



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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The Vatican Has Granted a Nihil Obstat to Medjugorje!

MONTHLY MESSAGE OF MARCH 25, 2025

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, in this time of grace when you are called to conversion, I am encouraging you, little children: offer me your prayers, sufferings and tears for conversion of hearts that are far from the Heart of my Son Jesus. Pray with me, because, little children, without God you do not have a future or eternal life. I love you, but I cannot help you without you; therefore, say 'yes' to God. Thank you for having responded to my call.” (With Ecclesiastical approval)

The above picture of the Divine Mercy image was taken in Medjugorje. This year Divine Mercy Sunday falls on April 27, 2025. Jesus told St. Faustina, “The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion [on the first Sunday after Easter] shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.” Be sure to take advantage of this great gift! We are thankful for your continued support, and wish you and your families a blessed Holy Week, Easter, and Divine Mercy Sunday.

Jesus, Remember Me, When You Come Into Your Kingdom

By Fr. Ray Donohue



Fr. Ray

We are now in the month of April, and we'll be seeing better weather. It will start to be warmer and the days are getting longer. But as we all know, something spectacular surrounds us – it is very holy and difficult, blessed and painful, joyful and almost unbelievable, but True! It is the month of Holy Week, and from what the Holy Catholic Church has begun some 2000 plus years ago, and still strong and holy! It is, of course, all of Holy Week and Easter!

Why did Jesus come to us in the first place? Did we do something grand and wonderful? Did we deserve such beyond understanding and holy? Quite the opposite, sadly. We sinned, and from the sins we removed much of ourselves from God's infinite Love. Oh, God's love was there for us, deep and holy and pure, and yet, the human race either ignored that love, made themselves a "god," and in many things so greedy, humankind put faith only in themselves and put God somewhere down the line.

God created us, male and female. He gave us this world, and gifts of Graces to love, to care for the world and each other, and always to put God first before all things. He gave us free will to love each other, and to love God above all else, and in that free will, we chose ourselves over God. We chose worldly things over God's care and Love for us. He gave us only 10 Commandments, and we couldn't obey them because we only thought of ourselves, and how sad we made our Holy and eternal God!

Goodness exists, and again, sadly, evil exists too. God created goodness and holiness. We human beings created evil and selfishness. We put ourselves above God, we all had the pure and wonderful gift of free will, to choose goodness, holiness, love and kindness, and yet we chose greediness, hate, selfishness and becoming self-centered!

But God loved the world and all His creations so very much, especially all of the human race. God never intended us to be greedy, self-centered, hateful of others, hurtful, liars, thinking, "Well, I don't want a baby now, so I will just kill this little human being that God created so that I can think about ME and only ME!" God never intended young people to go to school with guns and shoot up and murder other children, and teachers and even their own parents!

NO! God gave us all special gifts, to LOVE one another, as God loves us! God's love is UNCONDITIONAL! He would never kill a helpless little baby that HE created and allowed a man and woman to bring to life. He had plans for all those children and teachers and parents and all others, so where did humanity get the idea that we are "god" and can ignore the simple 10 Commandments God gave us?! TEN

things God gave all humanity to keep, and we couldn't even keep ten things in the beautiful, or at least WAS beautiful world, until human beings in their lust for power thought themselves better than God.

When COVID came around, people were afraid to come to church, so a group of some of my "friends" would all get together on Sunday mornings. They would go to a nearby park near the lake, sit in lawn chairs, with a radio that had Holy Mass on it. All the while, they sat drinking coffee and chatting while Mass was going on, and expected God to be very pleased with that! Is that how we treat God?

So God in His infinite LOVE for all of us, sent His only begotten Son, God, the second person of the Most Holy Trinity, our Lord Jesus! Jesus came as a human being just like us, but He never sinned, only came to save us. He spoke the Truth, He explained all the Holy Scriptures, He healed the crippled, gave sight to the blind, and even brought people who had died back to life! Still, this was not enough for so many, especially those with authority. Jealousy crept into people's hearts and they ridiculed Jesus, and hated Him for His goodness and Holiness and Truth! He proclaimed the Holiness of God and His holy ways, and people threw Him out of their towns and villages, even out of the Temple, thinking that "they" knew better.

Jesus loved and showed that love through countless miracles, until finally, knowing what was about to happen, He called the Twelve Apostles together for the Passover Feast, a Holy Feast and celebration giving praise and thanks to the Holiness of God and His infinite Love.

Jesus chose the 12 disciples, His Apostles, knowing how human they were. He didn't pick the best of the crop, the pick of the litter, but real ordinary people, like us! The apostles were real people, like us, and they all had their faults, like us. Peter was outspoken and had to see things to believe, he even walked on the water when Jesus called him. Yes, he was far from perfect, but then, so are we! God picks us, too.

Judas figured that Jesus could get out of any predicament, so why not turn Jesus in, to the very people who hated Jesus and vowed to kill Jesus in a most torturous death. Judas figured he'd get to keep the thirty

pieces of silver, and somehow he figured that Jesus would find a way out of the situation. After all, look at all that Jesus could do and actually did for so many others, healing leprosy, bringing people from the dead to life, and so many other miracles! The Last Supper, which is the very First Holy Mass, the same Holy Mass WE ALL GO TO EACH Saturday evening or Sunday, was celebrated. "THIS IS MY BODY," and indeed it was and IS, and: "THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD", which we all hear and we all see this Holy Miracle at every Holy Mass. We receive Jesus, His Holy Body and Blood at every Holy Mass! Think on that! Embrace



The Fifth Luminous Mystery in Medjugorje

this. Humble ourselves before the Lord Jesus who comes to us in this most Holy Sacrament!

Palm Sunday, they hailed Him! Holy Thursday Jesus celebrated the very first Mass, but Judas walked out before He ate the Bread of Life, and the Most Precious Blood of Christ, and he hanged himself in despair.

We receive Jesus at every Holy Mass and we say: "Lord, I am NOT worthy that you should enter under my roof (meaning the roof of our mouths), but only say the WORD, and my soul shall be healed!"

We pray to Jesus in a most humble way, as we should, and Jesus is always with us and never leaves us. If anything, we never should walk away from Jesus. Come to Holy Mass with love and a prayerful mind and soul and heart. Enter Lent and Holy Week in awe and in Love and thanksgiving! The word "Eucharist" means "Thanksgiving." We are so thankful we have a Lord and God WHO is life and Love!

Keep in mind, that Jesus Christ, has died for us, and is Risen from the dead! HE is our Saving Lord! He is JOY for all ages! Get close to God, so that He can get close to YOU!

Make sure you get to Holy Confession this Lent, and if

you have any old sins you haven't confessed, confess them. You are talking to Jesus through His holy priests. Do not ever be afraid to confess any sins. Write them down on a little piece of paper so you don't forget, then after your holy Confession, rip and burn that paper and let it all go! God has absolved you in that Holy Sacrament. God has absolved you with His holy love because you came to Him, ill and suffering, and He has healed you! God is LOVE and He loves YOU, despite our faults, and He gave us the Holy Catholic Church to heal us. Use the Sacraments. God gave them to us to use them and come into His deep and holy Grace! Die to your sins, and live the life of Jesus, our Lord and Savior! God bless you, one and all. Make this the very BEST Lent, Holy Week and Easter you've ever had. You can do it. God will give you the grace. God loves YOU so much you'll never know how much until we all see Him in Heaven!

Love and many blessings, let us pray for each other in the holy Grace of God,

~Father ray and my little Easter bunnies, Dublin and Sweet Pea

Our Lady of Medjugorje Traveling Statue

By Leslie Jennings

In February of 2024 my Aunt Georgia, a *Spirit of Medjugorje Newsletter* mailing team member, stepped away from her years of service on the team, due to a serious health condition. In between medical treatments, Aunt Georgia spent many hours enjoying the summer outside on their lovely patio. We brought her a hibiscus plant, which bloomed beautiful red flowers in the sunshine to brighten her spirits.

As the Erie weather began to chill, Uncle Cary brought the plant indoors and placed it on the large window sill in the family room where Aunt Georgia spent much of her day. Although the hibiscus had stopped blooming for quite some time, the green plant was a sign of hope while she gazed at the changing scene on the other side of the window.

In November, friends from the *Spirit of Medjugorje Newsletter* mailing team called Georgia to see if she would like the Our Lady of Medjugorje traveling statue to spend some time in their home. She was ecstatic! My aunt said they found a perfect place for this beautiful statue – on the bay window sill next to the hibiscus plant. Georgia felt such joy and comfort with "Mary" at her window.

Then something quite remarkable happened. Uncle Cary described that over the next 6 days, magnificent red flowers started to bloom all over the hibiscus plant! They could hardly believe it. As the smaller blooms died and new ones came within a day or two, one large beautiful flower remained in full bloom the entire time the statue was present.

After sharing this incredible event with one of the team members, she said, "Oh, wow, Mary is looking after your aunt and bringing her flowers!"

When it was time for the statue to be picked up and travel to a new home, one large flower continued to bloom on the hibiscus plant for Aunt Georgia and Uncle Cary. They

trusted that the influence of Our Blessed Mother's presence still continued through the changing health issues, and yet the most blessed sacred journey of their marriage.

Thank you, Lord, for your awe-inspiring Majesty!

On March 1, 2025, dear Aunt Georgia peacefully passed away. In her obituary, it read: "Georgia wanted to let all of her beautiful family, friends, and care team know how much she appreciated their prayers and support."

Georgia truly loved her Medjugorje newsletter mailing team. They faithfully held her up in prayer through the end of her sacred earthly journey.

Georgia's Funeral Mass was truly beautiful. As we all gathered at their home afterward, I walked through the house looking to help wherever I could. Then I noticed it! The green flowerless hibiscus plant by the window.

Summer is coming and the hibiscus plant will probably bloom again. When it does, we will feel the love of Our Lady of Medjugorje and the precious gift of flowers for Her beloved Georgia.

Editor's note: Our prayers for Georgia and for her family will continue (just like the blooming plant).

Our souls are eternally connected to each other and the Blessed Mother. Just like we did for every mailing team member who has passed, we collected money to have Gregorian Masses (see page 5) said for Georgia. According to St. Thomas Aquinas, if her soul is already in Heaven, the Masses give her soul, "accidental glory," which is a closer intimacy with God and an increase in her intercessory power. I envision a little Spirit of Medjugorje reunion every time one of our helpers passes. They are still part of our team, but in a different way. I am grateful for their intercession.



The plant still blooming after the statue left



The plant not in bloom when the statue arrived

Father Jozo's Arrest

In August of 1981, Fr. Jozo Zovko, the parish priest in Medjugorje at the time, was arrested. The following is excerpted with permission from the book, Twilight of Marxism: Medjugorje, The Downfall of Systematic Evil, and the Fulfillment of the Secret of Fatima by Dr. Thomas Petrisko.

With the arrest of Jozo, the entire parish of Medjugorje fell into a deep and dark depression, one that is revealed in the parish ledger:

"When the bell rang for Mass, the church filled up in dead silence. The people were looking at the set faces of the priests and nuns, the scattered altar cloths, overturned vases, wide-open cupboards all around. When Father Zrinko came to the altar to address the people, he could hardly speak: 'This is the hardest day of my life,' he said, and everyone began crying. During Mass they tried to sing, but they gagged on the words. The sisters said they couldn't bring themselves to say the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, and said the Sorrowful ones instead.

"At the end of the Mass, in the middle of the seven Our Fathers, the visionaries stopped dead, and hurried to the side room opposite the sacristy. There was a hush, prayerful and expectant, and all eyes were fixed on the door where the children were. Then, Jacov came to the microphone, 'Our Lady called us into that room where She was waiting for us. She told us to tell you: 'Don't be afraid. I want you to be happy and to let joy show on your faces. I shall look after Father Jozo.'"

Television news that evening out of Sarajevo reported the arrest. The newscaster announced that Jozo, Bishop Zanic, and others were extremists and that they gravely abused religious freedom under the guise of advancing and restoring the Ustasi.

Once Jozo was in custody, the authorities proceeded to torture him.

A resident of Medjugorje, Mladen Bulic, crossed paths with Jozo in a hospital somewhere around the end of August. He later presented a written testimony of what he learned concerning the friar's confinement in jail:

"In the middle of August 1981, I had been hospitalized for throat problems for five days. On August 25, I was at my bedroom window. I saw a militia car. Two policemen came out, holding my parish priest, Father Jozo, dressed in civilian clothes. I hurried down the stairs to greet him because a week before he had been incarcerated. On the stairs, I met Father Jozo with two policemen.

"I moved towards him to shake his hand, but the two policemen pushed me away nervously. I noticed that the small group had stopped in the hallway, while waiting for a patient to leave the doctor's office. Father Jozo's ears were bleeding. Seeing how he was walking, I thought he would stay in a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

"I got closer and asked him, 'How are you doing?' He turned towards me with a smile and said, 'You see.' Looking at his smile, I saw that teeth were missing. The right cheek was swollen. They had beaten him savagely.

"One of the policemen came to me and said, 'If you keep on talking, we will beat you too.' I did not let them intimidate me. I answered, 'You cannot do anything. I am a patient, and I have a right to be here!'

"Father Jozo went into the doctor's office with the policemen. When he came out, he asked me, 'How are things going in Medjugorje?' I answered, 'All is well. Do not worry.'

"A policeman said, 'There is nothing to worry about because tonight we will cut his head off.' I answered, 'You cannot do anything to him; you were able to beat him up; you cannot kill him.'

"At that point, Father Jozo turned his head and told me to be silent because it was dangerous to talk.

"Afterwards, I learned about ten days later, the policeman who had beaten him up died of a heart attack. The main policeman was telling Fr. Jozo that he was an enemy of the state and the government, and that he would be worn thin, and they would get him a little bit at a time. The policeman had chained him and put weights on his arms and legs to hurt him. But when in the morning, they came back to take Father Jozo, they found him freed of his chains; and his cell, which did not have a lamp, was illuminated."

When finally brought to trial in October, Jozo's charges were threefold.

Through his sermons, the Franciscan priest was said to be repeatedly referring to the Israelites' forty years in the desert as a symbolic reference to Communism's forty-year rule in Yugoslavia.

He also, in declaring it sometimes necessary to shed one's blood for the faith, was accused of using doublespeak to incite violence against the regime.

Lastly, Jozo was charged with promulgating the rise of religion in Croatia and Herzegovina as a path to power, once again, in opposition to the state and the people.

All of these charges, eighteen witnesses for the prosecution testified, proved Jozo was the mastermind behind the apparition hoax in Medjugorje.

Three hundred and thirty people volunteered to speak on behalf of Jozo, all were denied. No theological experts were permitted to explain Jozo's reference

to the forty years in the desert cited in his homilies. And a request for the taped sermons to be played in court was not permitted.

Not surprisingly, the trumped-up charges prevailed in the court proceedings against Jozo. Alarmed by the restlessness in Poland brought about by the Catholic Lech Wałęsa and his *Solidarity* movement, the Communist government in Yugoslavia wanted to ensure it showed no weakness in dealing with its own Catholic revolutionaries.

On October 22, 1981, Father Jozo Zovko was sentenced to three-and-a-half years' imprisonment.

The court – in order to show its rationale side – ordered the money taken from Saint James's coffers to be returned.

Through Jozo's arrest and conviction, the Communist



Fr. Jozo in 2008

authorities in Yugoslavia intended to bring an end to Medjugorje.

But it proved to be only the beginning. Like the suffering of so many martyrs in Church history that have mystically seeded a greater cause at hand, Jozo's plight was the spiritual fuel used to take Medjugorje to the next level.

In fact, by the fall of 1981, no longer would Medjugorje be

just a pilgrimage for the homespun of Yugoslavia. As word spread about the sanctuary of miracles in Herzegovina, nothing seemed to dissuade travelers from all over Europe – regardless of so many obvious impediments.

Editor's note: Fr. Jozo was released early from jail in February of 1983, after serving 18 months of hard labor.

"Whenever you are given a cross, be sure to embrace it with humility and gratitude. If God, in His infinite goodness, favors you with a cross of some importance, be sure to thank Him in a special way." ~ St. Louis de Montfort

Mirjana's Advice to a Grandmother

The following is an excerpt, used with permission, from Mirjana Soldo's book, My Heart Will Triumph.

On a recent trip to Italy, I stopped to pray at the 700-year-old basilica of Saint Anthony in Padua, where Anthony's body is interred. I knelt in one of the pews and thanked him for his help in my life. I felt like Saint Anthony was there with me, listening to my prayers and consoling me like an older brother.

As I started praying the Saint Anthony Chaplet, which I had done every day since the war, an older woman and her two grandsons sat down in the pew behind me.

"You lead the *Our Father*," the woman said to one of the little boys.

"But I don't want to, Grandma," he whined.

The woman raised her voice. "You must!"

The boy finally started praying and I tried to reconnect with my own prayer. Moments later, however, the woman instructed her other grandson to pray the *Hail Mary*.

"But this is boring," he said

"Pray it now!" the woman said sharply.

When something disturbs my peace in church I usually

ignore it, but this time I felt like I had to say something. I turned to the woman and said, "Ma'am, forgive me, but if you force them to pray, then they'll hate praying when they grow up."

"Oh? And what makes you an expert?"

I was tempted to say, "Well I see the Virgin Mary," but instead I replied, "I'm not an expert, but I'm a mother."

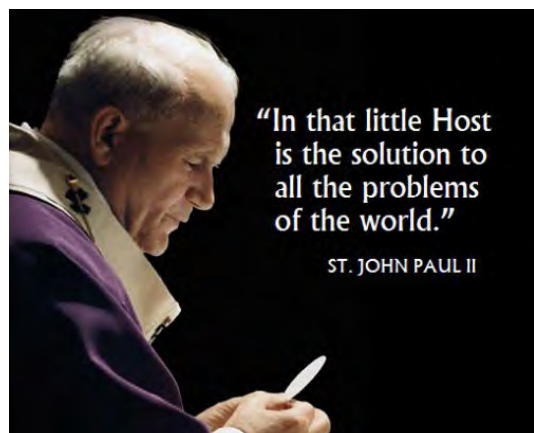
After I turned back around, the woman remained quiet and I was able to pray in peace.

Our Lady never demands anything from us – she only invites.

Editor's note: We did not have enough room to print the St. Anthony Chaplet. You can find it online or if want a printed copy, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to us marked "St. Anthony Chaplet."



Mirjana



"In that little Host is the solution to all the problems of the world."

ST. JOHN PAUL II

Annual Message to Mirjana on March 18, 2024

The visionary Mirjana Dragicevic-Soldo had daily apparitions from June 24, 1981 to December 25, 1982. During the last daily apparition, Our Lady gave her the 10th secret, and told her that she would appear to her once a year, on the 18th of March. It has been this way through the years. The apparition lasted from 1:30 PM to 1:35 PM.

"Dear children! With motherly love I implore you: give me your hands folded in prayer, give me your hearts cleansed in confession and I will lead you to my Son. Because, my children, only my Son, with His light, can illuminate the darkness; only He, with His Word, can remove suffering. Therefore, do not be afraid to walk with me, because I am leading you to my Son – salvation. Thank you."

Gregorian Masses

What are Gregorian Masses? The name is derived from Pope St. Gregory the Great who was the first to popularize this pious practice. St. Gregory relates in his Dialogues how, when he had finished the series of thirty Masses for a departed Monk, the monk appeared to tell him he had thus gained entry into glory on completion of the Gregorian Masses. The hallowed tradition has been declared "a pious and reasonable belief of the faithful" on the authority of the Sacred Roman Congregation on Indulgences. The Gregorian Masses are offered for ONE DECEASED SOUL ... not a

couple or family. PUT THEM IN YOUR WILLS!

As you will appreciate, few priests by reason of their work are free and able to offer the thirty consecutive Masses of the Gregorian series without interruption. Hence, it requires extra time to arrange to have the Gregorian Masses scheduled, as this cannot be done usually in a place where there are only a few priests. This is why they are usually offered through the "Missions."

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are His legs and feet from the knees down.

But there is more to this statue. Not long after it was installed, pilgrims noticed a clear liquid flowing from the knee of Jesus' right leg. This liquid has been flowing, drop by drop for many years now. People collect the liquid on little napkins, on articles of clothing, or just anoint themselves with this.

As you can see, there is an urge to just lean against Jesus, to just rest on Jesus, when you are near it. I have always felt drawn to just rest my head on Jesus' leg, like a child with his father, just embracing him around the legs!! It just feels like that, so much peace.

Some have wondered if the liquid that flows from Jesus' knee might have a connection with something that happened during His Crucifixion.

The Risen Christ Statue

By Cathy Nolan

Yesterday I spent some time at the Risen Christ Statue which is behind St. James Church [in Medjugorje] in a large area set aside for prayer. This statue is huge, made of bronze and depicts Jesus at the moment of Resurrection, still in the Cruciform. Pilgrims line up to venerate this image of Jesus, Risen from the dead. But as you can see in this picture, the only accessible parts of Jesus' body

We know that Our Lady stayed near the Cross of Christ throughout His Passion. She could not be torn away from her Son. In fact, the artist who created the stained-glass windows in St. James Church, created this window depicting the Crucifixion.

Our Lady is embracing Jesus' legs, the only part of His body She could reach. Her tears would have rolled down His legs much like the liquid is rolling down the legs of the statue.

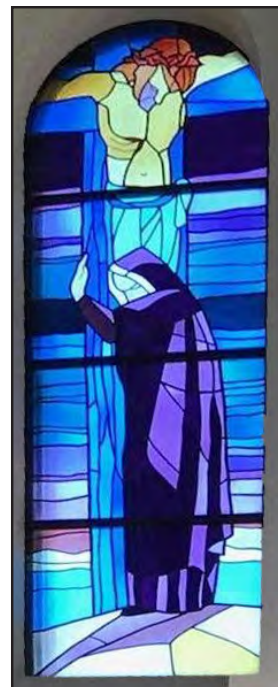
Could this mysterious liquid be Our Lady's tears of love for Her Son, shed for our sake, for our deliverance from sin and death? It could be.

All I know is that the Risen Christ Statue draws me, calls me to come close and to hug Jesus' legs, to lean against Him, to rest on Him, to be quiet with Him, to stay a child with Him, and to love Him. I am very grateful to the artist whose inspiration created this statue that now is blessing thousands of pilgrims in Medjugorje, one at a time.

Reflection October 11, 2017, marytv.tv



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Fr. Leon Speaks on the Power of Confession

The following is an excerpt of a teaching by Fr. Leon Pereira, O.P., the chaplain to the English-speaking pilgrims in Medjugorje, before English Mass on August 30, 2024. If you want to watch it, you can visit marytv.tv under English Mass for that day.

I'd like to talk to you briefly today about the power of the sacraments.

Many of you sometimes want to confess sins from the past and you have a lingering feeling that you're not forgiven somehow. Now I can understand this if you've been to general absolution because that doesn't feel like the real thing. General absolution is meant for when you're on the Titanic, after you have struck the iceberg. That's the situation the Church has in mind. It even says in Canon Law – if you survive, you are obliged to make a one-on-one Confession.

Remember, you have the right to make a one-on-one Confession. You have a duty to. Confession genuinely forgives our sins. How do we know this? Well, Jesus tells us. As soon as He rises from the dead, He breathes on the apostles and He says, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven. Those whose sins you retain, they are retained."

Now here in Medjugorje, there was a man with demons.

And a certain priest gave him exorcised salt (not me) and the demons had a manifesting. He ran around like a madman. There was blood on his T-shirt and he was raving and ranting...His friends were trying to bring him to me at 1:00 in the morning. And he broke free and he ran to the front of the church, where there were two police squad cars. And he went up to them, and although he was Irish, the demons in him spoke Croatian perfectly. And the demons laughed at the police and told them their sins.

Now, here is what happens during an exorcism. The demons will look for the weakest link. And the weakest link is the person who has not been to Confession. And they will start shouting out your sins to embarrass you, to stop you praying. But notice, when you have been to Confession, the demons keep quiet. They have nothing to say, because they can't see your sins. They're gone. Do you see how powerful Confession can be? Remember how powerful it is.

Also, I think those of you who say you can't remember your sins, don't worry. We'll get the resident demoniac to shout out your sins to everyone. Is that OK? [laughter] NO, it's NOT OK!

While on the subject of demons, I'm not saying this to

frighten you, but THEY EXIST! They're real. Remember also that it is during the Consecration at Mass and at Adoration that the demons start yelling. Why? Because they know it is really Jesus on the altar. It is really Jesus. This is why we have to go to Confession before we receive Communion if we're conscious of grave sin, if we haven't been to Confession in more than a year.

Remember what it says in the Bible, 1 Corinthians 11: "Do not eat and drink the Body and Blood of Our Lord without discerning yourselves, lest you eat and drink judgment onto yourself. This is why some of you are sick and some have died." You know those politicians who claim to be practicing Catholics, and yet pro-abortion and all that. And then they receive Communion. Do you know what happens to them? It hardens their hearts more and more and they become less

and less likely to ever repent...

Remember, this is why we go to Confession regularly, as Our Lady Herself recommends to us. Because otherwise, there is a great danger of hardening our hearts.

Finally, still on the topic of demons, no demon will dare to use the name of Jesus in vain because they're terrified of the saving power of the most beautiful and Holy Name of Jesus. So, if you are given to swearing and cursing and using the name of Jesus, I beg you to stop. Even the demons don't do that. Only human beings are so wicked that they would do such a thing. If you swear like this, root it out of your life. Say an Our Father every time you find yourself doing such an ugly thing. And root out all this bad language from your lives.

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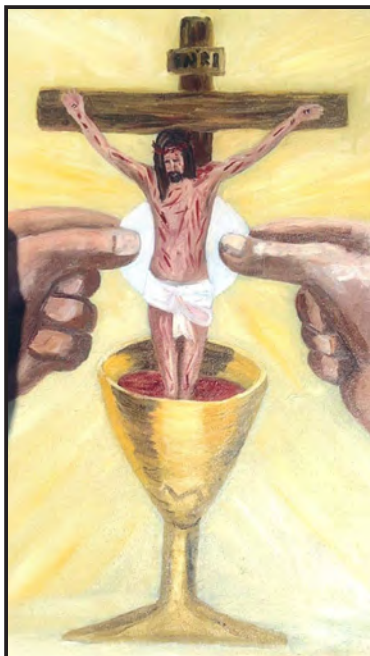
One of our subscribers told me about a bread he found for fasting that works well for him. He said it is as hearty as steak to him. He thought I should share this information to help others with their fasting. The name of the bread is "Seedtastic." We are not allowed to advertise, but if you look on the internet, you will find where you can purchase it. "May fasting and prayer be your guiding star." (Our Lady, March 2, 2007)

This is My Body

Editor's introduction: A few months ago, I mentioned that I was doing the "Bible in a Year" program by Ascension Press. I HIGHLY recommend it. This is pleasing to Our Lady, who asks us to read the Bible daily. I have learned so much from Fr. Mike Schmitz, who does a wonderful job with the commentaries each day. On Day 100, part of the day's reading was the 6th Chapter of St. John's Gospel. I knew it needed to be shared. It is one of the longer episodes I have listened to thus far, and we need to keep it short, so I suggest you listen to the entire podcast. It can be found at AscensionPress.com/BIY. I have highlighted some of the key teachings for you. It was very hard to condense the last bullet, so again, it is better if you listen to the podcast, so it makes more sense.

- + From verses 53 all the way down to 58, Jesus is 5 times reiterating the fact that He just said you must "eat My Flesh and drink My Blood." In fact, He goes on to say, "He who eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood has Eternal Life. And if you don't eat My Flesh...you have no Life in you."
- + This is the teaching on the Eucharist. This is the teaching that at the Mass what we have, the bread and wine, actually becomes Jesus's Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity...We say it because that's what He said.

+ It's undeniable that Jesus makes it absolutely clear, and as a result of this, people turned away... This is the one spot in the



Artwork titled *Corpus Domini* by Croatian artist, Petar Šibenik

entire Gospel where you have actual disciples of Jesus leaving Him over a teaching He offers...Jesus has revealed that He's given Himself in the Eucharist and that is how He wants to be worshipped. And if I don't want that, then I don't want Him.

- + 100% of Christians for the first 1500 years of Christianity all believed this interpretation. And that is massively important...If this interpretation is wrong, that means all Catholics worship a piece of bread...that the first 1500 years, every Christian was guilty of idolatry in the most horrific degree. Remember what happened in the golden calf episode?...God stopped that immediately....Do we really believe that if the Eucharist really isn't Jesus, that God allowed 100% of Christians to worship bread and worship wine as if it was actually Him? God would never tolerate that kind of thing...So we are left with – this is the one interpretation that 100% of Christians believed for 1500 years – that in the Mass, in the Eucharist, that is truly Jesus Christ.

Our thanks to Fr. Ray Donohue, Carol Bleck, Laura and Kevin DiBacco, Pat Heinlein, Kandace Lyons, Tom Kennedy, Diane Niebauer, Sue Taccone, Stephanie Koshinskie, Kay Kujan, Cindy Bielanin, Peggy Chludzinski, Barb Sirianni, Corky Young, Barb Cesare, Deacon Jerry Peterson, Chris Falk, Marlene Figurski, Ronalee Curtis, Annette and Chris Fuhrman, Darleen Wilkinson, Louise Lotze, Peggy Smith, Judy Johns, Rose Heintzel, Jane Culmer, and Christine Guarnieri, OFS for their help with the March mailing. We thank Johannes Dittrich, Louise Lotze and Rosalie White for the use of their photos in this issue. We also thank our proofreader, Don Spaeder, our webmaster, Jason Klins, and our prayer group administrator, Patti Millar.

As of March 25, 2025, the number of Masses reported for Our Lady's intentions was 40,377. Thank you.

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MARY IS CALLING YOU

On June 24, 1981 in Medjugorje, Our Lady began appearing to six children. She identified Herself as the Blessed Virgin, Queen of Peace. 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, the Blessed Mother still appears daily to three of the visionaries, and annually to the others. They are all now adults. 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. They declare to see the Blessed Virgin as they see other people — three dimensional. They pray and speak with Her.

The Blessed Mother granted to confide ten secrets to each visionary (some are chastisements for the world). Some of the visionaries have received all ten secrets. Our Lady promised

to leave a visible sign at the original site of the apparitions in Medjugorje, for all humanity. In the meantime, this period of grace is for conversion and a deepening of faith.

Father Jozo Zovko, who was the pastor of St. James when the apparitions began, has spoken about what he calls "the weapons" or "the five stones" of Our Lady (as in the story of Goliath). They are PRAYER with the heart, especially the Rosary; EUCHARIST; BIBLE; monthly CONFESSION; and FASTING.

On September 19, 2024 the Vatican announced that the apparitions in Medjugorje received a nihil obstat.

If you want a prayer cloth we made, send a self-addressed stamped business size (4 1/8" x 9 1/2") envelope with \$1.01 postage on it. This offer is available while supplies last.



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