Monthly Message of
August 25th, 2026:

Dear children! Today I am calling you: return to God, return to prayer, so that you may become carriers of peace. Pray, little children, for peace that is in danger; and may prayer begin to flow anew from your hearts and from your families, so that, in joy, you may feel the voice of Jesus in your hearts: 'Peace be with you.' Be, little children, carriers of peace and prayer for all those who do not pray. I am with you and I pray for you before my Son Jesus. Thank you for having responded to my call. (With ecclesiastical approval)

On the 25th of each month, Our Lady gives a message through the visionary Marija Pavlovic-Lunetti for the villagers in the parish of Medjugorje and for all those who choose to follow her on the path to holiness.



An AI generated image suggests how our prayers can help atone for the outrages perpetrated against Our Lady

Our Lady of Sorrows

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The Cross is the Winnowing Fan

by Carl Malito from medjugorjedaily.com

The death of the innocent is never a neutral event. The worst death imaginable inflicted upon the most innocent among us is designed to elicit a response. So it was for the death of Christ. The cross is the lever chosen by God to move the world either towards Him or away from Him. A few of the hardened Roman soldiers, accustomed to brutality and numbed by the sheer volume of crucifixions they had witnessed, were touched by the dignity with which the carpenter from Nazareth bore His death. So much so that the pagan Centurion proclaimed, "Surely this man was the Son of God."

Throughout the Old Testament, we find much fence sitting, a pervasive tendency to try to serve both God and Satan. Joshua and Elijah bemoaned the tendency for the people of Israel to try to serve both the true God of their ancestors and the false gods of their neighbors. But this is a human tendency, not confined to the people of long ago. The Book of Revelation reminds us of the fate of those who waffle, the lukewarm, those who try to serve both God and mammon, those who refuse to choose, who are reluctant to fully commit to either one or the other. But choose we must and the cross stimulates us, prods us really, to choose wisely.

The cross is a winnowing fan, a tool used in ancient times to separate the wheat from the chaff. The winnowing fan was used to toss the harvest grain into the air so that the husks would be blown away by the wind and the kernels of wheat could be gathered. The winnowing fan separated the two groups gathered there at the foot of the cross that day, those that loved Christ and suffered with Him as they watched His death: Mary, John and the Magdalene, the few huddled at the foot of the cross. But there were those who had come to jeer, to insult and to gloat during His final moments. The Holy Spirit, like a strong driving wind separated the husks from the kernels that were gathered there that day and the same Holy Spirit sifts those who have been gathering ever since, allowing them to be ground and milled into flour and then into bread, and molded into 'other Christs' who would carry their crosses and suffer with Him through the centuries to sustain their weakened brothers with the bread that falls ever new from heaven.

The cross is also a carpenter's square that is being used to build the Kingdom of God here on earth. The world had been tilted out of balance by the sin of Adam and Eve. And every act of disobedience since then has thrown the world ever further out of alignment with the Divine Will. Now, centuries and centuries later, the world bears little resemblance to the garden where it all began. Christ's death on the cross is the perfect act of love. He gave His life not for what He did but for what we did. His death was an act of pure love, but hidden in plain sight. Dying in front of all and yet still hidden from the many who refuse to see because their stony hearts some-

how blocks their vision. And their ears refuse to hear the cry of the innocent victim who calls for all to come to Him.

Christ was rejected by His own nation, denied by his friends, deserted by His disciples, betrayed by Judas, stripped of His reputation and His garments. He died in the Temple City of Jerusalem at the holy season of Passover. It was the absolute worst death imaginable. It is difficult to imagine a worse death. He was rejected, dishonored, disgraced, spat upon and deprived of everything we humans hold dear: His reputation, gone, His friends gone, His modesty, violated. No warmth, no encouragement, no

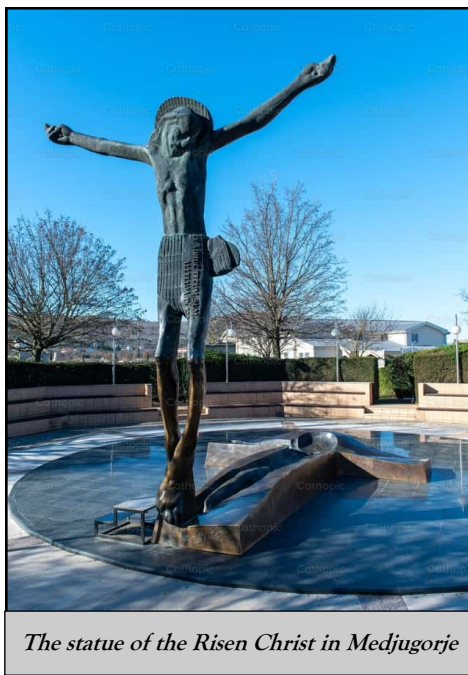
support, no comfort, with nothing left to Him but the few gathered at His feet and the coarse wood, the iron nails and a crown that pierced His scalp. And yet, all future good deeds will be compared to that one. His seemingly meaningless death was completed that afternoon outside the walls of Jerusalem. He died at that particular darkened moment but His death was measured out for all time and measures still. It was a defeat in every apparent sense but it was the ultimate victory to those who believe.

The cross is also a wine press where the body of the Christ was squeezed with such intensity that blood emerged even from His sweat. His divine blood oozed out of every pore upon a fallen world, a world too blind to recognize the healing balm that falls from heaven like rain. Just as the sun rises on the just and the unjust, so too is the blood of Christ poured out for all. His blood flows upon those gathered at the foot of the cross, those who implore God's mercy with their silent prayers but His blood is

also poured out for those who shed it. Yes, His sinless blood falls upon those who insult and revile Him. He, the spotless victim, prays for them, hoping that some will be moved. The blood and water which flowed from His side was the perfect mixture of the good wine, the best wine that He saved for the last.

The cross is also a fiery beacon, a column of light shining for all on the storm tossed seas of this world. His light, brighter than the sun, shining in this darkened world, is a light for all: both those near and those far off, those living at the time, those long dead and those not yet born; calling all to look upon the One that they have lifted up and pierced. His is a light that calls silently but insistently that this is the way, the way of love. He is the truth and He shows the truth of what sin does to the God who loves. His is the life that calls us to die to self and live for Him, to live for God finally, and for others. Yes, the path that leads to life requires a death, a death to the lower desires of our own disordered imagining and a rising to the higher life that leads to life.

But this fiery sign of the cross is also a flaming sword that repels all who refuse to pick up their cross and follow. They will lose their life all those who try to cling to their own petty desires and refuse to follow the narrow way. Jesus wants us all with Him



The statue of the Risen Christ in Medjugorje

From the Diary of Sister Emmanuel

www.childrenofmedjugorje.com

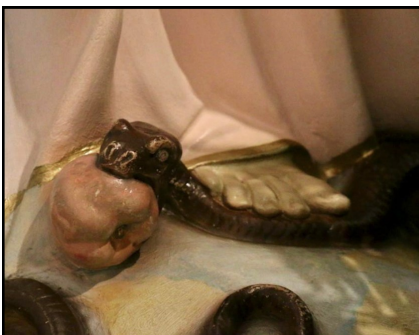
On July 25th, 2026, the visionary, Marija received the following monthly message:

Dear children! While darkness and peacelessness rule in many hearts, you, little children, be prayer and my extended hands of love. Little children, place the Sacred Scripture in a visible place in your family and read it, so that it may be an encouragement for you to conversion and a new life; because Satan is strong and seduces hearts. Your hearts, through my maternal Heart, I desire to commend to the Heart of my Son Jesus, so that He, the Risen One, may reign in you and joy may begin to reign in you and around you. Thank you for responding to my call. (With ecclesiastical approval)

A battlefield!

In today's world we see how difficult the battle between good and evil really is! **"Darkness and anxiety reign in many hearts,"** Mary tells us in her latest message... She sees all and understands all; she knows God's plan as well as the enemy's. She knows full well on which side the final victory lies—that of her Son Jesus—not only for the Head of the Body of the Church but for all its members. She also knows the cost of that victory for her Son. Her Mother's heart is filled with tenderness for each of us, her children, and she unceasingly intercedes so that we may make the right choices—so that we may choose Life!

Revelations from the enemy? During exorcisms, demons sometimes speak openly at the command of priests appointed by the Church as Exorcists. It was in this way that Father Gabriele Amorth obtained some enlightening words regarding what best disarms demons and their evil plans, and what prevents them from harming us—knowledge that is crucial if we want to avoid falling into their traps!



Rather than quoting here the words he pried from the demons, I prefer to cite the treasures of grace available to us in the Church. The invisible enemies view these treasures as disasters for themselves, for through them they are greatly weakened or even utterly



Sister Emmanuel

defeated. Here are the most important treasures of grace; they are our weapons of victory...

Eucharistic adoration of Jesus—whether He is hidden in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar—is unbearable to them. As pure spirits, demons—fallen though they may be—know perfectly well where Jesus is and where He is not. They can distinguish a consecrated host from an unconsecrated one. How do they react when the faithful adore Jesus in the Eucharist? The light

blinds and burns them; they cannot endure it. If the faithful truly realized WHO is present in the Eucharistic Bread and opened themselves to the power of His love, they would kneel and adore Him, and darkness would flee from this world!

The sincere confession of sins to a priest, for it strips demons of the hold they have gained over the soul through its sins. Mary tells us: **"You, my children, you should be concerned only for your soul, because it is the only thing on earth that belongs to you. You will bring it, dirty or clean, before the Heavenly Father."** (July 2, 2016)

Any sincere prayer addressed to Mary makes them flee—especially the Rosary. The mere mention of Mary's name strikes them a blow, for they have never managed to reach this creature who is so humble and so pure. **"Look at me with your heart,"** Mary tells us, **"speak to me as a mother about your pains, sufferings and your joys..."** (March 2, 2017). **"Pray for my intentions so that, through your prayers, you may stop Satan's plan over this world, which is further from God every day, and which puts itself in the place of God and is destroying everything that is beautiful and good in the souls of each of you. Therefore, little children, arm yourselves with prayer and fasting so that you may be conscious of how much God loves you...."** (October 25, 2008).

Fasting is unbearable to them because it purifies the soul of their harmful influence and brings about many conversions. When coupled with prayer, fasting can prevent wars, stop wars, and suspend the laws of nature.

Prayer for those who do not yet know God's love is deeply pleasing to God, and the enemy cannot withstand the divine strength and light that radiates from such prayer offered on behalf of so many souls.

Forgiveness granted to those who have harmed us and prayer for our enemies—demons cannot bear these things, for they destroy the bitterness, resentment, anger, hatred, and desire for revenge that the demons seek to instill in our hearts. Mary tells us: **"Forgiveness is the most exalted form of love"** (June 2, 2019). **"Let your only instrument always be love"** (July 31, 1986).

Every act of true charity drives them away, for true love reminds them of the One who conquered them on the Cross out of love for mankind. All true love triumphs over demons. "Love covers a multitude of sins," St. Peter tells us (1 Peter 4:8). "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for those who one loves," Jesus tells us (John 15:13).

(Diary of Sister Emmanuel continued on page 6)

The Crucifixion of the Christ

by Fulton Sheen from *The Life of Christ*

The place assigned for the Crucifixion was Golgotha, or the "Place of the Skull." Legend has it that it was the burial place of Adam. Representations of the Crucifixion often show a skull at the foot of the Cross to indicate that the new Adam was dying for the old Adam. But certainly, it was a place where dead bones were thrown after execution. Once on the hill, the executioners stripped Him of His garments, opening new wounds in His Sacred Body. In all, there were seven distinct bloodsheddings; the Circumcision, the Agony in the Garden, the Scourging, the Crowning with thorns, the Way of the Cross, and now the two that are to follow: the Crucifixion and the Piercing of the Sacred Heart.

The Cross was prepared and over it was placed an inscription written by Pilate in Hebrew, Latin and Greek, reading:

Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews. Jn 19:19

His death and also His Kingship were proclaimed in the name of the three cities of the world: Jerusalem, Rome, and Athens; in the language of the Good, the True and the Beautiful; in the tongues of Sion, the Forum and the Acropolis. Pilate would be asked to change what he had written, but he would refuse: "What I have written, I have written." His Kingship remained proclaimed, though, for the moment, a Cross would be His throne; His Blood, the royal purple; the nails, His scepter; the crown of thorns, His diadem. Truth was made to speak when men ridiculed.

Being stripped of His garments meant that He was no longer localized by dress. In His nakedness He became the Universal Man. Exiled outside the city, He now gave up country as well as life. The Sacred Heart was confined by no frontiers. The rough nail was applied to that hand from which the world's graces flow, and the first dull knock of the hammer was heard in silence. Blow followed blow and was quickly re-echoed from the city walls beneath. Mary and John held their ears; the echo sounded as another stroke. Feet too were pinioned, the feet which sought the lost sheep among the thorns. Every detail of prophecy was being fulfilled. A thousand years before, David looked forward to the role hammer and nails would play in greeting the Messiah, as carpenters would put to death Him Who carpentered the universe:

A herd of bulls surround me, great bulls of Bashan beset me. Ravening and roaring lions open their mouths wide against me. My strength drains away like water and all my bones are loose. My heart has turned to wax and melts within me. My mouth is dry as a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaw; I am laid low in the dust of death. The huntsmen are all about me; a band of ruffians rings me round, and they have hacked off my hands and my feet. I tell my tale of misery, while they look on me and gloat. They share my garments among them and cast lots for my clothes. Ps 21:13-19

Isaiah had foretold that in His death the Messiah would be linked up with criminals and wrongdoers. Being a vicarious victim for sinners, He was accounted no better than the scum of the earth. As Isaiah prophesied:

He was afflicted, he submitted to be struck down and did not open his mouth; he was led like a sheep to the slaughter, like a ewe that is dumb before the shearers,. Without protection, without justice, he was taken away; who gave a thought to his fate, how he was cut off from the world of living men, stricken to the death for my people's transgression? He was assigned a grave with the wicked, a burial place among the refuse of mankind...Is 53:7-7

Because crucifixion was the most excruciating of all torments, it was customary to offer the condemned a drink to deaden sensitivity to the pain. Probably the women of Jerusalem had brought such a potion with them. In any case, from the soldiers:

He was offered drugged wine, but he would not take it. Mk 15:23



Christ crucified on Apparition Hill

Our Lord, when it was brought to His lips, knowing it to be a sedative, refused to sip. Though His Body, already exhausted, cried out for water, He would not drink that which would dull His role as mediator. At His birth, His mother was given the gift of myrrh and accepted it as a sign of His ransoming death. At His death, He would refuse the myrrh which would deaden the reason of His coming. He told Peter the night before that He would drink the cup His Father had given Him. But to drink that cup of Redemption He must not drink of the cup that would drive a wedge between

His Body and His Spirit.

Our Lord used many pulpits during His public life, such as Peter's bark pushed into the sea, the mountaintop, the streets of Tyre and Sidon, the temple, the country road near a cemetery, and a banquet hall. But all faded into insignificance compared to the pulpit which He mounted now—the pulpit of the Cross. It was lifted slowly off the ground, wavered in midair for a moment, tearing and lacerating His Sacred Flesh; then suddenly with a deep thud that seemed to shake even hell itself, it sank into the pit prepared for it. Our Lord had mounted His pulpit for the last time.

Like all orators, He overlooked His audience. Far off, in Jerusalem, He could see the gilded roof of the temple, reflecting its rays against the sun which was soon to hide its face in shame. Here and there on temple walls He could catch a glimpse of those who were straining their eyes to see Him Whom the darkness knew not. At the edge of the crowd were timid followers, ready to flee in case of danger; there, too, were the executioners getting their dice ready to shake for His garments. Close to the Cross was the only Apostle present, John, whose face was like a cast moulded out of love; Magdalen was there too, like a broken flower, a wounded thing. But foremost among all —God pity her!—was His own mother. Mary, Magdalen, John; innocence, penitence, and priesthood; the three types of souls forever to be found beneath the Cross of Christ. **(Fulton Sheen will be beatified on Sept. 24th)**

Messages to Jelena and Her Prayer Group

From www.medjugorje.org and spiritofmedjugorje.org



Jelena and Marijana Vasilj were both age 10 when they began receiving messages from Our Lady

In December 1982, Jelena Vasilj was just 10 years old. She came from a local family in Medjugorje that was very devout. The family had always prayed together and lived an active faith life. Jelena began to receive inner locutions from Our Lady at the end of December 1982. While the six visionaries could see Our Lady in three dimensions, and spoke with

her as in a normal conversation, Jelena could only hear Our Lady's voice and saw her in a two dimensional interior way. Several months later, in March of 1983, Jelena's friend Marijana Vasilj (they were friends but not related) began to also receive inner locutions.

At Our Lady's request, a prayer group was founded by Jelena in June 1983... According to her testimony, Our Lady speaks to her and teaches her. The prayer group used to meet in the parish hall after the evening Mass under the guidance of Fr. Tomislav Vlasic, and from time to time, other priests were also with the group. During the meetings, which consisted of simple prayer and singing, Our Lady gave messages to the group primarily through Jelena, teaching them how to pray. This prayer group was active until 1987.

Monday, April 25, 1983 Message received by Jelena: *"Be converted! It will be too late when the sign comes. Beforehand, several warnings will be given to the world. Have people hurry to be converted. I need your prayers and your penance."*

"My heart is burning with love for you. It suffices for you to be converted. To ask questions is unimportant. Be converted. Hurry to proclaim it... Tell everyone that it is my wish, and that I do not cease repeating it. Be converted, be converted. It is not difficult for me to suffer for you. I beg you, be converted."

"I will pray to my Son to spare you the punishment. Be converted without delay. You do not know the plans of God; you will not be able to know them. You will not know what God will send, not what He will do. I ask you only to be converted. That is what I wish. Be converted! Be ready for everything, but, be converted. That is all I wish to say to you. Renounce everything; all that is part of conversion. Goodbye, and may peace be with you."

Monday, July 4, 1983 To Jelena: *"You have begun to pray three hours a day, but you look at your watch, preoccupied with your work. Be concerned with only the essential. Let yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit in depth, then your work will go well. Do not hurry. Let yourself be guided and you will see that everything will be accomplished well."*

Monday, November 7, 1983 To Jelena: *"Do not go to confession through habit, to remain the same after it. No, it is not good. Confession should give an impulse to your faith. It should stimulate you and bring you closer to Jesus. If confession does not mean anything for you, really, you will be converted with great difficulty."*

To Jelena: *"Each Thursday, read again the passage of Matthew 6, 24-34, before the most Blessed Sacrament, or if it is not possible to come to church, do it with your family."*

Friday, March 30, 1984 To Jelena: *"My children, I wish that the holy Mass be for you the gift of the day. Attend it, wish for it to begin. Jesus gives Himself to you during the Mass. Thus, look forward to that moment when you are cleansed. Pray very much so that the Holy Spirit will renew your parish. If people attend Mass with luke-warmness, they will return to their homes cold, and with an empty heart."*

Holy Thursday, April 19, 1984 To Jelena: *"I'm going to reveal a spiritual secret to you: if you want to be stronger than evil, make yourself a plan of personal prayer. Take a certain time in the morning, read a text from Holy Scripture, anchor the Divine word in your heart, and strive to live it during the day, particularly during the moment of trials. In this way, you will be stronger than evil."*

Good Friday, April 20, 1984 To Jelena: *"You should be filled with joy. Today, Jesus died for your salvation. He descends into Hell and opens the gates of paradise. Let joy reign in your hearts! When you pray, seek the advantage of prayer. Prayer is a conversation with God. To pray means to listen to the Lord. Prayer is for me a service, because after it all things become clear. Prayer leads to knowing happiness."*

Thursday, June 21, 1984 To Jelena: *"If you knew how much I love you, you would cry with joy. When anyone is before you, and asks you something, you will give it to him. I am before so many hearts, but they remain closed. Pray so that the world receives my love."*

Wednesday, February 20, 1985 (Ash Wednesday) To Jelena: *"I give you an advice; I would like for you to try to conquer some fault each day. If your fault is to get angry at everything, try each day, to get angry less. If your fault is not to be able to study, try to study. If your fault is not to be able to obey, or if you cannot stand those who do not please you, try on a given day, to speak with them. If your fault is not to be able to stand a proud person, you should try to approach that person. If you desire that person to be humble, be humble yourselves. Show that humility is worth more than pride."*

"Thus, each day, try to go beyond, and to reject every vice from your heart. Find out which are the vices that you most need to reject. During this Lent, you should try and truly desire to spend it in love. Strive as much as possible."

To the group on March 25th, on the Feast of the Annunciation: *"Today, before God, I say my 'Fiat' for all of you. I repeat it: I say my 'Fiat' for all of you. Dear Children, pray, so that in the whole world may come the Kingdom of Love. How mankind would be happy if love reigned!"*

In the middle of June, 1985, Jelena saw a splendid pearl, which divided itself. Each part glittered, and then it faded. Jelena heard this explanation: *"Jelena, man's heart is like this splendid pearl. When he belongs completely to the Lord, he shines even in the darkness. But when he is divided, a little to Satan, a little to everything, he fades and is no longer worth anything... If you would abandon yourselves to me, you will not even feel the passage from this life to the next life. You will begin to live the life of Heaven from this earth."*

(Diary of Sister Emmanuel continued from page 3)

Prayer for the conversion of sinners—always answered by God—is unbearable to them, because many souls turn to God and escape their grasp. They are forced to let go of their prey.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit is unbearable to them. It annihilates them. The Holy Spirit is Uncreated Light; He is communion, a flame of love... Demons are darkness and division; they are driven by hatred... they cannot withstand it!

Offering our sufferings to Jesus, in union with His own sufferings on the Cross, obtains salvation for many souls and brings about miracles. These offerings disarm demons and prevent the soul from joining in their demonic rebellion. The enemy seeks to incite us to rebel against God when we suffer. But Mary tells us: **“Take the cross of my beloved Son Jesus in your hands and meditate on His passion and death. May your suffering be united in His suffering and love will win, because He who is love gave Himself out of love to save each of you.”** (March 25, 2013). Through baptism, we have become priests, prophets, and kings. By offering up our sufferings, we are granted a share in the work of Redemption accomplished by Christ. **“Dear children... I am calling you to my Son. Only He can transform despair and suffering into peace and clarity; only He can give hope in the deepest pain...”** (September 2, 2018).

The humble prayer of the Stations of the Cross is intolerable to them; they flee at full speed, for it was through the Cross that Christ accomplished our salvation—and, by the same token, their own definitive undoing.

Intercession for the souls in Purgatory or at the bedside of the dying is unbearable to them. For the souls delivered by our prayers help us, in turn, to avoid attachment to earthly things and to overcome our evil inclinations. A total loss for the enemy.

Prayers of reparation are like poison to them; they destroy their harmful works and their evil schemes to ruin holy things.

Daily reading of Holy Scripture. The spirit of death flees from this reading; it seeks to turn us away from it and make us despise it, for as Jesus says: “Whoever hears my word and believes in Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has passed over from death to life” (John 5:24). “Whoever receives my commandments and keeps them is the one who loves me; and whoever loves me will be loved by my Father; I too will love him and show myself to him” (John 14:21).

The use of holy water, exorcised salt and oil, exorcised incense and all sacramentals drive them away. Mary asks us to return to using holy water in our homes in her message of December 26, 1982, and to carry blessed objects (small crosses or medals) as signs to Satan that we belong to her. A word of caution: do not wear Zodiac signs or so-called “lucky charms”—they are actually “misfortune magnets”! By tradition, Croatian believers are accustomed to sprinkling holy water inside and around their homes every Saturday! Let us adopt this beautiful tradition!

The power of holy water! Last year, an experienced exorcist priest asked a young Canadian priest to join him in prayer for the deliverance of a possessed person. The woman was thirsty and asked for water; the young priest went to get her a glass, but the other priest rebuked him: “You must bless the water before giv-

(Diary of Sister Emmanuel continued on page 7)

YouthFest in Medjugorje a Tremendous Success

From Medjugorje.hr/en



Thousands of young people climbed in the dark to gather at the top of Cross Mountain for the final Mass of the YouthFest

Over 70,000 young people from all around the world gathered in Medjugorje for the recent YouthFest during the first week of August. Nearly 700 priests gathered with them to minister to the young people and teach them and offer them the sacraments. The days of the YouthFest were filled with catechesis and personal testimonies and each day culminated with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass held at the outdoor canopy where a vandal ignited a fire just a week before the gathering was to begin.



A personal message from Pope Leo XIVth was read to the crowd and the Holy Father encouraged the young people “To return *Ad Fontem*, that is to Christ, the source of a new life and authentic joy.” He invited them “To rediscover, through prayer, listening to the Word of God, and the sacraments,

the beauty of a personal encounter with the Lord, who quenches every heart and gives the strength to always begin anew.” His Holiness encouraged young people “To sincerely seek the truth that sets them free, without being seduced by the illusions of fleeting happiness. In following Jesus, each person can embrace even the most difficult questions and the restlessness of the heart as an opportunity for discernment and growth in faith.”

The Holy Father also urged young people to let themselves be led by the Holy Spirit and to entrust themselves to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, so that they may become shining witnesses of the Gospel, promoters of fraternity, and builders of peace in society.

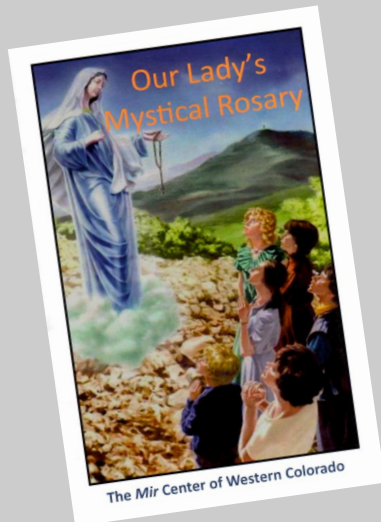
The week concluded with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on the Feast of the Transfiguration celebrated at 5:00am at the top of Cross Mountain. Thousands of the young people climbed up the mountain before sunrise to gather for one final celebration with Christ and with one another before they were sent out into the world.



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(Winnowing fan continued from page 2)

but He warns us all with His last few breaths that we can follow Him to the Father, only if we choose the better part. There we will find rest, not here, not yet, not now. Because now is the time for plowing. The cross is the yoke that binds us to Jesus and that allows us to plow, to plant and to turn the hardened ground of our stony hearts so that we may bring forth 30 or 60 or a hundred fold. Plowing our hearts will certainly hurt but leaving them unbroken will hurt far more, and for all eternity.

The cross is also the loom with which we weave the wedding garment that will allow us to enter into the feast and celebrate joyfully forever at the marriage banquet of the lamb of God. We must weave skillfully and never drop a stitch, never miss a chance to offer up whatever may come. The disappointments and the frustrations of this life, the pain and sufferings that come to all can bear great fruit when united with the suffering of Christ on the cross and can aid in the salvation of those dear to us, and even dearer to Him.

The cross is a consuming fire that will burn all, whether we approach or flee. We will burn either with love and gratitude for what He has done or with remorse and regret for what we have done or failed to do. But none will remain neutral when faced with the intense flame of the greatest love imaginable.

The cross is also the pool of Siloam in which we are submerged, one after another, each in proper order. But the water for this pool is stirred from within. We are immersed for the healing of all that afflicts us, all that leaves us blind, deaf, and lame. There is no need for us to hurry to gain entry to the pool. Do not worry that someone will enter first. We will be immersed at the proper time, even if it is at the last hour, late in the day, even if it happens with our last breath, like the good thief. There is healing enough for all, because the blood that flows, the blood shed that afternoon in an outpouring of love that can never be equaled is like the bread and oil of the widow's jar that will never run dry until the rain of the Lord's salvation has come.

(Diary of Sister Emmanuel continued from page 6)

ing it to her—especially for a deliverance prayer!" So, he blessed the water and gave it to the woman. She began to drink but then started spitting and screaming, furious with the young priest: "I asked you for water, not fire; it's burning me! My whole throat is on fire!" Today, the young priest makes no secret of what that experience meant to him: "It was Satan who taught me the power of holy water," he says, "and the power of a priest's blessing."

Finally, this year, the YouthFest brought together thousands of young people from all countries. More than 690 priests concelebrated, rejoicing in the opportunity to exercise their ministry among such a diverse group of young people.

Aren't the messages of Our Lady too good to keep to yourself? Isn't there a friend or relative that you'd like to add to our mailing list? There is no charge for *"Our Lady's Monthly Messenger"*, but donations are accepted. Please Note: if you add more than 2 names, please consider a donation of 20 dollars per name per year. Make checks payable to: *The Mir Center*. And please, no overseas orders... Thanks and God Bless!

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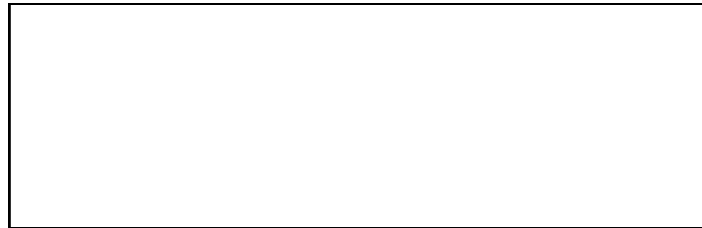
The Mir Center of Western Colorado
2574 Young Court
Grand Junction, CO 81505

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 <i>The Nativity of the Virgin</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>The Holy Name of Mary</i>
13	14 <i>The Triumph of the Cross</i>	15 <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 <i>Our Lady of Mercy</i>	25	26
27	28	29 <i>The Archangels</i>	30			

Upcoming events:

- + *The Nativity of Mary, September 8th*
- + *The Holy Name of Mary, September 12th*
- + *The Triumph of the Cross, September 14th*
- + *Our Lady of Sorrows, September 15th*



Our Lady's Five-Point Program
*Conversion
*Prayer
*Fasting
*Peace
*Reconciliation

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2574 Young Court
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Our primary goal, our main focus, is to bring Jesus Christ to the world and to bring the world to Jesus Christ. To accomplish this task, the MIR Center of Western Colorado was established to provide accurate information about the messages and events originating from Marian apparitions occurring in Medjugorje and elsewhere. We are committed to living and sharing the messages of Medjugorje and helping others to live the messages as well. By living the messages of Medjugorje, which are in essence the message of the Gospel, we hope to spread peace into our families, into our communities, and into our world. As a nonprofit organization, we intend to use any and all funds raised or donations received to aid in spreading the messages of Our Lady to all who will listen. With regard to the apparitions occurring in the world today we humbly submit to the final authority of the Catholic Church.

MISSION STATEMENT