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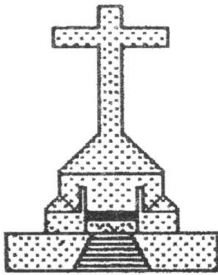
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# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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**MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST**

(Established since 1989)



[www.medjugorjene.co.uk](http://www.medjugorjene.co.uk)

Email: [medjugorjene@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:medjugorjene@yahoo.co.uk)

## OUR MINISTRY

To spread the messages of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Jesus,  
given through the visionaries in Medjugorje.

**PRAYER, FASTING**

**HOLY-SCRIPTURE, CONFESSION**

**EUCHARIST**

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## OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PRAY FOR US

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**MEDJUGORJE  
AFTERNOON OF PRAYER**  
**Led by Tony Hickey**  
**Scripture Scholar**

*And Fr. Martin Morris*

**10th November 2024**  
**4pm**  
(replaces the usual afternoon of  
prayer)

***Details to be confirmed***

**Our Lady Queen of Peace**  
Station Road  
Penshaw  
Houghton-le-Spring  
DH4 7JZ

**MEDJUGORJE  
AFTERNOON OF PRAYER**  
*led by Fr. Martin Morris*

**2nd Sunday of the month**  
**4pm**

**11th August 2024**

**8th September 2024**

**10th November ( Tony Hickey)**

**Our Lady Queen of Peace**  
Station Road  
Penshaw  
Houghton-le-Spring  
DH4 7JZ



**MEDJUGORJE CENTRE NORTH EAST PILGRIMAGE**  
in conjunction with  
**NORTHERN STAR TRAVEL LTD**  
(Tel: 0161 773 2115)

**ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO  
MEDJUGORJE 2025**

*led by Fr. Martin Morris*

**Sunday 1st—8th June 2025**

**Cost £790pp**

Single room supplement—£115pp

**(Deposit required £200)**

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**Flying from Newcastle to Dubrovnik**  
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## OUR LADY'S MESSAGE—To the World

*Given 25th July 2024 to Marija Pavlovic*



“Dear children! with joy I have chosen you and am leading you, because in you, little children, I see people of faith, hope and prayer. May you, little children, be led by the pride that you are mine, and I am leading you to Him, Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. And I am with you so that peace may win in you and around you, because it is with this intention God sent me to you.

Thank you for having responded to my call.”

### Reflection by Fr. Martin Morris

Spiritual Director of Medjugorje Centre NE

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Medjugorje North East and beyond, The tensions in the world and at home are such, that along with other pressures and anxieties in daily life we could easily turn away from the interior spiritual life of faith. There appears to be much fear and distrust in the world today and many people have serious questions about life and its future.

I think there is a great temptation towards despair in many hearts today, but God is always faithful, and Our Lady Queen of peace is coming to us to encourage us on the path of ***‘Faith, Hope and Prayer.’***

Firstly let us thank Our Lady that she remains loyal to us through her continued presence, she comes to us with Joy, and this is significant for us all.

**“My Dear Children,  
With Joy I have chosen you and am leading you because in you little**

**children, I see people of Faith, Hope and Prayer”**

These opening words should make us all very happy. When God chooses someone, it is not only for the sake of the one who is called, but always for the good of the whole community. With the call comes a mission.

*‘You did not choose me, no I chose you, and I commissioned you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last’ says Jesus to his Apostles when he choose them. (John 15:16)*

That Our Lady should *choose* us in our own lives here on earth is a tremendous joy, and calling, she has often told us that she has chosen us so that we may be witnesses of Peace and Joy. We are all chosen, we are sent on a Mission.

*‘You are a chosen race, a royal Priesthood, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of darkness, into his own wonderful light.’ (1 Peter: 2:9)*

It is indeed a great privilege too, that in the plan of Heaven Mary has called

us. Our Lady says, she has not just called us but is *leading* us too.

Our Lady is Mother and teacher, she is taking each of us by her hand and leading us towards her Son.

How Blessed a calling. Let us all thank God that during these years that our hearts were open to the call of the Queen of Peace, that we heard, and we responded, and this is why Our Lady tells us she ‘choose ‘us in Joy. This message should make us all very thoughtful, and it should touch us deeply, because so many responded fervently to the call from heaven.

Our Lady then tells us that **“In you little children I see people of Faith, Hope and Prayer.”** Our Lady is looking at us and recognises the , “Faith, Hope and Prayer that is in us.” We could say these three words are a summary of the Medjugorje spirituality.

Mary has encouraged us all these years to open our hearts to a living faith, to Christian hope, and with the five stones of Medjugorje how to pray well. Our Lady sees these in you! She see’s your Faith, Hope and Prayer, and how much the world needs today people like this, men and women who believe fervently, are filled with hope for the future, people who pray daily.

**“May you little children, be led by the pride that you are mine, and I am leading you to Him, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.”**

There is a great dignity in these words. It is a wondrous truth that Our Lady holds us so dear, that we belong to her, and for this we should be proud and filled with praise and gratitude.

We are hers because we are children of God, followers of her Son, Let us continue to make regular consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, because this is a sure way that we are hers.

Our Lady always leads us to her Son, always points us to him who is:

- **The Way** – to be followed,
- **The Truth** – to be received,
- **The Life** – to be lived.

This is the whole point of Our Lady’s coming in Medjugorje – to lead us to Jesus. Jesus is the centre of the Christian life, Saviour and Lord. Our Lady wants us to have eternal life, the Joy of Salvation in him. *“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.”* (John: 14: 6.)

Our Lady concludes this month’s message by reminding us of the reason why she is amongst us, for Peace!

**“I am with you so that peace may win in you and around you, because it is with this intention God has sent me to you.”**

Peace in our heart is the condition for Faith, Hope and Prayer to deepen in us. Peace is a grace of God, and we should pray more to Him, who is the king of peace, because Peace depends on Him, and His Peace is a gift to mankind, that all people need to open their hearts to.

He desires to protect us, our communities and families in his peace. We are now faced with the possibility of terrible destruction in the world, and therefore we must not miss the opportunity God is offering to us.

**“So that peace may win in you and around you”**

In the beginning of the apparitions Our Lady told us, that through Prayer wars and natural disasters could be avoided. This, we must always remember. Let us place ourselves and everyone under the mantle of Our Blessed Lady Queen of Peace, our refuge.

God Bless,  
**Fr. Martin**

**Let us pray with the Holy Father:**

**Prayer Intention for  
AUGUST 2024**

**‘For Political Leaders’**



“

Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking caring of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.

”

*Pope Francis*

*Jesus said "I leave you peace, my peace I give you. I do not give it to you as the world gives peace. Do not be distressed or fearful!"*

*...Jesus quiet my heart. Open my heart to Your Peace.*

(Extract from Cafod)

**PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE  
WORLD**

We come to you, God Creator, You are the source of life and beauty and power

Your son Jesus is the way of Faith, Hope and Love.

Your Spirit is the fire of Love, the fount of wisdom, the bond of unity.

You call us at all times to be people of the beatitudes,

Witnesses to the Gospel of Peace, Love and forgiveness.

You call us at this time, when war and rumours of war, weight heavily on the peoples of Ukraine, Gaza and all peace torn countries of the World.

Their lives are already broken by suffering and violence.

We renew our acceptance of your call.

We promise to work:

- To bring the light of the Gospel to those living in darkness,
- To bring the Hope of the Gospel to those living in despair
- To bring the healing of the Gospel to the lonely, the disadvantaged, the marginalized,
- And to bring the Peace of the Gospel to a divided world.

Amen



**REPORT FROM SISTER EMMANUEL**  
*of The Community of The Beatitudes*  
[www.sremmanuel.org](http://www.sremmanuel.org)

**Medjugorje, July 18, 2024**

**Dear friends, praise be to Jesus and Mary.**

**1. A Priest's heart in danger.** Father Rock, an American parish priest with 15 years of service, was able to overcome an obstacle that he thought would be impossible to survive. From the very beginning of his ministry, he suffered great injustices. Certain people spread all sorts of negative and false things about him, destroying his reputation. His superiors believed these slanders, prolonging this dark shroud over him for a long time. Father Rock suffered terribly, and couldn't bring himself to forgive these slanderers.

**One day, he went to confession** to a very experienced older priest who listened to the story of Father Rock's misfortunes, and his persistent inability to forgive. However, rather than showing him compassion and understanding, the confessor unexpectedly began to show Father Rock his pride and self-importance, telling him that he was leading his own life instead of letting it be led by God and his Word. He invited Father Rock not only to forgive his enemies, but also to wish them well.

**Following this confession, Father Rock felt completely discouraged.** But in the nights that followed, Jesus worked hard on his heart and he received the great grace

to forgive all those who wanted to harm him. Moreover, in this unexpected outpouring of mercy, he received the inner certainty that if he forgave all this evil, the Lord himself would protect and defend him in everything. **And that is what happened.** The badmouthing stopped. From then on, his priestly heart was solidly mended. Today he is a happy priest. He sees this blessing from God, as the great light of his life as a priest, the burst of a divine joy that freed him from fear and sadness. Once again, the living Word of Christ unlocked this heart that had been trapped in bitterness for years.



707 Priests Concelebrate at Youth Festival

**“Love your enemies,” Jesus tells us,** “Do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who defame you... What you want men to do for you, do for them likewise...” (Luke 6:27 -31)

Enriched by this experience, Father Rock now helps those who allow their hearts to be undermined and their lives to be ruined through bitterness and the desire for revenge. He told me this story:



2. **A young woman, Anna,** generously lent her house to her cousin (without charging her rent) so that she could look after her grandmother. The grandmother died three years later, and Anna wanted her house back. She needed to sell it to pay for another house she had bought. But the cousin hired a lawyer, her own nephew, to take the house from her. They both managed to work around the law of the land to fight Anna, and she was forced out. We can imagine how revolted Anna was.

**Father Rock offered her a path:** "If you want the Lord to reign over your property," he said, "give Him permission to defend you Himself. In order to do that, I am asking you to go against your gut, and ask God to forgive within you all the evil that your cousin and her nephew have done against you, and all the evil that they have spread on you. Also, ask Him to ensure that they cannot keep this ill-gotten property. Shortly thereafter, Anna returned to the priest who questioned her: "Did you ask God for all this? Or have you spoken badly about your cousin to your loved ones?" **"Yes, I spoke badly about her, I'm so angry."** "Then you haven't forgiven. Make a commitment not to say a single negative word about your cousin. On the contrary,

ask the Lord to grant her great blessings and to save her soul."

**A radical NO to hate?** Anna felt terrible. She knew that this was impossible for her, her whole being was filled with revolt and hatred. However, she decided to keep this commitment through thick and thin, and to faithfully adhere to Father Rock's proposal, because she saw that the light of God shone through him. Three months later, she was contacted by a real estate agent who had found a buyer for the house and offered to handle everything, because the buyer himself was a lawyer. In the end, everything went smoothly, without acrimony. The cousin understood that she was wasting her time trying to fight this honest lawyer, and it was a beautiful victory for the Kingdom of God. Anna got her house back; she was able to sell it and pay for the new house. She saw that God had acted powerfully, **for she had left Him in control of the whole situation** and had said a radical no to hatred.



3. **Let us never forget this: it is God who forgives within us.** Forgiveness is not natural to us. But God is the Creator. He alone can produce within us the forgiveness that our wounded human nature rejects. It is like a new creation; it means bringing into

existence something that did not exist before. He forgave us, sinners, the unforgivable: for allowing him to die on the Cross, He the author of life. He died forgiving, out of pure love for every one of us. It is now up to us to follow in the footsteps of our Master and believe that if he asks us to forgive, it is because he has a plan of peace for his children, a hidden plan that will later on appear to us as a wonderful gift.

**4. The novena of night prayer on the Podbrdo,** was a unique and extraordinary event that took place in June. During the apparition on June 15, to Marija's surprise, Our Lady invited us all to pray the Rosary for peace in the world before the 43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Apparitions, between 10 p.m. and 11:30 pm. During these 9 days, the Blessed Mother appeared to Marija at 11:30 pm, and prayer often continued with the luminous mysteries. There was a huge response. The hill was covered with people, and no one wanted to miss this invitation. Outside of Medjugorje, thanks to internet broadcasts, millions of people accompanied this prayer as if they were actually there...

**5. My little personal testimony.** Because I am becoming frail in my old age, it was impossible for me to climb this Hill, especially 9 nights in a row. But that made me so sad. So, I said to the Blessed Mother, "at least let me take the first steps with the crowd". A generous brother supported my arm, but from the first black cobblestones of the Podbrdo, I was desperate, saying to myself "If I get as far as the 1<sup>st</sup> joyful mystery,

that would already be a miracle." So, we took a break at that mystery, and then we continued. The more we went forwards, the more I felt strength coming to me, it was tangible. So, I was able to follow this novena to the top with all these wonderful people of God, of all races, peoples and languages, which was an unspeakable joy. We didn't want to leave the top of the hill.

**What a great lesson.** When Mary calls, we must go, and it is by going that we receive from her everything we need to fulfill her desire for us. If I had waited until I felt the strength to climb, I would have stayed at the bottom of the hill... (Of course, this shouldn't be turned into an absolute rule.)

**Now, a question,** that everyone asked themselves: Why did the Theotokos ask us for this exceptional novena, in the middle of the night, among the rocks? Many responses have been published. As far as I am concerned, it is enough to know that the Queen of Heaven and earth divinely sees the whole world and its inhabitants, she knows the plans of God and also those of our enemy, Satan... Knowing all this, she asked for our help to promote good, to destroy an evil plan, and probably avoid the worst, out of love for her children. She clearly sees and tells us that "the family is under attack" and that "peace is in danger". So as a mother, **how could she not count on the help of our prayer** to eradicate a good dose of the evils that threatens us?.

Let us not forget that profound word she said on July 2, 2014: "Dear



Children, **I want all of you with me in eternity, for you are part of me.**"

"Without you, dear children, I cannot help the world." (August 28, 1986)

"I need you to collaborate with me in every moment of your life..."

**6. A child screamed.** The scene takes place at the *Magnificat Retreat Centre*, in the small chapel adjoining the large basement room. A local family was invited to the apparition with the visionary Marija. But when they arrived, the room was full. They decided to try the little gallery, but that too was crowded. So, they went to sit on the steps leading to the gallery. **Their 2-year-old little boy, Franjo, was there with his mother.**



Seated halfway up the steps, they had a bird's eye view of what was going on below. The little boy had often heard about Jesus and Mary at home, because he participated in family prayer every day. And there he was on that busy day, at Marija's Chapel. To make sure he wouldn't disturb others during the prayer, his mother - pregnant with her 2<sup>nd</sup> child - put a pacifier in his mouth. He was calm, although uncomfortably seated on those small steps. Below, everyone got down on their knees at Marija's request.

As she did every day, before the apparition, Marija prayed the joyful mysteries with the pilgrims, and then the sorrowful mysteries. When her voice stops sharply, it means that the Blessed Mother has arrived, and Marija has entered into ecstasy. Her lips move, but the sound of her voice is cut off. At this moment, there is a very collected silence. But no sooner had Marija's voice died down that the 2-year-old baby threw out his pacifier with his left hand, and immediately extended his right hand to the place where Marija was standing, a short distance in front of him. With his right hand, he sent kisses and greetings, and pointed to the place where the apparition was taking place, in front of Marija. His mother wondered what was happening.

**Then the child broke the silence and shouted, "Gopa, Gopa."**

His mother and loved ones turned to him, in amazement: Throughout the whole apparition, he never stopped sending kisses, while keeping his gaze fixed in the direction of Marija in ecstasy. He kept his eyes wide open, fully absorbed in what was mysteriously happening in front of him. He stared at that spot without batting an eye.

Then, after 4 or 5 minutes, Marija lowered her head, a sign that Our Lady had returned to Heaven. We started praying the Magnificat. The little boy then stopped sending kisses. It was over. He said nothing, and went back to being the "normal" child he had been just a few minutes earlier. After that, he never saw the Blessed Mother of God again.

**What experts have analyzed and sought to understand** for years, what great saints and prophets have dreamed of seeing, a 2-year-old who does not yet know how to speak, has seen with his own eyes. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the children you have placed among us. At 2 years of age, they are so pure. Their innocence moves us. *The Kingdom of God belongs to them, and to all who are like them*, Jesus tells us.

**O Lord, please, protect the innocence of the children of today.** May evil crash to the ground before the innocence of children. Evil has already been defeated by the innocence of a

Woman, the One whose Heart is Immaculate.

*Dearest Gospa, more than ever in these times of trial, we want to stop complaining, and instead contemplate what is beautiful, what your maternal Heart reveals to us, and all the treasures of love it contains. Please help us lift our eyes to your Son Jesus, for from His open Heart has sprung our salvation and the true peace for which we long for so anxiously.*

Sister Emmanuel,  
Community of the Beatitudes

**Under the motto "Mary has chosen the good part..." (Lk 10, 42),  
the 35th Youth Festival in Medjugorje  
August 1st to August 6th 2024**

The day began with a press conference at which the Apostolic Visitor with a special role for the parish of Medjugorje, Archbishop Aldo Cavalli and the parish priest of Medjugorje, Fr. Zvonimir Pavičić addressed the media.

This spiritual renewal for young people gathered thousands of young people from all over the world again this year.

"We are often asked about numbers and how many young people we expect. We don't bother much with numbers, even though there are a lot of young people. We are glad that they all came here with the desire to be closer to Christ, to listen and choose that better part like Mary. Although many countries are in unenviable positions in terms of unrest and wars, young people still arrive from these countries as well. This is precisely why we will direct a lot of time and prayers for Peace, Peace in everyone's heart and Peace in the world for the end of all wars", said Fr. Zvonimir Pavičić, while the young people came to Medjugorje from eighty countries.

"The Pope knows very well the importance of this place and this meeting. He gave importance to this place in the way that he took upon himself all the pastoral responsibility of this place, Medjugorje. The second thing he showed his importance was that he sent his representative, The Archbishop, who is responsible for pastoral care. This is a unique thing in the Church. The Pope understands very well the importance of this meeting with young people, and therefore every year he sends his message to young people, which he prepares himself", said Archbishop Cavalli, and the message of the Holy Father, in which he encouraged young people, was not missing this year either.

Holy Mass on the first evening of the Youth Festival, with the concelebration of 707 priests, was celebrated by the Apostolic Nuncio to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Archbishop Francis Assisi Chullikatt, who encouraged the youth not to be afraid of the new life that Jesus offers them.

## The Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Aldo Cavalli 'Medjugorje'

*The centre of Medjugorje spirituality is the encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ. The Virgin Mary accompanies the faithful to this meeting*

The Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Aldo Cavalli, 78, is a native of Lecco in Lombardy, Italy. He was ordained a priest in 1971 in Bergamo, where he received episcopal consecration in 1996.

He is a political scientist and sociologist by education, since 1975 he has specialized in theology and canon law, as well as diplomacy – since 1979 he has been an official of Vatican diplomacy.

Msgr. Cavalli was Apostolic Nuncio to Chile, Colombia, Malta and Libya, and since March 21, 2015, Nuncio to the Netherlands and Permanent Representative of the Holy See to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

At the end of November 2021, he was appointed special apostolic visitor for the parish of Medjugorje, succeeding Polish Archbishop Henryk Hoser, who died earlier that year as a result of Coronavirus infection, and was appointed the first visitor in 2017.

The spiritual phenomenon of Medjugorje has been going on for more than four decades and the universal Church has been following it with attention from the beginning. In May 2019, Pope Francis officially approved pilgrimages to Medjugorje, and earlier a special apostolic visitor

was appointed for the parish of Medjugorje: what is the meaning and reason for these decisions?

Pope Francis, seeing the multitude of pilgrims coming to this holy place, in



May 2019 advised bishops and priests to officially accompany the pilgrimages, in order to facilitate this process of prayer and conversion.

Previously, the Holy Father considered it appropriate to designate an Apostolic Visitor for the parish of Medjugorje with a special role, with the mission of recognizing and implementing suitable pastoral initiatives.

The spiritual intensity of Medjugorje does not weaken: on the contrary, in terms of the number and composition of pilgrims, it seems to have strengthened and acquired global dimensions. How could Medjugorje be described today?

A return to faith with conviction, a true conversion of heart, fervent prayer, fasting and a constant call to peace: this is the reality of Medjugorje.

There are many conversions, there is a frequent return to sacramental practice (the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation), there are many spiritual vocations – the priestly vocation, the religious vocation and the vocation to marriage: these are the evangelical fruits of Medjugorje.

Along with confession, one of the most common spiritual messages that

can be encountered in Medjugorje today is the call to prayer and conversion. What weight and significance does this vocation have for the universal Church as well as for the contemporary world?

The center of Medjugorje spirituality is the encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ. The Virgin Mary accompanies the faithful to this meeting. It is precisely in this way that the prayer that is prayed every evening by the Christian community gathered in Medjugorje takes place. It begins with the prayer of the Rosary, with Mary leading us to the encounter with Jesus; then the Eucharist is celebrated, the encounter with Jesus, the fundamental point of the Christian faith; then this encounter continues in Eucharistic adoration.

The faithful gladly participate in prayer, just as they gladly climb the Apparition Hill in communion with the Virgin Mary and the Cross Mountain contemplating the life of Jesus. After these intense hours of prayer and contemplation, as a normal consequence, the desire and will to renew one's own life in the Sacrament of Reconciliation is born. In this way, the faithful return to their homes, to the reality of everyday life, filled with grace and hope, and in their parishes they collaborate with the parish priest in various ministries, and ask to be able to pray the Rosary before Holy Mass, as well as sometimes to remain in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the Eucharist. This is how prayer groups are born, which are called "Medjugorje".

What would be your message from Medjugorje to the readers of our magazine?

This is Medjugorje in today's world: a return to faith, true conversion, prayer, fasting and a constant call to peace. This is how a Christian lives in the world.

Source: <https://www.svietlorijeci.ba/monaldo-cavalli-medugorje.../>

### Prayer for Priests



God our Father, we ask you to Bless  
our priests  
and confirm them in their calling.  
Give them the gifts they need  
to respond with generosity  
and a joyful heart.

For our part we pray that we may  
always be attentive to their needs  
and never take them for granted.  
They, like us, need friendship and love,  
welcome and a sense of  
belonging,  
kind words and acts of  
thoughtfulness.

We pray, also, for the Priests who have  
wounded the priesthood.  
May we be willing to forgive  
and may they be open to healing.  
Let us support one another during  
times of crisis

We offer this prayer for our priests,  
They are our brothers and our friends.

Amen

**MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS**  
**to the participants of the Youth Festival Medjugorje,**  
**August 1-6, 2024**

Dear young people,  
 I am happy to be able to address this message to you on the occasion of the 35th Youth Festival, which has brought many of you together in Medjugorje, so that the encounter with the Lord Jesus in communion with the Virgin Mary may kindle the flame of your faith. In these intense days, reflect on the theme: "Mary has chosen the good part" (Lk 10:42). Starting from this phrase of the Lord, I would like to offer you some brief suggestions for your spiritual growth and your commitment in the Church and in the world.

Jesus, with what he says to Martha, the sister of Lazarus and Mary, reminds us that the approach of an authentic disciple is to listen to the Word of the Lord. Mary realizes that the Lord has entered her house, but He also wanted to enter into her heart. In fact, she sat at his feet to listen to him, thus choosing the better part that "will not be taken away from her".

Another authentic disciple is Mary of Nazareth. God entered the house of this young girl and spoke to her. She welcomed the Word of God into her heart and participated in His plan, making herself available when, in the fullness of time, God sent his Son. She was present in silence at the foot of the cross when Jesus, the Son of God and His Son, redeemed the world; she followed the apostles on the day of Pentecost, when the

Church was born in the Holy Spirit. By allowing the Word of God to enter her heart, the Virgin Mary fulfilled her mission with fidelity and attention. She too chose the best part: the Lord Jesus.



In the same way, you, dear friends, are called to become authentic disciples of Christ. Remain in the presence of the Master to meditate on the Word of God,

allowing it to illuminate your mind and heart to discover and collaborate in the plan that the Father has for each of you. For this reason, I encourage you to establish a close bond with the Gospel and to have it with you, so that it may be for you like a compass that shows you the path to follow. By reading it you will learn to know Christ, "the Son of God made man, is the unique, perfect and definitive Word of the Father, who in him says everything, and there will be no other word than that" (CCC, 65), as St. Jerome also confirms: "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ" (PL 24,17). Strengthen yourselves also with the power of the sacramental grace of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, visit the Lord in this "heart to heart" encounter, that is, in Eucharistic adoration.

An authentic disciple, moreover, becoming wise and strong in the Spirit, necessarily transmits the Kingdom of God to others, because announcing His Word is not an obligation only for priests and

religious, but also for you, dear young people. You must have the courage to speak of Christ in your families, in your educational and working environment, in your free time. Announce Him above all with your life, manifesting the visible presence of Christ in your existence, in your daily commitment and in coherence with the Gospel in every concrete decision. The Lord wants you to be fearless apostles of the Good News and builders of a new humanity.

*Dearest, may my blessing accompany you, and I entrust each of you to Mother Mary, Mother of the Church, so that she may intercede that you may have the strength and wisdom to be able to speak with God and speak of God. May Her example urge you to be heralds of hope, love and peace in the world. Finally, I kindly ask you to pray for me.*

Rome, at San Giovanni Laterano,

## Jelena Vasilj

Interior Locutionist

***“The family is the first prayer group, and actually the best prayer group.”***



*At just ten years old in December of 1982, Jelena began to hear Our Lady's voice and see Her in an interior way, which she describes as "intense presence of Mary... an experience of the heart," or as seeing the Blessed Mother with "the eyes of the heart." These experiences are called "interior locutions."*

Jelena is not one of the original six visionaries, but was to receive a different gift from Our Lady.

Jelena had a vision of a PEARL that split in two, one part bright and bright and another darker. Our Lady explained to her that the pearl was like the human heart that is bright and shining when it belongs totally to the Lord, but if a part of it bends to satan, it is extinguished and lost completely. Jelena says that she also saw Satan tempting the Lord, offering him his entire kingdom and asking for his victory over Medjugorje in return. In this case, the devil did not succeed, but Jelena realized how important Medjugorje was in the context of the entire divine plan: the hopes of all men depend precisely on the presence of Our Lady in that place. The evil one is furious, unleashed, fighting against peace and love, even more so today precisely because Our Lady, appearing in Medjugorje, discovered him and revealed her deceptive presence to the world, warning all men against her temptations.

## OCTOBER PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Oct – 20<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024

**Cost £740 pp sharing  
£860 pp for single room.**

Travel insurance available £60 pp

**Newcastle to Dubrovnik**

**Includes:** Return Flights,  
airport duty and passenger taxes.

7 nights dinner, bed and breakfast in  
4\* hotel near church.

Full pilgrimage programme with  
local guide. Priest travelling with  
group.

Travelling with Northern Star Travel  
Tel: **0161 773 2115**

Further Information—Deacon Peter  
Barrigan Tel: **0191 586 4731**

## Medjugorje Youth Festival 2024

35th Mladifest

**1st—6th August**

*‘Mary has chosen that good  
part... (Lk, 10, 42)’*

The Medjugorje Youth Festival, or  
“Mladifest”, established 1989.

Every August, youth from all over  
the world flock to Medjugorje to  
joyfully pray, witness and partake in  
the sacraments together.

The Youh Festival was the idea of a  
young man named Ernest Williams,  
working together with Fr. Slavko  
Barbaric.

## 2025 Jubilee Year *‘Pilgrims of Hope’*

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee  
Year ‘Pilgrims of Hope’, 2024 has  
been designated a Year of Prayer.

The Holy Father has asked that 2024  
be year of prayer, as a preparatory  
year for the Jubilee. This will start in  
Advent 2023. In preparation for the  
Jubilee, dioceses are invited to  
promote initiatives to remind people  
of the centrality of both individual  
prayer and community prayer.



Medjugorje Centre (North East)

## MEDJUGORJE RETREAT AT MINSTERACRES

Spiritual Director—Fr. Martin Morris

**Cost is £195 pp**

**Fri 25th –27th October 2024**

**£48 Deposit required**

**Booking forms available from  
Marian Fletcher  
Telephone 0191 4174413**