

Jesus The Lord Our Saviour

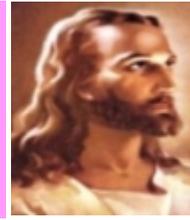
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(Not For Sale)



" Glory to God in the highest heaven , and on earth peace among those whom he favours!" (Luke 2:13-14)

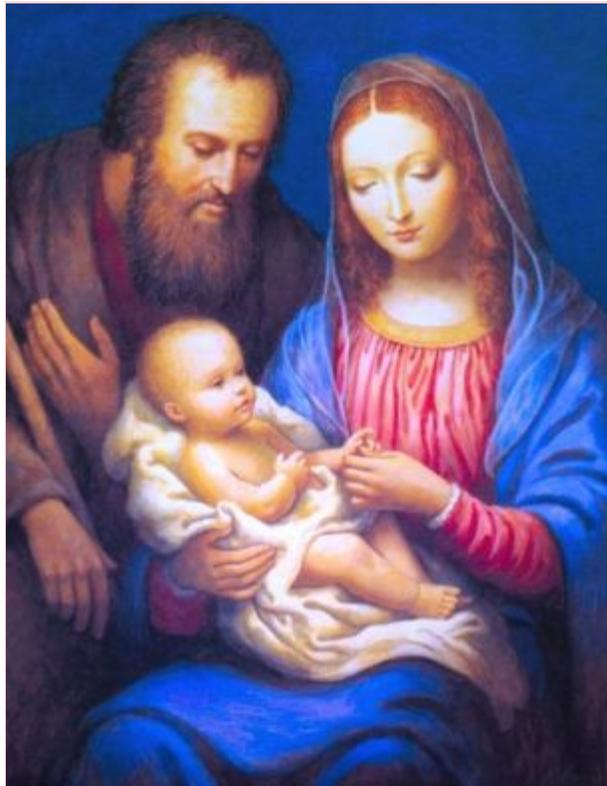
BLESSINGS OF GOD BE YOURS...



**Jesus The Lord
Our Saviour**

" Glory to God in the highest heaven , and on earth peace among those whom he favours!" (Luke 2:13-14)

**My God !You who love us human beings I praise You.
You appear before us as a little babe, in Your Mother's arms, having grown in Her womb, and become Man, all to reveal Your great glory!
The sacrifice of this divine Mother and the tenderness of your infant face touches and penetrates deep into my heart!
You who were born as a little babe ! You who crawl on Your mother's lap! Come stay in my heart. Come and live in my house.
I need Your immeasurable Love and Your permanent joy for my family and for myself. Just as the wise men gave You all they possessed , I too fall prostrate at Your feet and give myself entirely to You.
I desire Your mercy and Your love.**



**I do not want any bitterness in my heart. Do away with all my anger and irritation Lord and show me Your Peace and Your gentle face.
Lead me always in accordance with Your Holy will and as a sign of Your peace.
Virgin Mother !Show me always the fruit of Your womb Jesus. And that alone is sufficient for me. AMEN. THANK YOU !**

Fr. V. Ignatius. S. J.

BELOVED IN CHRIST...



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“ She gave birth to her first born son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” (Luke 2:7)



As we mention the word 'Christmas', we send 'greetings' wishing one another with joy, with cards depicting the Baby Jesus in the arms of our Blessed Mother, Joseph standing close by and the shepherds standing around the Babe in all simplicity, surrounded by the cattle. Christmas is the festival of the joy of humankind! The fulfillment of peace! This is the festival of the Peace of God who was born as Man and of the Redemption that He gives.

People, out of their ego and evil thinking lived steeped in sin by shunning God's Word. God came to this world and was born as a Man in order to redeem mankind from their sinful state, and to attach them to the state of God's Glory. When mankind trusts and accepts His ways, then they obtain fulfilling Peace and everlasting Joy. It is to remind this that Our Blessed Mother appears often on this earth to lead people towards the right path. Our Mother counsels us to **repent, transform leaving behind all sinful ways and seek only that which pleases God. She calls us to live pleasing to God.**

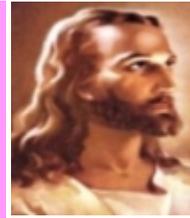
May this Christmas day bring Peace and Joy to all !My Best wishes to you all ! May this Joy and Peace extend to your hearts and homes in this New Year 2012!

May God's blessing fill you and Mother Mary embrace You !

I wish you Joy !

Fr. V. Ignatius. S.J.

Blessed Mother at Medjugorje !



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The Apparitions of Our Blessed Mother at Medjugorje !

June 24th 1981, the Feast of John the Baptist, around 5 p.m. two students whose houses are situated at the foothills of the village of Medjugorje : Ivanka aged 13 and Mirjana aged 14, the two friends were moving closer to the foot of the hill on a pleasant evening walk. Suddenly when Ivanka lifted up her face , she saw a beautiful Lady at a distance of a stone's throw, who was standing far above the ground on a cloud as white as snow. Immediately before realizing she pointed out and said within a second, " Look, there's Our Lady !"(GOSPA) in Croatian. Just as Mirjana said " Shut up ! As if Mother Mary is going to appear to you", she lifted her head and she too beheld the same beautiful woman and stood there speechless.

Both of them left the place and ran to the village in great fear. They gathered a few more children playing on the streets and went to see their 'Gospa Mother'. That Beautiful Lady appeared to them in a position slightly away from the earlier one.

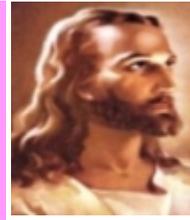
The figure of the beautiful Woman was visible only for a few out of those who were gathered! The names of those visionaries: 1. Ivanka (age 13) 2. Mirjana (age 14) 3. Vitska (age 16) 4. Ivan (age 17) 5. Jakov (age 11) There was another who due to the warnings of parents did not return after having seen Mother Mary for the first time.

These children were in a transcendental state, lost in the vision of Mother Mary for an hour. When they came back after their vision, they had a feeling of having visited another world and returned. Other children altogether, spread the news in the village, the very next day on the 25th a group of children all ran towards the mountain. The same beautiful Lady appeared to the children smiling. Together with the five children who saw Mother Mary the day before there was a sixth Marija (age 16) who also saw the vision.

The vision on that day lasted exactly like the first day, for an hour. This News spread like wild fire around Medjugorje and the surrounding villages. From the 26th onwards the crowds began jostling at the venue. This was the general talk among the people there.



Blessed Mother at Medjugorje !



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The Visionary children were arrested.

After the end of the Second world war, Yugoslavia was transformed into a communist land under dictatorial leadership. Tito was their supreme head. When Mother Mary began appearing in 1981, Yugoslavia was in the throes of dictatorial leadership. All through Yugoslavia, the people who spoke various languages, Christians, Muslims, were all silent under the control of the dictators. The people were forbidden to gather in any public place in the name of any religion. They were neither allowed to preach nor worship. Hence the communist leaders forbade gathering in thousands at the foothills.

They began observing if there were any priests behind this gathering. They arrested the six young boys and girls who were behind this gathering. The young boys who were arrested were: Ivan (17), Jakov (11), the young girls were: Vitska(17), Marija(16), Mirjana(14) and Ivanka(13). They were kept in police custody and were subjected to psychiatric study. They were examined for possible hallucinations.

Considering the age of the six children, their family background, their schooling, their talk, the innocent naughtiness of youthhood, the psychiatrists concluded that the children did not suffer from any signs of hallucinations and mental diseases and wondered whether those people who had imprisoned them had such hallucinations, and thus released them. The same police officers boarded the children into the same bus and drove them away in another direction. Suddenly the children asked that the vehicle be stopped half way. Gospa Mother appeared to the children along the fields as they were travelling. Observing the transcendental state of the children, the officers were stunned. They returned after bringing the children safely back to the village. The apparitions continued thus every day at the foot of the hill. The crowds were also overwhelmed and increasing.

In those days Rev. Fr. Jozo Zovko, O.F.M, was ministering as the parish priest at Medjugorje. In the week that the apparitions began, Fr. Zovko had gone to ZAGAREB in Northern Yugoslavia to attend a Retreat. When he returned from the Retreat he was shocked to see his parish crowded to capacity and overflowing.

Blessed Mother at Medjugorje !



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QUEEN OF PEACE!

The crowds had thronged the majestic and huge Parish Church built in honour of St. James , as they descended from the apparition mountain."Do not stay here. Please return without giving trouble, " the priest said. The reason was the strict orders promulgated by the communist regime and they were under their watchful eye.

But the crowds stood in all stubbornness and began praying. Observing the fervour and love of the parishioners the parish priest came down, served mass for them and began blessing the people.

In the mean time an inexplicable fear and confusion took hold of the parish priest. When ever he spoke to the visionary children, he was surprised to notice their simplicity and innocence. He sent them back saying, " Find out and let me know who that Gospa is who speaks to you and what Her Name is."

So did the visionary children ask the Gospa, " What is Your Name?" Mother smilingly answered them calmly, " I am the Queen of Peace."When they revealed this to the priest, he was astonished and put forth another question asking, " What does your Gospa wish to tell the priests?"The next day the children asked the Gospa during the apparition. " You must answer our parish priest. Mother, what do you wish to tell the priests?" Mother Mary who appeared said this, " Tell them, they have to believe."

They revealed this too to the parish priest. The parish priest Zovko was so astonished. He could neither refuse what the children said nor could he comprehend .He was astounded and overcome with awe. The next day he was kneeling in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the parish Church.

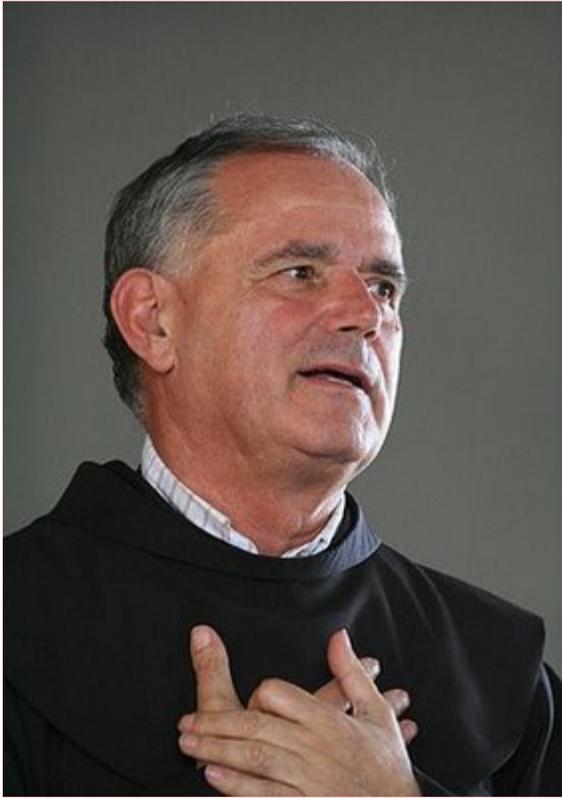
Suddenly the visionary children came running to the parish church for fear of the police officials who were chasing them. They said in great agitation, " The police officers are searching for us. They are coming to arrest us." He took them immediately to the priests' quarters close by , to the room in the basement , locked them up and came in. The police officers returned after not finding the children within the Church. That day The Gospa Mother appeared to them in that very basement room. On realizing this the crowds gathered around the priests' residence.As the crowds were increasing day by day , the police officers thought that the parish priest was behind these gatherings and arrested him.Although they had imprisoned him, the apparitions continued for the children.



Blessed Mother at Medjugorje !



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Everyday in the evenings after five, their apparitions lasted for about an hour. The eyes, lips and facial expressions of these children in a transcendental state revealed some different truth. They realized that they were conversing with some one in joy. But the others were unable to either see Gospa or hear Her voice. After the priest was arrested, some other priests of the Franciscan order took over the duties of the parish. The six visionary children continued having their visions. It did not stop! The crowds too increased in number and did not diminish! The village of Medjugorje belongs to the territory of Bosnia. Bishop Zanich was in charge of the diocese of Bosnia. The headquarters of the Bishop was situated in the city of Mostar.

The witnesses of Mother Mary of Medjugorje reached the bishop's ears. The hot news discussed by the people also reached the bishop's ears. Hence he came one day to Medjugorje and met the visionary children. He himself conversed with them, listened to them, observed their characteristics and believed. " The children come from varied backgrounds.

They are of different age groups and also possessed different characteristics. They are also incapable of saying lies. That they were trying to explain a truth that they had experienced, could not be refuted." He declared this and requested the faithful to continue with their prayers. The priest who was imprisoned underwent great difficulties inside the prison for eighteen months. The people who heard about the imprisonment gathered in larger numbers in the village of Medjugorje, as if to condemn the arrest. The news of Our Lady's vision and messages spread among the foreign nations. The news of the imprisonment of Fr. Jozo Zovko was informed to the Pope in Rome Pope Saint John Paul II.

Thousands of people started a signature campaign to obtain the release of Fr. Jozo Zovko. The Pope paying heed to the request of the people wrote a letter to the Yugoslavian government requesting his release. The Communist government who respected the petition of the Pope ordered the release of the priest under one condition. " Fr. Jozo Zovko should not enter the village of Medjugorje for any reason." Paying heed to this condition Fr. Zovko left for His Franciscan house several miles away, and spent his time in prayer and penance. He stayed there and spent his time in holiness and in faith during his last days. I was privileged to meet him on 18th April 1988. Although it was only a few moments that I spent time with him, yet it was an unforgettable experience! He clung on to Mother Mary saying that Life is Prayer, by having the Rosary as his weapon. His imprisonment became a witness to the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary! After a few years with a firm conviction that Mother Mary was appearing in Medjugorje, he breathed his last in peace.

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My unforgettable experience

After this people started flocking Medjugorje with eagerness in order to participate in the visions. It was then that this news reached my ears. When I was working after obtaining a degree in Psychology and Counselling from the Gonzaga university, Spokane, near Seattle in Washington, a person mentioned to me about Medjugorje and encouraged me to visit the place saying, “ The Mother of God is appearing to young boys and girls at Medjugorje. Go and see.” In spite of the repeated requests, I ignored it, and another individual, a stranger from California encouraged me and also sent me the amount needed to go to Medjugorje. I set out to Germany and from there I travelled to Medjugorje. It was thus that I chanced to partake in a vision of the Blessed Mother Mary. I stayed at Medjugorje from 11th to the 22nd of April 1988 in the first room of the bell tower, situated on the right wing of St. James Church and participated in the visions.

At the choir loft, situated below the room on the bell tower, Our Lady appeared every day at 5.40p.m. till 5.30 p.m. The vision lasted for ten minutes to Ivan a visionary and delivered Her message. To leave Germany and go to Yugoslavia, I needed a Visa. I obtained the necessary Visa from the Yugoslavian consulate at Munich. I got down at Croatia which is situated in the north of Yugoslavia and spent a day in one of the Jesuit houses close to the railway station. There was also a school run by the Jesuits.

I met a few Jesuit friends who had studied a few years ago with me in Rome. One of them, a psychologist, Fr. Dr. San Micheli Martoni, S.J. “The Yugoslavian Bishop’s council had appointed him to examine and judge psychologically about the much talked about apparitions.” He was shouldered with a mammoth responsibility to prove and clarify officially, whether the visionary children’s mentality was normal or if it was in a confused hallucinated state. I met him during those days. Ten years before that from 1974 to 1978 we had studied together in the famous Gregorian university of Rome. I never dreamt that I would one day meet him at Medjugorje. I had an opportunity of meeting and spending several hours with my friend. He pointed out to me that the Sacred Congregation of Faith appointed by the Pope had formulated certain definite signs in order to do a research and find out whether the apparitions were real or fake.

Blessed Mother at Medjugorje !



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Those definite signs:

1. The visionary who says that he/she sees visions should not be a patient of any mental disease. There should be no delusions and hallucinations. He should have normalcy in thought and feeling.
2. The messages said to be delivered by the Blessed Virgin Mary should be in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. It should not be in congruence with the Catholic Teaching.
3. There should be no immoral behavior in following the messages based on Our Blessed Mother.
4. The life style of the visionaries should be in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church (Christian witnessing) and should not be counter witnesses.
5. The messages delivered during the apparitions should not only touch the lives of the visionaries but also make an impact on those listening to it, their transformation in heart and feeling should be in par with the Catholic way of life.
6. What are the miracles wrought by the apparitions of the Blessed Mother? For example a healing which is beyond the power of medicines and such Supernatural miracles.

PEACE

Once when thousands of pilgrims were gathered in Medjugorje, they saw a rainbow. There was written "MIR" in it. The meaning of the Croatian word "MIR" is "PEACE".

Mother revealed Her name as 'QUEEN OF PEACE'. (Ja Sam Kralica Mira)

My friend Dr. Martoni sent me to Medjugorje equipping me with all this information. He told me that the visionaries were trust worthy and were easy to get along. The visionaries ranging from the age of 11 to 17, all from different families, in different levels of education, all gathering at the same place, at the same time and all of them reaching the same kind of transcendental state is neither due to a psychological state nor is it possible too. He also revealed to me that these visions were beyond the power of the equipments used by the psychologists.

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Bearing all these details in mind, I took the advice of Dr. Martoni and set out the following evening for a night travel by bus, from the town of Zagareb to Mostar. From there I reached Medjugorje within an hour going via a small town called Chitluk. It was 5o'clock early in the morning.

I entered straight into the Church. A big crowd was participating in the Mass then. I stood outside unable to enter inside due to the crowd. At 6 a.m when the mass got over, I enquired of a person standing close by, in Italian, "How can we meet the parish priest here?" He told me that the person celebrating the mass was the parish priest. After the mass got over, the parish priest and the other priests came in through the entrance.

I too went close and handed over the letter of introduction given by Dr.Martoni and the visiting card. At once they took me to the first room situated in the bell tower and made me stay there. I decided to visit all the necessary places and leave the next day for Italy. But that very morning I walked to the foothills of Podbrdo the apparition mountain. People were thronging the place in great crowds early in the morning. On reaching the spot of the apparition I saw great crowds falling prostrate and sobbing .I saw that they all had the Rosary as their weapon. In that place without my own knowing, I fell prostrate in prayer. From that day on for ten days I prayed fasting from food. I continued to stay there. It was during those days that Our Blessed Mother appeared to the visionary Ivan for four minutes from 5.40 p.m. in the choir loft of the Church. Inside the Church several thousands of people would be standing huddled together in perfect silence. On the third day when I stayed there, the Blessed Mother Mary who spoke to Ivan spoke these words to me:

“ My son, I love you. I love you beyond words. Although you have gone far away from me and My Son, I still love you. I love you just as you are. I have chosen you. I need you.” The words that melted me the most, “ I need you!”

I repeated these words very often in my heart. That whole night I cried inconsolably. After this experience, there was no necessity to see any miracle or to wait for any one to teach me whether the apparitions were real or fake. After that I was privileged to participate in the apparitions along with the visionary Ivan, for the next seven days. In the mean time I took part in the concelebrated mass that took place between 6p.m. and 7p.m. Every evening about 150 to 200 priests celebrated mass. (This concelebrated mass takes place even today just as it did then.)

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Our Blessed Mother's message

During those days, not only the visionary Ivan , I also met the visionary Vitska and received all necessary information. Before leaving Medjugorje for India, while conversing with Vitska , I asked her the message for all the people, for all the people of India. For which Vitska replied:

The message that Gospa Mother gives for the people of the entire world is the message for the people of India. We can contain this in five words.

1. Conversion of hearts
2. Reconciliation
3. Penance and Fasting
4. Prayer
5. Peace

In order to experience the grace called Peace, the first four are essential. All these messages are in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. These messages enhance the acceptance of the teachings of the Catholic Church and encourage taking up a witnessing life of faith. It is note worthy that the apparitions of the Blessed Mother began on 24th June. It is the solemn feast of St. John the Baptist. Our Blessed Mother Queen of Peace is meeting all of us the people of the world as a prophets, and calls us like John the Baptist.



“Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is drawing near.” (Matthew 3:1-2)

The apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mother Mary continues at Medjugorje even today as it did then. Mother gives a message through Mirjana on the 2nd of every month. So too is a message given for all of us through Marija on the 25th of every month. Several thousands of people read and listen to these messages with faith and eagerness and are benefitted. Mother Mary call us all too.

(We publish these messages every month in our monthly, ‘Yesuve Aandavar Nam Meetpar’. Respond to the call of The Mother.)

Fr. V. Ignatius. S.J.