

THE SPIRIT OF MEDJUGORJE
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SUBSCRIPTION RATE - FREE WILL OFFERING - PLEASE SEE PAGE 8

If this is the first time you have received this newsletter, and you would like a "Beginner's Guide," please contact us for one.



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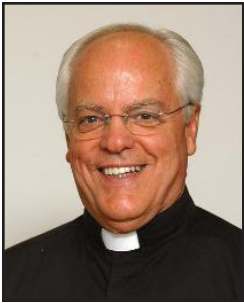
CURRENT MONTHLY MESSAGE OF AUGUST 25, 2016

ON THE 25TH DAY OF EACH MONTH, THE BLESSED VIRGIN GIVES A MESSAGE TO THE VISIONARY, MARIJA, THAT IS TO BE GIVEN TO THE WORLD.



“Dear children! Today I desire to share Heavenly joy with you. You, little children, open the door of your heart so that hope, peace and love, which only God gives, may grow in your heart. Little children, you are too bound to the earth and earthly things, that is why, Satan is rolling you like the wind rolls the waves of the sea. Therefore, may the chain of your life be prayer with the heart and Adoration of my Son Jesus. Give over your future to Him so that, in Him, you may be joy and an example with your lives to others. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

The picture above was painted by Lisa Buggie after her June 2016 pilgrimage to Medjugorje. She painted the image of Our Lady at the foot of the Cross on Cross Mountain after having read the words of Our Lady to the visionaries: *“I am often at Krizevac, at the foot of the cross, to pray there”* (11/3/81). The rays represent the red and white rays of Divine Mercy in this Year of Mercy. The feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated with a Mass on top of Cross Mountain on the Sunday following September 8, the date the Church celebrates the birth of Our Lady. See our website for the color version.



Fr. Bill Kiel

Hope

By Fr. Bill Kiel

Hope is often defined as *the feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best*. It is also defined as *to believe, desire, or trust*.

In our lives today, we often think that there is no **hope** for ourselves or the world. Listening to the news usually gives us the negative side of life; it often taints our thoughts, and

we fall into a negative way of thinking. With faith in our hearts, we are able to see that there **is hope** for ourselves and the world.

Our faith, if firm, brings us to trust God will bring about changes in our individual lives and in the world. Our God is a merciful and loving God. There is no reason to doubt the goodness of God, no reason to lose **hope**!

As Catholics, we desire to live a life filled with the love of God and to live as an example of Jesus. We believe that with a life lived in this way, we will enter into Eternal Life with the Father. That is the ultimate **hope**! *Without God, little children, you do not have a future, you do not have hope or salvation (7/25/15).*

Our Blessed Mother, we know, is an intercessor for our prayers to the Father and to Her Son, Jesus. Yet we do not openly accept Her words of encouragement and motherly loving concern and advice. Why is it so difficult to take to heart Her words to us? Are we afraid that we have to make changes in our life? Are we fearful that others would think of us as "other worldly" or strange? We are reminded... *Do not be afraid and do not lose hope, because my Son listens to His mother. ... I desire that all those who left Him because of their pain and misunderstanding may return to Him and that all those who have never known Him may come to know Him (3/2/15).*

Even though Our Lady offers us words of encouragement, we sometimes get into a feeling of hopelessness: *I hope that you will accept me with the heart, because the words of my Son and His love are the only light and hope in the darkness today (1/2/16)*. The negative news of the day should not put us in a position of moving away from our Father and Jesus. The darkness of our soul should be open to the light of Jesus. That openness will, hopefully, make a change in our way of living. We have been given the words: *I desire that your faith be firm, flowing forth from love. Because, those of my children who understand the love of my Son and follow it, live in love and hope. They have come to know the love of God (11/2/15).*

In our families, among friends, and in the news, we see many sad and troubling incidents, but we should remember these words... *I know many of you are losing hope because around you, you see suffering, pain, jealousy, envy,...but, I am your mother...My Son is sending me anew to help you. Therefore, do not lose hope (12/2/14)*. Another example of profound words given to us: *My Son, in a special way, loves those who suffer pains. He sent me to soothe them for you and bring hope. Trust in Him. I know it is difficult for you because you see more and more darkness around you. My children, it necessary to break it by prayer and love. The one who prays and loves is not afraid, he has hope and a merciful love, he sees the light and sees my Son (4/2/16).*

Our Lady is reminding us that *Jesus is giving us hope, and he is asking for more faith, hope and serenity from us (8/2/16)*. We are reminded *...do not lose hope which I am carrying to you. (7/25/16)*.

Let us remember these words when we feel our hope in our lives and the world around is looking dim...

Mother of Hope, pray for us.

Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis for September:

Centrality of the Human Person: That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the center.

Mission to Evangelize: That by participating in the Sacraments and meditating on Scripture, Christians may become more aware of their mission to evangelize.



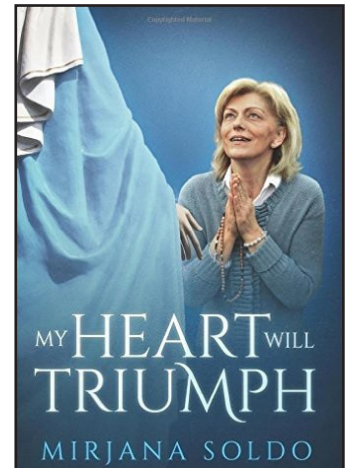
Preparing for the Secrets

The following is an excerpt, used with permission, from the new book by visionary Mirjana Soldo, entitled My Heart Will Triumph.

So, when Our Lady told us that Medugorje would be the fulfillment of Fatima and that her heart would triumph, it was a message of hope, not gloom. She was reminding us that when we walk with her we have nothing to worry about. But even now, people often ask me how they should prepare for the time of the secrets. Should they stock their basements with food? Move to the countryside and live off the land? Buy a weapon to protect themselves?

I tell them, "Yes, you should get a weapon, and you should use it often." I show them my rosary. "This is the only weapon you'll ever need. But it only works if you use it."

Editor's note: For more information on Mirjana's book go to www.catholicshop.com or call 1-800-565-9176.



Our thanks to Susannah Klins, Lindsey Klins, Pat Weller, Sue Taccone, Diane Niebauer, Marge Spase, Georgia Chludzinski, Sue Kirby, Mary Tirak, Cindy Bielani, Joanne Warren, Peggy Chludzinski, Diana and Nate Englund, Stephanie Koshinski, and those who want to remain anonymous for their help with the August mailing. We thank Mike Golovich and Susannah Klins for their photos. We also thank our proofreader, Pat Berrier, and our webmaster, Jason Klins.

As of August 25, 2016, the number of Masses reported for Our Lady's intentions was 16,587.

Fr. Leon Talks about the Nature of the Mass

The following is a transcription of a teaching by Fr. Leon Pereira, O.P., the priest who ministers to the English-speaking pilgrims in Medjugorje. This was given before Mass at St. James Church in Medjugorje on July 8, 2016. It can be viewed in the "Sanctuary Snippets" on www.Marytv.tv.

I want to talk to you today about the nature of the Mass, and I hope I'm not repeating myself, but we talk about the Mass as a gathering of the faithful and the priest to celebrate the Mass. But it's not an earthly thing that's happening at Mass. The Mass

is something heavenly that happens all the time. Read the Letter to the Hebrews and the Book of Revelation, where you can see Christ, the High Priest, enter the sanctuary not made by human hands, and offers His Life – His Body and Blood – to the Father in the Spirit. And this happens in Eternity – something that, in a way, is going on in the Trinity, and that is what the Mass seeks to join. And if it doesn't join that, it fails. The Mass itself doesn't fail, but if we ourselves don't join that, then we somehow are missing out on what the Mass is.

What do I mean by this? There's always a temptation to pull us out of the heavenly into what's merely earthly, you know. So this is one reason why we discourage applause at Mass. Why don't we clap at Mass? Maybe the musicians are very good – they *are* very good. The priest may be very good – I'm sure he is. I might be very good – I don't know about that! But we don't applaud, because then we direct our attention to purely human agents, and our focus is [should be] Christ and the Father in the Holy Spirit. So, you know, even the Sign of Peace, for example... Rome keeps telling us the Sign of Peace should be just exchange with the people nearest to you, next to you – not running around hugging and kissing everyone – because then it becomes a distraction. You're just about to receive Communion and preparing, and instead you let out all these emotions, running around and getting so distracted. Okay? So here you're being pulled out of the heavenly to what is purely earthly again.

So the Mass has this tension and...we need silence before Mass to prepare to celebrate the Sacred Mysteries. The Liturgy reminds us constantly that what we're doing is actually what's going on in Heaven all the time, and we're just "plugging in" to it. Think about just before the Holy, Holy, Holy (the Sanctus). We say we join in the angels and



Mass in St. James in Medjugorje

archangels, the cherubim and seraphim in their unceasing prayer, "Holy, Holy, Holy." It's what they're doing all the time that we're seeking to join.

Likewise, the Eucharistic prayer [the First], says, "We pray that Your angel may take this Sacrifice to Your altar in

Heaven. Then, as we receive from this altar the Sacred Body and Blood of Your Son, let us be filled with every grace and blessing." And see, this Sacrifice is what's being presented in Heaven. And what's happening *here* has to share in that, to be the same one Sacrifice. So there's always this tension, and we have to be mindful of the heavenly realm. Only what comes from Heaven, Jesus told us, can save us. Only He who has come down from Heaven can reveal the Father to us. What is earthly – we've tried it all and it hasn't saved us one bit. So you know, the last 30 to 40 years, a catechesis we tell our children [is] the Mass is like a party; the Mass is a celebration. Well, yes, but it's *more than that* because, you know, when they grow up, when they become teenagers, they think, "Well, I know parties that are more interesting than this. I know celebrations that are much more fun. Why should I bother with Mass?"

The Mass is something you can't get anywhere else, so don't tell your children it's a party or a celebration. Tell them it's something heavenly – because that's true – that you can't get anywhere else.

Also, remember our focus must be on Christ, on the Father, and the Holy Spirit. As soon as we start to think about what is earthly, we're losing our focus. You know, applause at the end of Mass, the end of Adoration, the people of a certain group (I won't mention them) will burst out into applause and maybe other people follow suit. I often wonder – what are they applauding? ... I don't know. But I suspect they are applauding because they don't know how to deal with their emotions and with confronting what is heavenly, what is divine. And it's much easier to applaud and bring us down back to the human level and then we think, "Thank God, I'm comfortable with this. It's not challenging me." But don't! Focus on what does challenge us – the heavenly. And this is the beauty of the Mass.

Our Lady's Message to Mirjana on August 2, 2016

Dear children, I have come to you – among you – for you to give me your concerns so that I may offer them to my Son; that I may intercede for you before Him for your good. I know that each of you has his concerns, his trials. Therefore I am inviting you in a motherly way: come to the table of my Son. He is breaking bread for you; He is giving Himself to you; He is giving you hope; He is asking for more faith, hope and serenity from you. He is seeking of you to battle within against egoism, judgment and human weaknesses. Therefore, as a mother, I am saying: pray; because prayer gives you strength for the interior battle. My Son, when He was little, often said to me that there will be many who will love me and call me 'mother'. Among you, I feel love. Thank you. For the sake of that love I am imploring my Son that none of you, my children, will return home the same as he came; that you may take with you all the more hope, mercy and love; that you may be my apostles of love who will witness with their lives that the Heavenly Father is the source of life and not of death. Dear children, anew, in a motherly way I am imploring you, pray for the chosen ones of my Son, for their blessed hands – for your shepherds – that they may preach my Son with all the more love and in this way bring about conversions. Thank you.

Irene's "Mountain Top Experience"

By June Klins

"Follow my Son and give me your hands so that together we may climb the mountain and win" (Our Lady, 7/2/07).

I wonder if Irene Husoskey read this message before she and her niece, joined me, my daughter-in-law, and 32 other pilgrims in Medjugorje in June of this year.

Irene, who was less than two months shy of her 90th birthday, was quite an inspiration. One of the things she wanted to do while in Medjugorje was to climb Cross Mountain. Irene admits to being very adventurous. Her niece, Theresa, with whom she lives, said that they had to make their big tractor off limits for Irene because it has a big shovel on it and Irene fills it up with rocks and lifts it too high, and almost tipped it over one time on a slope. When Theresa described Irene as "courageous," Irene interjected, "I'm a daredevil."

Irene told me that the reason she wanted to climb the mountain was for "something new to experience." She added, "And mostly for healing." She was having a problem with her eye and also had a rash on her neck for a year and a half that would not go away.

Although our wonderful guide, Ana, had planned for us to climb Apparition Hill on our first full day of the pilgrimage, she had to change the plans because of rain. It is dangerous to climb the mountains in the rain because the stones get slippery. This was my seventh pilgrimage to Medjugorje and the first time I remember rain. It rained the first few days, so Ana quickly rearranged our whole itinerary. It was all good.

We arrived in Medjugorje on a Saturday evening, and by Thursday, Ana felt it was safe to climb Cross Mountain. The forecast finally showed no rain at all. Usually people climb Apparition Hill first, and then Cross Mountain – but because the rain had derailed some of our plans, it just did not work out right. (Ana planned nothing else the day the group climbed Cross Mountain because it is so exhausting.)

Although we knew Irene wanted to climb the mountain, we really did not think she would or could. We began to pray at the foot of the mountain and then began the ascent. When Irene fell right away, we all gasped. A doctor in our group, Dr. Joe, helped her up, and she insisted on going on. Her niece thought, "Oh, please, don't do it. Don't do it." But she knew Irene would keep going. Irene later told me, "I knew I'd make it because I'm a person that what I want to do, I'm going to do it. And I told my niece, 'No one is going to stop me.' A friend of mine was here [in Medjugorje] and they told her she wouldn't be able to climb the mountain, so she had to stay at the bottom...and I said, 'Not me. I'm going to the top!'" Dr. Joe, with his medical background, quickly assessed the situation and felt Irene would be OK. He said, "I saw how she moved around and thought, 'Let's give her a try.' She said to me, 'I'll be all right. Let's go.'"

Around maybe the Fourth or Fifth Station, Irene fell again. My heart sank. But she got right up. Irene later said, "I fell a second time, but I didn't fall clean down. I didn't even think I fell because they grabbed me so fast and got me up. Everybody's so nice and helpful." At this point, I said to my daughter-in-law, Susannah, "She is going to fall once more like Jesus did." Irene was so determined, just like Jesus, and

had her "Simon" to help her in the person of Dr. Joe.

Soon we began to feel rain drops. But no rain had been predicted at all! I was very concerned about Irene (and everyone else, for that matter) falling on the slippery stones, so I began to pray the Mother Teresa Emergency Novena (nine Memorares in petition and one in thanksgiving). I told another pilgrim in our group that I had done that, and he told me that he had prayed three Hail Marys when the rain started. Soon the rain did stop, thanks be to God!

Around the Tenth Station, Ana warned us that the climb gets harder. The rocks were no match for Irene though. She was way ahead of me, and way ahead of our guide. Dr. Joe said that she was the first one to the Cross at the top of the mountain! "I let her go finally because there was the handrail bar. I just let her go and walked behind her, just in case. She just shot right up there. She never stopped!"

Some of us descended the mountain the back way, which is supposedly quicker, but Irene still beat us down! Dr. Joe said that Irene did fall once on the way back down, so she did fall three times, like Jesus. Dr. Joe said, "She's so resolute. Nothing got in her way. She fell three times and I caught her. I have long legs, but her legs were moving twice as fast as mine. I had to stay caught up to her. I did walk in front of her, side-stepping and so that worked out real well, especially going down. Her head was down – she was making sure she was careful." Irene later told me she was praying all the way up and all the way down. "I'm always praying."



Irene leading the pack up to the Cross

The very next day, Irene climbed Apparition Hill! It was probably like a "cake walk" to her. She never fell even once. Her niece commented, "She almost ran down." Dr. Joe was unable to help her because he was helping someone else, so Irene prayed that a pilgrim named Paul would take her hand. Her prayer was answered very soon when Paul offered to take her hand! She grinned, "At one point, I was pulling Paul!"

In the airport on the way home, Irene told me that the rash she had for a year and a half disappeared! "I feel great! I'm ready to go back again. I liked crawling on those big rocks. This is awesome to me, really. I really enjoyed it."

So the next time you begin to fall when climbing the “mountain to Heaven,” via the path of the Five Stones (prayer, fasting, Confession, Eucharist and Bible), think about Irene and her determination. Maybe you could even pray for a “double portion of her spirit,” like Elisha asked of Elijah in 1Kings 2:9! Find a prayer partner who can help you when you start to fall, and encourage you, like Dr. Joe

and Paul did for Irene. Then you, too, can have a “mountain top experience.”

Editor's note: Dr. Joe added a suggestion to help someone arthritic up the mountain, “If you walk in front and have your arm relaxed, when they stumble, they can grab your hand tight and that's the cue to lift them up.” He said it worked out well and that “somebody can easily help someone arthritic up the hill.”

My Cousin's Journey to Inner Peace

By Nila Passilla

This story is about the powerful manifestation of the graces that flow forth from pilgrimages to Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina. My first pilgrimage to Medjugorje took place in November of 1990, whereby I experienced a major anointing and deep conversion of heart which has continued for these past 26 years. My conversion story was published in this newsletter in February of 2013, entitled “My Journey to Inner Peace.”

The following story is my cousin, Joyce's personal encounter with our Mother of God, “Our Lady Queen of Peace”. The story begins with my return home from my first pilgrimage. I informed Joyce that I had a wooden rosary and silver-toned medals of Our Lady which were blessed both by a priest and during an apparition, whereby they received the special blessing of the Blessed Mother.

Joyce graciously came over one afternoon very interested to hear all that I had to share. In fact, tears were coming down her cheeks as I spoke about all that I felt and saw...as well as my description of the Croatian villagers. Joyce talked to me often about her dream to one day travel to Medjugorje because the seed had been planted in her heart to visit that peace-filled village.

I will fast forward sixteen years. My second pilgrimage took place June 25, 2006, marking the 25th Anniversary of the apparitions. Joyce did not feel called to go with me at that time, although she knew that she would recognize the time of her calling. To help her recognize her call, I loaned her the book entitled *The Message*, by Wayne Weible. By reading this same book, I was inspired to go on pilgrimage in 1990.

During the summer of 2012, Joyce phoned me to say that she felt a strong call to go on pilgrimage and would I be able to accompany her. My answer, with tears in my eyes, was a resounding *yes!* With petitions and blessings of our family and friends in our hearts, we were set to make our journey – plans with the tour group, deposits paid, and a September travel date set.

God's plan is not always our plan. As it would happen, in July, my husband had emergency surgery. Knowing his recovery would be a long road, I became very uncomfortable about leaving in September for our eight-day pilgrimage out of the country. I prayed to the Blessed Mother and received my answer which was to stay home and care for my husband's needs.

After sharing with Joyce my situation, she was very

understanding and agreed that I should not go at that time. An elderly priest from one of our local parishes had a deep desire to revitalize his priestly vocation through the Blessed Mother. I was very pleased to personally give him my deposit, so he was able to take my seat on the plane. Father traveled with my friends as their spiritual guide.

I anxiously awaited for Joyce to return. It was my time to sit in her kitchen and listen as she spoke about the renewal and healing of her heart. When she spoke that day, the tears were streaming down *my* face. I was able to envision all the places and people that she visited and met. There are three pertinent experiences that she told me about, and have stayed with me since that day.

The first experience that Joyce shared was the evening visionary Ivanka came to speak about the early days of the apparitions. As Joyce was listening, she began to have doubts about her reason for coming. Ivanka looked directly at her and spoke these words, “*I am here and you are my daughter*” (a message from the Blessed Virgin Mary).

Further into her talk, Ivanka gave another message to the group... “*each morning look into a mirror and don't look at your face...look at the inside of your heart and soul and see if they are ready to go outside for the day.*”

The third and most life-changing experience took place when Joyce availed herself to an Irish priest to hear her confession. Joyce questioned, “How do I know I am forgiven? Logically I know I am forgiven, but the question is – *how do I know?*” The priest told her to climb Cross Mountain, taking with her a stone to represent all her doubts and burdens and to leave the stone at the base of the cross. After two hours, she reached the top of the mountain. Feeling such peace and tranquility and the lightness of forgiveness, she reached the bottom in half the time it took her to go up!

In October of 2013, once again I accepted the call and returned to the peace-filled village for the third time. Through Mother Mary's intercession, Joyce and I willingly let the Lord change us. We are truly blessed to be able to see each other at daily Mass, and we continue to strive to follow Our Lady's messages as best we can. We have come to know that She has come to reaffirm the teachings of Her Son, Jesus Christ.

Prayer is a gift! That means we must take time to accept a deep and abiding prayer life as food and drink for our soul. However, in order to receive the gift, we have to do our part.

Editor's note: Nila and Joyce are from Meadville, PA.



My Penance in Medjugorje

By June Klins

Although I thought it prudent to go to Confession before boarding a plane for Medjugorje this past summer, I still wanted to go to Confession while I was there. After all, Medjugorje has been called “the confessional of the world,” and many people have had some awesome confession experiences there. One person recently shared that she was in awe when the priest gently reminded her of a sin she had forgotten to confess! My confession was not that dramatic, and it is actually my penance that I felt prompted to share with you.

After I confessed my sins, the priest handed me a prayer card of Our Lady of Sorrows and told me to look into the eyes of Our Lady on the prayer card and pray a Hail Mary as I meditate on each of the Seven Sorrows. He only required that I do it once, but I have been doing it almost every day continuously since my pilgrimage. This might be a nice devotion to start on or near September 15, the Feast of the Sorrowful Mother.

The Seven Sorrows are as follows:

1. The prophecy of Simeon. (St. Luke 2:34, 35)
2. The flight into Egypt. (St. Matthew 2:13,14)
3. The loss of the Child Jesus in the temple. (St. Luke 2: 43-45)
4. The meeting of Jesus and Mary on the Way of the Cross.
5. The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus.
6. The taking down of the Body of Jesus from the Cross.
7. The Burial of Jesus.

According to St. Bridget, there are seven graces that are given with this devotion.

1. I will grant peace to their families.
2. They will be enlightened about the divine mysteries.
3. I will console them in their pains and I will accompany them in their work.
4. I will give them as much as they ask for as long as it does not oppose the adorable will of my divine Son or the sanctification of their souls.
5. I will defend them in their spiritual battles with the infernal enemy and I will protect them at every instant of their lives.
6. I will visibly help them at the moment of their death; they will see the face of their Mother.
7. I have obtained (this grace) from my divine Son, that those who propagate this devotion to my tears and dolors, will be taken directly from this earthly life to eternal happiness since all their sins will be forgiven and my Son and I will be their eternal consolation and joy.

Devotion to the Seven Sorrows of Mary



The Blessed Virgin Mary grants seven graces to the souls who honor her daily by meditating on her tears and dolors (sorrows). This devotion was passed on by St. Bridget.

Petitions and the Power of Prayer

By June Klins

Before I left for Medjugorje in June, I sent an email to people on my contacts list offering to take petitions to Medjugorje. One of my friends, a devout Presbyterian named Sandy, wrote back, “Could you explain what a prayer intention is? Is this a prayer for a person, or for our country, or can this be both? Can two prayer intentions be part of one petition?” I wrote back and told her it was no different than what she does at her church, since I know she is on a prayer line there. So she sent me the following petition: “I would like to pray for a co-worker of mine who was diagnosed with brain cancer last July. He has undergone many treatments, not only in Erie, but elsewhere. He has even been a part of several trials at different hospitals and universities around the country. He may only have three weeks to three months left. I pray for a cure, and for his family.” I printed out her petition with the rest of them and took them with me to Medjugorje. We were told to give them to our guide, Ana, and they would be delivered to one of the visionaries to be lifted up to Our Lady during an apparition. Of course, I was praying for these petitions as well.

A month or so after I returned, Sandy and I went to lunch

and she told me she had good news about the petition she had given me. I asked her to write it up, so this is what she wrote:

“This story starts the week of July 5, 2015. I was admitted to the hospital with a ruptured appendix. I was treated with antibiotics, in the hospital for six days. This same week, my co-worker was driving, had a seizure, and ended up on a sidewalk in the city, but did not hit anyone or anything. A passerby saw this happen and called 911. When the police arrived, they realized the driver (my co-worker) had a seizure, as he had bit his tongue. He was taken to another local hospital and X-rays, CAT scans, etc. were performed. A tumor was found in his brain. It was removed, and it was found to be cancerous – one of the more aggressive cancers. He went through radiation and chemo. Of course, he was not able to drive for six months, because of the seizure. For many months, he did well, recovering from the treatments, and also going to physical therapy. Then he had several infections, and began to take a downturn.

“Late May, early June of this year his wife found out following a routine exam, that she had a form of breast

cancer. She had successful surgery and treatments. On her most recent follow-up in July [after the petition for 'his family' was taken to Medjugorje], she was told that her reoccurrence rate over the next 10 years was 6%. I thought this was truly amazing.

"And when another co-worker and good friend of this couple returned from vacation in early July, he found out that the man who only had three weeks to three months left, had been able to start physical therapy again, and had a personal trainer who was amazed at how quickly his strength was improving. I have been praying for my co-worker for more than a year now, and, of course, for his wife and family. But I really believe that submitting this petition made a huge difference, not only in my life, but in theirs."

Along with being thankful for Sandy's good news, I would like to thank all of you again for the prayers for my 88 year-old father, who was diagnosed two days before

Christmas with a very aggressive form of prostate cancer. If you recall, his PSA number was 81 at that time, which is "off the charts." When he was tested again in June after six months of hormone therapy, his PSA number was down to 1.2!!! My father is very thankful to you for your prayers.

In the March issue, I had mentioned that since your prayers seem to be so powerful, we were thinking of starting a Spirit of Medjugorje prayer group through our website. Patti Millar of Henderson, Nevada, has stepped up to be the administrator of this project. Soon you will be able to go to our home page (www.spiritofmedjugorje.org) and click on "Prayer Petitions" to post a petition or to read and pray for the ones that are listed there. Patti will also be sending these petitions to Medjugorje to be lifted up at an apparition. We are grateful to Patti for answering this call. "Prayer groups are powerful, and through them I can see, little children, that the Holy Spirit is at work in the world" (Our Lady, 6/25/04).

St. Mother Teresa and Our Lady of Medjugorje

In May of 2008, Dr. Mark Miravalle spoke at the Notre Dame Medjugorje Conference. Since Mother Teresa has now been officially canonized a saint (September 4), it seemed like a good time to revisit an encounter Dr. Miravalle recounted that he had with her.

"On August 14, 1993, I had the unmerited privilege of going down and spending a couple of days with Mother Teresa. She had asked for presentations to her Sisters of Charity on the proposed 5th Marian Dogma of Co-Redemptrix, Mediatrix and Advocate, and in the few days down there, I gave six presentations on the 5th Marian Dogma, two of which Mother herself sat in. And no, I wasn't nervous at all (laughter)! It was particularly difficult when she went for the second one and I said, 'Mother, I'm not coming up with new material here.' During that time, I went and sat with Mother outside her office in Calcutta, and above her desk area was a picture, a calendar actually, of Our Lady of Medjugorje. And I said to her, point blank, 'Mother, do you believe in Medjugorje?' and she gestured to me as follows, putting her finger over her lips as if to be discrete. But she said to me, and I quote: 'I asked Our Lady of Medjugorje to come to the first home for the dying in Calcutta and She did.' Now I, unfortunately, did not have the guts to ask her, 'How did She come, Mother?' But she left it with that, with a great big smile on her face."

Mother Teresa's Humility List

1. Speak as little as possible about yourself.
2. Keep busy with your own affairs and not those of others.
3. Avoid curiosity.
4. Do not interfere in the affairs of others.
5. Accept small irritations with good humor.
6. Do not dwell on the faults of others.
7. Accept censures even if unmerited.
8. Give in to the will of others.
9. Accept insults and injuries.
10. Accept contempt, being forgotten and disregarded.
11. Be courteous and delicate even when provoked by someone.
12. Do not seek to be admired and loved.
13. Do not protect yourself behind your own dignity.
14. Give in, in discussions, even when you are right.
15. Choose always the more difficult task.



Painting of St. Mother Teresa in the art museum in Humac, near Medjugorje

Note for our Erie-area Readers

As of this writing, we still have tickets available for the showing of *Apparition Hill*, a documentary film chronicling the 2015 pilgrimage of seven strangers, including two atheists and a skeptic, to Medjugorje. Cast member Jill Mazowiecki will be a guest at our showing. The film will be shown at 7:00 P.M. on September 15, 2016 at Tinseltown Erie. No tickets will be sold at the door. To check on availability of tickets and how to obtain them, call June at 898-2143 or Sue at 882-2008.

The Spirit of Medjugorje
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MARY IS CALLING YOU

On June 24, 1981 in Medjugorje, Our Lady appeared to six children. She identified Herself as the Blessed Virgin, Queen of Peace, and has continued to appear daily. Her message is PEACE, peace with God and man. Her words to the visionaries, "I have come to tell the world that God exists. He is the fullness of life, and to enjoy this fullness and obtain peace, you must return to God."

Today, all but three of the visionaries have daily apparitions of the Blessed Mother. During the apparitions, the visionaries do not react to light, don't hear any sound or react to being touched. They feel that they are outside of time and space. All the visionaries declare to see the Blessed Virgin as they see other people - in three dimension. They pray and speak with Her.

The Blessed Mother is confiding ten secrets to each visionary (some are chastisements for the world) and promises to leave a visible sign at the place of the apparitions in Medjugorje for all humanity. This time, this period of grace, is for CONVERSION

and a DEEPENING OF FAITH. After the visible sign, those still living will have little time for conversion.

Father Jozo Zovko, who was the pastor of St. James when the apparitions began, has spoken about what he calls "the weapons" or the "the five stones" of Our Lady. They are: prayer with the heart, especially the Rosary; Eucharist; Holy Bible; monthly Confession; and fasting.

The publisher recognizes and accepts that the final authority regarding the apparitions at Medjugorje rest with the Holy See in Rome.

To borrow an original prayer cloth from Medjugorje for a week, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the address below. You must include your phone number. If you want a prayer cloth we made to keep, send a self-addressed stamped business size (4 1/8" x 9 1/2") envelope with \$.68 postage on it.



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