

# OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSENGER

THE MIR CENTER OF WESTERN COLORADO

*Check out our website at [Medjugorjedaily.com](http://Medjugorjedaily.com)*



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*Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, 'Out of Egypt I called my son.' (Mt 2: 13-15)*

## Our Lady of Medjugorje's Monthly Message of December 25th, 2025:

**D**ear children! Also today - when God permits me to carry to you in my arms little Jesus, the King of Peace, that He may fill you with the ardor of love and peace, so that every heart may be similar to His Heart in this time of grace - be resolute and courageous defenders of the love of your God, that in this time of grace He may give you His peace. 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.



## Flight into Egypt

### Inside:

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## Our Lady's Annual Apparition to Jakov, December 25th, 2025

From Medjugorje.hr



At the last daily apparition to Jakov Colo on September 12th, 1998, Our Lady told him that henceforth he would have one apparition a year, every December 25th, on Christmas Day. The apparition began at 2:38 pm and lasted 8 minutes. Our Lady came with little Jesus in her arms. Through Jakov, Our Lady gave the following message:

***Today, on this day of grace, in a special way I am calling you to complete surrender to Jesus. Little children, surrender to Him your wounds and pains, your past and future, and permit Jesus to begin to rule in your lives. My children, only with complete surrender, Jesus gives Himself in your life, and this is the greatest gift that you can receive. Pray that you may comprehend how precious you are for Jesus and how much He loves you. Thank you for having responded to my call.*** (With ecclesiastical approval)

### Show Me Everything!

From [medjugorjealtermista.com](http://medjugorjealtermista.com)

***“Dear children, Today I invite you to accept and live my messages seriously. These are the days when you have to decide for God, for peace and for good. Let all hatred and jealousy leave your life and your thoughts, and let only love of God and neighbor be established there. Thus, only by chance, you will be able to discern the signs of this time. I am with you and I guide you towards a new time, a time that God gives you as a grace to know Him even more. Thank you for having responded to my call.” January, 25th, 1993***

Souls chosen particularly by God are often tempted by Satan, who is always eager to disturb consciences. Making the soul believe that there is no mercy for it is a beautiful victory for the devil. Jesus often said to Sr. Faustina: the lack of trust in his mercy on the part of consecrated souls is the thing that most wounds His heart; far more than their sins! Marie-Lou fell right into this sordid trap. “I was twelve years old when I first heard the voice of Jesus in my heart,” she says. On the day of my First Communion he told me clearly: “In life you have to forget yourself in order to make others happy”. Even as a child, Jesus was my best friend, I shared all my thoughts, desires and sorrows with him. I really lived for him; I therefore wanted to follow his advice with determination and everything went very well.

People loved me and praised me willingly. So many years passed when, suddenly, without me realizing why, life changed and everything began to go wrong. I couldn't help but blame Jesus and I said to him angrily, “For your sake I have done everything you asked of me and everything comes back to haunt me. If this is your way of loving, as far as I am concerned, I don't want

to have anything more to do with you!” Out of spite, I stopped praying and going to mass. I threw myself body and soul into the things of this world: smoking, drinking, going to bars and sins of all kinds: this did not make me happy, but I continued like this for some time.

Years later, as I was crossing the street, to my surprise, I saw Jesus standing there, close to me. Was He angry? On the contrary! He looked at me with infinite love and I dissolved into tears and asked him for forgiveness. “You have abandoned me, he told me, but I have not abandoned you. I will remain close to you until you turn your gaze towards me again”. Like St. Peter, I sobbed over my sins. Then my bond of love with Jesus was re-established, but in a more humble way. I could only count on him because I... I had failed in everything. Jesus said to me in prayer, “Give me all your sins in confession.” I didn't understand why I had to do that, since I knew full well that he had already forgiven me, “It's true,” He told me, “but the evil you have done as a Christian and a member of the Church has harmed others. Therefore you must ask forgiveness also through the Church.” Later Jesus showed me the priest to whom I was to confess; but I didn't like him. He had long hair... moreover, he fell asleep, exhausted with fatigue, during my confession! When he finally gave me absolution, my malaise was at its peak since I had not been able to confess everything because he was asleep. My unconfessed sins weighed on my heart. For years I had been tormented by doubts about God's mercy.

One day I was asked to go to Medjugorje and I said to Mary: “I'm going, since you invite me, but I warn you: I will not return to Holland until I have made peace with Jesus and I have had the certainty that He loves me as before, that He has forgiven me everything.” I went to Vicka and asked her to pray for a five-year-old girl with severe asthma. Vicka laid her hands on her and prayed and the little girl was healed. Vicka, however, did not have time to pray over me. Then our group went to see Father Jozo. “It's my last chance,” I said to Our Lady. Father Jozo gathered us on the benches and, since I had to record the conference, I was in the first pew, on the far left.

*(Show me everything continued on page 7)*

## Pilgrimage to Medjugorje



April 24th to May 5th, 2026  
9 Nights in Medjugorje & 1 Night in Frankfort

**\$2,520.00**

Pilgrimage leader: Dennis Malcomb

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## From the Diary of Sister Emmanuel

www.childrenofmedjugorje.com

On November 25th, 2025, the visionary, Marija received the following monthly message:

**Dear children, In this time of grace, I am calling you to follow me. Pray for those who do not pray and do not want peace and joy, which only the Most High can give. May your souls be united in the joy of expectancy and your heart will be filled with peace. You will be convinced, little children, that all will be good and that God will bless all; because the good that you give will return to you, and joy will enfold your heart because you are with God and in God. Thank you for responding to my call.** (With ecclesiastical approval)



**Sister Emmanuel**

Mr. Olier, a great 17th century French mystic, said that every saint on earth manifests something of the soul of Christ. But Saint Joseph is the saint who reflects the image of our Heavenly Father. He was chosen uniquely by God. No other saint has had the privilege of being invested with the Holy Spirit in such a powerful way as Saint Joseph, given his mission to be the icon of the Heavenly Father for Jesus and for us all.

How about his work? In the time of Jesus, being a carpenter was a very noble profession. He not only

made building frames; he also acted as an architect because the shape of the house depended on the frame. He was also a notary. He closed deals once he had built the house, and could sign contracts. He was a woodworker, a carpenter, an architect, a notary, a profoundly wise man and a spiritual advisor. He was the man chosen by heaven to become the head of the holy family.

In the stable, I imagine how busy he was, trying to provide some comfort for Mary, but there was nothing there, and it was so cold! He was humiliated to have nothing more than that to offer his wife for the coming into the world of the Child-God.



### Come to the stable

To fully celebrate Christmas, please come with me into the poor stable in Bethlehem. Here we find the three most extraordinary people who have ever lived on earth. Invited by Jesus, let us enter and feel at home in His family, because His family is also ours! Let's allow ourselves to be loved by Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Let us get to know Saint Joseph! Joseph was a "righteous man", a carpenter from Nazareth, betrothed to a young girl named Mary (Matt 1:18-19). The word "righteous", Tzaddik in Hebrew, means that he was adjusted to the will of God, adjusted to his wisdom. He is the man of the Beatitudes who has that thirst for living in communion with God. He was imbued with this wisdom, and this enabled him to sense what God expected of him, in accordance with God's plan. Saint Joseph was of royal lineage, chosen by God among all men as the most worthy, the most accomplished in his humanity to be placed alongside Mary. He was not, as some see it, a mere nice gentleman from the village of Nazareth whom Mary would have chosen for his honesty and righteousness, or because he was recognized as a good carpenter.

St Joseph listened to God and scrutinized the Torah. He fed on Scripture. He had that inner and spiritual finesse that enabled him to commune with God's thoughts. His silence was a silence of deep listening; he did not want to interfere with the word of God. This has nothing to do with that old man portrayed by certain artists! If he was that old, how could he have worked hard in a job that required so much strength? How could he have fled to Egypt in the night with the responsibility of a young mother and her small child, and then provide daily bread for the One who was to become the Bread of Life?

I want to look at him at length... and I find in him this humble, intelligent responsible man, seeking by all means to serve the so mysterious plan of the Heavenly Father for his Son Jesus! Did Christ, the Creator of the world, have to lie in a manger for animals? For a Jewish man, no way, this was unthinkable! All his life, our tender-hearted Joseph had to adjust to the Heavenly Father's surprising plans, because the Savior of the world had to come incognito to our earth, as the poorest of the poor, in order to take upon Himself all the poverty of our humanity, so wounded by sin. Who wouldn't dream of having such a father? O Saint Joseph, please look upon me as your child! I choose you as my adoptive father and throw myself into your arms! Lead me in the ways that the Heavenly Father has chosen for me, lead me with the same love that you led the Child Jesus entrusted to you. Hold me close to your heart, just as you embraced your little Yeshua! Through your unconditional tenderness, please heal me of the many wounds of my childhood, melt away all my fears!

Let us look at the Blessed Virgin Mary! She is completely silent, and together with Joseph, she accepts the precariousness of this place. She is exhausted, because they had to walk for a long time to find suitable accommodation, which they ended up not finding! She too had to adjust to the circumstances! However, she did not harbor any bitterness that could have been caused by Joseph's family's refusal to offer them hospitality. Instead, she prayed. With her smile and docility, she comforts Joseph as much as possible. Her whole being is focused on the Child she is carrying, and that she will bring into the world. Ever since the Annunciation, she has been speaking to him secretly, intimately. She and the Baby are already one. She contemplates Him in the invisible, calling Him by His name: Yeshua! Soon, she will see Him with her own eyes! She will touch Him, caress Him, press Him against her heart. She melts with gratitude toward the Heavenly Father, who has looked down on his humble handmaid and made her the Mother of His Messiah. She knows that from now on, all generations will call her blessed.

*(Diary of Sister Emmanuel continued on page 6)*

## My Return to Medjugorje

By Anna Raisa Favale from medjugorjealtermista.org

Getting here has not been easy. The pandemic, the controls, the lack of transport. But when you are called by Mary, you answer. She will find a way to make everything possible. For those who do not know her yet, Mary is the most powerful woman in the world.

The streets are deserted or almost. For those who are used to seeing Medjugorje at any time other than this, it seems to be somewhere else. In a place probably more similar to how it was before it became the largest pilgrimage center in the world: a small village in the Bosnian mountains, where snow falls, but olive trees and pomegranates grow, where there is silence and peace all around, and the stones are hard and gray. I feel enormously grateful to be here, especially in this time, a privileged one. Away from the usual noise and confusion, I seem to see things silhouetted in their essence: clear, for what they really are.

At the school of Mary...I go to Mass on the first day in the morning: it's a Friday. It is the English one and there are few pilgrims, but to animate it there is an exceptional violinist who has received a call to move here. The Gospel is that of the paralytic who is brought to Jesus to be healed and I think that there could not be a better Gospel for this place.

I am struck by what the priest says: "Today is Friday, are you fasting? And if not, what have you come to do? You may think that I am harsh, but the harshness comes from Our Mother Herself who is the first to ask us. Will you go to the afternoon program today? And if you don't go, what have you come to do?" The homily was strong, but necessary. His words resonate: "You may think I'm tough, but the hardness comes from Our Lady first."

This is the year of the 40th anniversary of the first apparition in Medjugorje. During this time, Our Lady has given hundreds of messages, many of which focused on conversion, fasting, prayer, and the offering of even small things, for the conversion of souls. I look at the painting of Mary at the end of the large room, near the altar, which the visionaries say is the most faithful representation of her as they see her, the one that has always touched my heart particularly, even before knowing this detail. I kneel down and start crying.

"Welcome back to my school," it's as if I could hear her softly whispering inside of me. The same school in which Mary raised me, many years ago, when at the age of 19, in a small room in Rome, I decided to start praying the Rosary, the prayer that would change my life forever.

In the afternoon I go up to Podbrdo, saying a rosary. The sky is clear but the air is very cold. I imagine these 6 children on a hot day in June walking along the same path. During communism in those days they blocked the roads and tried in every way to prevent the great and growing devotion that was being born; to this faith that, despite everything, the people of this village managed to keep intact and strong.

In one of the first apparitions, when she came and explicitly asked Our Lady why she had chosen that place to appear, she said: **"In this place I found a particular faith. I have**



**chosen this parish among all, and I intend to lead it, to make it an example for others.**" What an enormous privilege it is to be the Parish of Mary? And above all: what is the example she speaks of, which through this parish, Mary wants to give to other parishes in order to be able to grow in faith "at her school", to sanctify our lives and that of others?

"The afternoon program," to which the priest referred, was born in Medjugorje, inspired by Our Lady herself: it consists of two community rosaries before Mass. Then Mass, and then another rosary, or adoration of the cross, if it is on Friday, or Eucharistic adoration, if it is on Saturday. On another occasion, Our Lady said that in order to remain in grace we would have to dedicate about three hours a day to God: not necessarily only to prayer and Mass, but also to writing, reading the Bible, or other books, or simply talking to someone about Jesus. If instinctively this number – three hours – frightens us, let's just think for a moment of the hours we spend cooking sophisticated dishes, watching a movie in the evening on Netflix. Or floating on social media. One of the problems is that we have totally lost the sense of offering ourselves. Far from sounding beautiful, it just seems painful and useless. Yet, I have never felt a deeper joy than that generated by the offering of myself.

The next day, on Saturday, we climb Krizevac: the mountain of the cross. It is a much longer climb than Podbrdo, and if you do it while contemplating the Stations of the Cross, it takes about 3 hours. That day it is 8 degrees below zero and an icy wind blows very strongly from the mountains, but we are determined to climb up and live the Passion with Jesus. There is no one with me, but I am not alone: I carry within me all the intentions of the people who have asked me to pray, my personal intentions, and prayers for the world; The climb is a very strong experience, the tears that fall down are copious but are quickly dried by the wind that continues to blow. I remember reading years ago, that Our Lady spent the rest of her earthly life, after Jesus' death, contemplating the Stations of the Cross every day, around the little house she went to inhabit, joining her son from the earth, every day, again and again for the rest of her earthly time. I think, at that moment, that is extremely likely.

The community climbs Mt. Krizevac once a week on Fridays, and Sundays they go up Mt. Podbrdo. Sanctifying ourselves costs effort but gains happiness. From the top of the mountain, as well as from the hill of the apparitions, we look at the valley: all of Medjugorje and the surrounding villages, with the Cross watching over one side, and Our Lady watching over the other, like the two pillars of faith that look at our humanity and call us to sanctify it. To reach them you have to climb: it costs effort, sweat, sometimes tears, tiredness. Sanctifying ourselves, in addition to our initial "yes," requires work and discipline. I think a big part of our spiritual life is frustration; for the things that God does not accomplish, for the moments in which we feel abandoned, not listened to, ignored, unhappy. But as I catch my breath at the top of the mountain, and I feel the cold in my hands and on my face, together with the infinite warmth that warms my heart for being there, I realize that the real question we should ask ourselves is: do we remain with God? Do we dedicate time and space to Him, and not simply a quick thought in the morning when we wake up, or before falling asleep?

# With Prayer and Fasting, Even Wars Can Be Stopped

From Medjugorje.altervista.org

**"Dear children! God has allowed me to be with you today to invite you to prayer and fasting. Live this time of grace and be witnesses of hope because, I repeat to you, little children, with prayer and fasting even wars can be stopped. Little children, believe and live in faith and with faith this time of grace and my Immaculate Heart does not leave any of you in restlessness if you have recourse to me. I intercede for you before the Most High and I pray for peace in your hearts and for hope in the future. Thank you for having responded to my call."**

**Fr. Livio:** Already last month Our Lady prepared us for Lent by saying that we must awaken and renew ourselves like nature and inviting us to prayer and fasting. Today the invitation to prayer and fasting is repeated twice, the second time saying that wars that can be stopped. It seems to me to be a particular moment. Our Lady had already said that Satan wants war, he wants hatred.

**Marija:** Here in Medjugorje with the sunny days, very spring-like, we live as if we were in a privileged oasis. In this time of penance, of Lent, people climb the hills. Among the Croatian people there is a particular sensitivity to fasting and renunciation in the season of Lent; more in Eastern countries, less in Western countries where there is wealth and sacrifice, fasting, prayer, etc. . have been forgotten. Turning on the radio, not only the Catholic one, you hear prayers and songs of Lent. The need to pray more and rebuild spiritual life has been reawakened. I am praying for Italy because there is so much need. Thank God there are many prayer groups that even in the lockdown have found themselves with these modern means and have continued to pray. Today I had experience with prayer groups from South Korea, from where many pilgrims came to Medjugorje. Our Lady tells us: **"Live this time of grace and be witnesses of hope because, I repeat to you, little children, with prayer and fasting even wars can be repelled".** I believe that a person who prays has great faith. At first it is a bit difficult, but then slowly we get to the point that we can no longer live without prayer. So too is fasting. I remember so many beautiful experiences. Today a large group from America called me saying that they offer nine days of fasting on bread and water for Our Lady's intentions. They asked me to offer this sacrifice to Our Lady during the apparition. I did it and Our Lady smiled. The most beautiful thing is what Our Lady tells us: to believe that prayer and fasting really work miracles, stop wars, change hearts, suspend natural disasters. I believe that today's invitation of Our Lady to fasting and prayer is also because of this virus that has put fear within us. Our Lady tells us that if we return to prayer and fasting we will no longer be afraid.

**Fr. Livio:** Can you explain what fasting Our Lady has asked for all year on Wednesdays and Fridays from midnight to midnight?

**Marija:** I want to clarify something because a priest said that he had heard a testimony of mine in which I said that at midnight and one minute we put the water for the spaghetti. Let it be clear: if there is no love, do not fast; If there is no desire, but a

spirit of criticism, do not do it! You have to do it with the heart. Our Lady at the beginning invited us to fast on bread and water on Fridays and then also on Wednesdays. We have made many novenas, even the forty days of Lent, novenas before the holidays, but always with much, much love... If you start criticizing and saying it's too hard, give up fasting! Fasting is an invitation that Our Lady has made to us and if we believe in Her, in her presence and in her help, fasting is a gesture of love and I know that this renunciation of mine makes sense, because with fasting and prayer even wars can be stopped. If you can't fast on bread and water, make some renunciation, of talking, of meat, wine, smoking, telephone, games, computers. You know where the weak point in your life is. Get on your knees and pray, because one who prays fasts more easily, with more love and also becomes firmer in the faith. Prayer is not simple repetition, but becomes life. Prayer also becomes union between Christians who love each other, share and stay together like the first Christians. We see it with the pilgrims who arrived in Medjugorje in the first years: we have a solid friendship more than between blood brothers and sisters, because it is a brotherhood founded on faith. So it is with so many priests, so many nuns who have found their vocation here.

**Fr. Livio:** Once again Our Lady invites us to be witnesses of hope. She seems to want to say: "You are in a situation where you can become discouraged and think that all is lost, but you must testify that instead my Immaculate Heart will triumph". It seems to me that this is the mission that Our Lady entrusts to us.

**Marija:** Exactly. I believe that Our Lady has prepared us over the years. Just today I spoke with my friend Jelena, a schoolmate, then of the prayer group and also united in the persecution suffered by communism. We have gone through very hard times, very difficult, but strengthened by the grace that the Lord has given us with these people, these friendships, sisters and brothers in Christ, who have always supported us. We visionaries were in danger of our lives on a daily basis. The police frightened us, they took us to the asylum, to hospitals, they locked us up in a room like in prison. Thank God, being minors, they didn't put us in a real prison like Father Jozo. I was talking to this friend about these things. Forty years have passed and it seems like four days, because in our hearts there is the freshness of Our Lady's presence in our midst. As we talk to each other, it seems that Our Lady is walking with us. The Lord has given us this grace: we have been chosen by God. Our gratitude is great. With emotion in our hearts we say: "Lord, why so much grace to me?" Even if this grace also involves pain and suffering, many times not understood, but with those people who embraced Our Lady's message with us, we shared prayer, sacrifices, many penances. We were in the hills with the wind, with the cold. All this with the intention of making a sacrifice by offering it for Our Lady's intentions, so that she may present everything to her Son Jesus for peace in the world, for peace in hearts, in families, so that wars may end...

**Fr. Livio:** Our Lady tells us: Believe and live in faith and in this time when there is restlessness, confusion, agitation, when we have so many problems, She makes us a beautiful promise: **"My Immaculate Heart leaves none of you in restlessness if you have recourse to me."**



(*Diary of Sister Emmanuel continued from page 3*)

At the Annunciation, Mary received from the Angel Gabriel a name that amazed her: full of grace. This is the only time it appears in the Bible and it applies only to Mary. She is full, there is no empty space within her, she is overflowing with the presence of God. And the Blessed Virgin Mary wants to give us all that she has, she holds nothing back for herself, because God wants everyone to have a share in what He has placed in her, all the way to this unique privilege of being the Immaculate. Of course, she alone is the "Immaculate Conception". This remains a unique privilege willed by God for her. But this privilege is an immense richness for us! Far from separating us who are sinners, this privilege brings us closer to her. It is precisely because she is Immaculate that she loves us so much! Far from being inaccessible because of the immensity of her virtues, she is infinitely close to us! The purer a heart is, the more it is capable of loving. We see how sin alters within us the capacity to love in truth.

In the Immaculate Virgin Mary, I like to see a Mother of Mercy who knows what she has been preserved from. She never sinned. Like us, Mary was saved by the Cross of her Son. But in anticipation, in view of her divine motherhood she is the first of the saved ones, the first of the redeemed ones. Our sins hurt her as much as they hurt her Son, but she responds by overflowing us with the treasures of her virginal heart. She is therefore close to sinners. She is intimately close to the worst of great sinners. Her compassion for us is immense! The more miserable and sinful we feel and the more ugly and dirty we feel, the more we are entitled to Mary's closeness. She then leads us to the source of mercy that flows from the Heart of her Son. Within her and through her, everything becomes pure and beautiful, everything blooms and is reborn. Just looking at her, and invoking her, makes all evil forces move away, hence her great power against demons, in our favor.

Dearest Mother, as I come near to the manger, I enter your world, and what a world it is! The world where Jesus lived for 30 years, a world of tenderness and love, a world where harshness has no place, a world that disarms evil to its root... Satan could never penetrate it, your love would have burned him then and there. O full of grace, how I need you! From the depths of my poverty, I cry out to you! I happily grasp your motherly hand, O Mother, and thus I will dwell with you all the days of my life. O Child Jesus, hidden in Mary, you are the treasure of treasures, the Savior of the world announced by the prophets! You cannot wait to see the light of day, but only Joseph and Mary know who you are. Although you are a small and unique being, you live in total union with your mother, a kind of fusion, and you share everything she feels.

Indeed, when a child is conceived, even if at that time the child is not able to think, he knows in his soul the type of welcome that his mother offers him. His soul is already present in its fullness, it is not tiny like his body. If his mother does not desire this life, the little one will understand that he is not welcome, and he will be deeply hurt, because the gift of life must be accompanied by the gift of love! But if his mother is happy to give life, if she blesses God for this infinitely precious gift of this new creature, then the little one will understand that his life is beautiful, that it is worth living, and this will allow him to grow according to the harmony that the Creator has placed in him. He will be well equipped to face the hardships of life that await him. You, dear Child Jesus, could not have dreamed of a better welcome from your mother! Even before she saw you with her own eyes, she cherished you with all her being, she listened to your heartbeat with rapture, she never stopped praying with you, she sang you lullabies that she composed herself...

(*Return to Medjugorje Continued from page 4*)

In Medjugorje there is no doubt it is easier: the strength of the community helps a lot to pray and to remain in grace. Holy priests, the visionaries, the apparitions that still continue to this day. But isn't this what Our Lady would like for all the parishes of the world? That just like a family that prays together, stays together, also a community that prays together, stays together. There are no divorces in Medjugorje. And you are struck by the generosity and hospitality of the locals. These parishioners are also ordinary mortals, with their limitations, their struggles, their temptations. But Mary, the simple and humble woman that she is, calls us to entrust ourselves to this "recipe of grace" that she entrusted once and for all to the world, through Medjugorje, assuring us that if we follow her, we will remain in the peace of which she first presented herself as Queen.



Ask yourself if you want to be happy. In other words, if someone came to us and said, "If you do this, you'll be happy," wouldn't we do it? We ask ourselves how to be happy, how to discern, how to understand what to do with life, how to make important decisions, how to listen to God's voice. But Mary came to our aid and showed us the way. In the apparitions she always wears a gray dress, except at Christmas, when she dresses up for the holidays. I think that gray is the color of the "office", of everyday life in its simplicity. It appears this way because Medjugorje is not an apparition once and for all, nor once in a while, but it is an everyday one. Mary calls us to her school and with us she rolls up her sleeves and gets to work. And so, I think, this is how I want to start living again, when I return home: treasuring these teachings and taking them with me, to my country, to my family, to my home and among friends; to make room for Mary in our hearts, so that in other spiritual parishes, Mary can be born; and in other places, she can become physically present and act in our lives with the same grace and with the same strength.

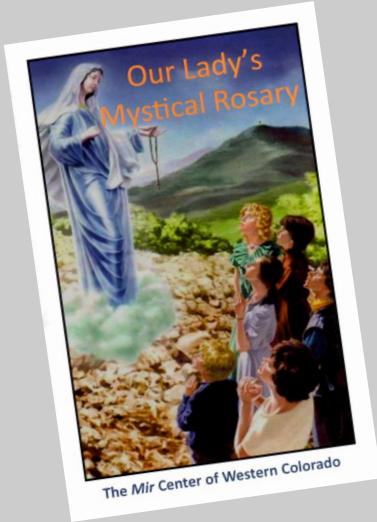
In the final homily, before leaving, the priest gives us this last pearl: "God calls us to make masterpieces out of our lives. And masterpieces, when we see them, are wonderful pieces of art. But behind the scenes, how much tireless work is there, how much hard discipline is hidden? So, let's not be afraid to go to Mary's school, because we were born to become masterpieces."

I realize, rereading this page of the diary, that what has been written may perhaps seem frightening, that what remains in the mouth in the end may be the bittersweet taste of difficulty. But instead, what happens when we give our "yes" to Mary is that she fills our hearts with such sweetness, that the sacrifices do not weigh as much as we imagine, and that, above all, the graces we receive are innumerable and not comparable to the small sacrifice that is asked from us. From the small graces, to the great ones, as from breakfast the day after the fast, abundant, varied and rich like none of the other days, or as the response, sometimes immediate and very strong, to the intentions I had entrusted to her on this journey. Medjugorje reminded me of whose daughter I am and who I want to be like. And what an immense gift it is to have Mary's guidance on earth, constantly, every day, to learn at her school, to live in her parish! Even just a few days in Medjugorje completely renewed me inside. They have removed my doubts, my fears, and instilled in me a brand new and vital life. This is the gift that Mary wants to give us always and everywhere and in this way, our lives, our parishes, and our world will change.

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

*(Even wars can be stopped continued from page 5)*

**Marija:** What joy when I heard these words! If you knew how many people confide in me their anxieties, their fear of the future. I say that we are in God's hands. If it is God's will, I can die of a heart attack, coronavirus or some other cause; it may be that I have to go through an ordeal of suffering. But if I am a person of faith, I heal faster. Scientists also say this: those who have faith, have within them that positivity that also stimulates healing. Our Lady puts in our hearts this peace, this serenity, this hope of not being afraid of the future. The hope that our grandparents lived, the hope that the first Christians lived even when they died martyrs torn to pieces in the arenas. Even today there are Christians who die for the faith. Our Lady from the beginning recommended that we make a good confession. If we truly believe in the sacrament, with a good confession a new life begins. There is a lot of confusion and confession helps us a lot. Once at the prayer group, Our Lady said that even if the priest were a great sinner, his absolution is valid, it is grace. This season of Lent is not only an invitation to prayer, to fasting, to renunciation, to sacrifices, but also to a good confession, to a new life.

*(Show me everything continued from page 2)*

I don't know why, but Father Jozo did not stand a few meters in front of us but came close to my pew, so close that the bottom of his habit touched my feet. I found it very strange but I was even more amazed when he caressed my cheek. A little upset, I wondered: "Does he really have his head in order?" At that moment, without knowing why, I started crying and all my tears were dripping, dripping... He kept talking about the last message and seeing that the tape had stopped, he helped me turn it over. My tears intensified so much that I could no longer listen to Father Jozo's words. I saw his hand holding the rosary he wore on his belt. Then, as if the beads of the rosary were scanned, my sins began to display in front of me, inexorably; sins that I had never realized and that I had certainly never confessed! It was terrible. I said to Jesus, "Go on; Show me everything! Show me everything!" The parade of horrors continued when, suddenly, Father Jozo reached out to draw a small sign of the cross of blessing on my forehead. It seemed to me that he saw the invisible in me. After this surprise blessing a real rain of grace fell on me, washing me from head to toe, it was as if all the dirt accumulated for so long gave way under a waterfall of pure water. Immersed in this feeling of redemption, I heard the voice of Jesus in my heart: "When you go to confession, begin with the sins committed after your last confession. Everything you did before that confession must never be remembered again." An episode at Tihalijna restored to me the peace of heart that I had lost for so long and turned a definitive page in my relationship with Jesus: despite the many graces received since childhood, it had taken years for me to understand his mercy and the gift he offers us through priests in confession! Since then, nothing and no one has been able to take away this peace, this childlike confidence.

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!

(Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

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

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

# January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		Medjugorje prayer group 7:00pm St Francis		1 <b><i>Mary, the Mother of God</i></b>	2	3
4 <b><i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i></b>	5	6 Medjugorje prayer group 7:00pm St Francis	7	8	9	10
11 <b><i>The Baptism of the Lord</i></b>	12	13 Medjugorje prayer group 7:00pm St Francis	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Medjugorje prayer group 7:00pm St Francis	21	22 <b><i>Prayer for the Unborn</i></b>	23	24
25	26	27 Medjugorje Prayer group 7:00pm St Francis	28	29	30	31

## Upcoming events:

- + ***Mary, the Holy Mother of God, January 1st***
- + ***The Epiphany of the Lord, January 4th***
- + ***The Baptism of the Lord, January 11th***
- + ***The Day of Prayer for the Unborn, January 22nd***

\*Reconciliation

\*Peace

\*Fasting

\*Prayer

\*Convocation

Our Lady's Five-Point Program

\*Reconciliation

\*Peace

\*Fasting

\*Prayer

\*Convocation

Return Service Requested

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Grand Junction, CO 81505

The Mir Center of Western Colorado

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mailing list, please let us know...

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, 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 non-profit 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