



# Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages

**June 2021**

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**Currently we are blest to be celebrating our 29th year!**

## The Monthly Message of Our Blessed Mother from Medjugorje: May 25, 2021

“Dear children! I look at you and I call you: return to God because he is love and out of love he has sent me to guide you on the path of conversion. Leave sin and evil, adhere to the holiness and joy that will reign and you will be my outstretched hands in this lost world. I want you to be a prayer and a hope for those who have not met the God of love. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

### See a rose . . . . Pray a Rosary!



**BISHOP LUCIA NOVENA PRAYER FOR AN END TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC [www.syrdio.org](http://www.syrdio.org):**

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and worldwide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and ministry among the outcasts of society into the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

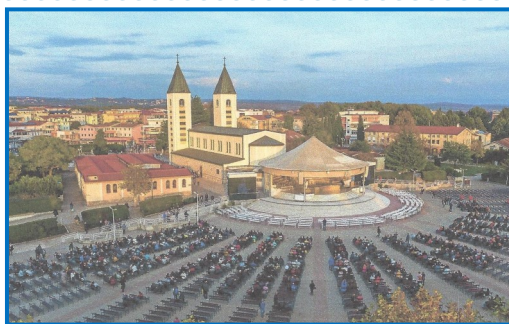
#### HEAVEN CALLS—IS YOUR RINGER ON ?

Blessing and prayers to all our friends, supporters and newsletter subscribers of the Central NY Marian Center.

**Reflections on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Of the Apparitions of Our Blessed Mother at Medjugorje by Patsy M. Iannolo, M.D., Ph.D., P.C.**

**Similar to all of Our Lady's apparitions the impact of Medjugorje on the world has really occurred by one pilgrim and one person at a time. My experience is not different. My relationship to the Gopa is personal. Thus, wanting to know her personally led me to the Miraculous Medal and extensive research on Marian apparitions. What did She say? How did She act? What did She want from me? What could I do for Her?**

Subsequently, in the later 1980's I heard about Medjugorje. As news of these apparitions that began in 1981 began to filter to America I was captivated. Suddenly, all of my historic research was taking life in real time in Croatia. Then it became personal. After 7 years of unsuccessful attempts to conceive or



adopt a third child my wife sent a petition to Medjugorje in 1988 with parish friends who led a pilgrimage that year. The petition was apparently given to the Visionary, Vicka, on August 13<sup>th</sup>. Approximately three days after the delivery of the petition I was approached by a local Obstetrician who advised me of his patient who would be giving a baby up for adoption in November. The 15 year old mother was apparently being steered towards an abortion but her mind and that of her mother had been changed.

These same parish friends led another pilgrimage in July of 1990. My wife Nancy signed up for the trip in May as soon as she heard about it as she wanted to go to Medjugorje to give personal thanks. I

spent a month struggling with the decision to go. At the time it seemed like there were so many reasons for me not to go and I told everyone all of them. These included professional obligations, the financial difficulties of a failing business enterprise with lots of employees and being 9 time zones away from 3 children in a place where overseas telephone service was not readily available in a Communist country.

One day at morning Mass the parish priest who was to be the spiritual director for the trip knelt down beside me and asked me 'why are you fighting the Holy Spirit'. I hadn't looked at it that way before and I hesitated to respond. To be honest I felt I had a close relationship with the Blessed Mother but at the time I felt afraid of Jesus and not close to Him or the Holy Spirit. So I said to Father that I was open to the Spirit but felt that I could experience the fruits of Medjugorje right in Syracuse. I also told him that I had read everything I could obtain regarding the events happening there and was going to regional and national conferences. I expressed that I did not feel that I would gain anything else by going there."





In retrospect I had not been telling people my true reservation for making the pilgrimage. I had the strong feeling that in going to Medjugorje that my life would be changed. I struggled with whether I wanted to risk that change. At 36 years old I had become adjusted to the life I was living and the responsibilities I was fulfilling. Strong conversions were happening there and I was afraid of what the change in me might be. I realized that my previous answer to the Priest was easily turned around on me. If the Blessed Mother wanted to change my life for her Son she would do it in Syracuse or Medjugorje, my choice.

My personal conversion happened the first night in Medjugorje and then a flood

of personal spiritual healings ensued in that week. I found myself wide awake at 2 a.m. and had gone out to the patio of the guest house to pray a Rosary. The patio had a direct view of the cross on Mount Krizevac and I was praying while watching the colors of the cross change. I was all by myself on the patio and a voice spoke to me with a simple message, 'Build a Marian center'. It was as simple as that and that's all that was said. After all the years of studying apparitions, the travel to and attendance at conferences, the months preparing for that pilgrimage and the long hours spent to reach Medjugorje the thought that I would build a Marian center never previously lodged in my mind. I had to be sitting on that patio, at that time after the long journey IN ORDER to get the message. Now as I am being asked to recall all of this it reminds me of Elijah. When Elijah lay down to die in the desert, God could have given him the message. Instead, God sent the angel to refresh Elijah and he had to cross the desert and hide in a cave in the mountain. It was then, finally, that God spoke to Elijah in a whisper.

The millions of pilgrims to Medjugorje have had similar personal conversion experiences. For all the Pilgrims the fruits of traveling to the Gospa have been and

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remain profound. From that simple location to me from the Queen of Peace our little CNY Marian Center is now in its 30<sup>th</sup> year and has touched people all over the world.

## Medjugorje, Forty Years by Regina Harty



Guadalupe, Mexico; La Salette, France; Beauraing, Belgium; Knock, Ireland; Fatima, Portugal; Lourdes, France; Banneux, Belgium, Rue du Bac, Paris, France; are well known and approved sites of Marian apparitions. **So what is Medjugorje and where does it lie in Marian apparitions?**

**Where is Medjugorje** ("between the hills")? Medjugorje is a small village in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the former Yugoslavia, that is the site of the **parish church of St. James**: St. James is known as the patron saint of pilgrims. Four other villages are part of the parish of Medjugorje: Bijakovici, Miletina, Vionica and Surmanci. The current Church of St. James was constructed between 1934 and 1969, when the original church was discovered to be on unstable ground.

**On June 24, 1981, the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist**, children and teens walked and played along the roadside of Bijakovici. It was there a beautiful lady appeared on **Mount Podbrdo** (now known as **Apparition Hill**) holding a little





child in her arms. Although she beckoned for them to come, the frightened youth did not approach but the next day, four children returned and two others joined them to see if the beautiful lady would come back. They were not disappointed. Those six children became the visionaries to receive daily apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The names of the six and their ages at the time of the original appa-



ritions are: Mirjana, Vicka, Marija, Ivan all 16; Ivanka, 15 and Jakov, 10.

When **Our Lady** first appeared, she appeared to all of the children together daily. The children were told by **Our Lady** that she would reveal ten secrets to them and when they each received the ten secrets they would not receive the daily apparitions any longer. To date, Mirjana, Ivanka, and Jakov have all ten secrets and receive **Our Lady** at dates she has designated for them. Marija, Vicka and Ivan still receive **Our Lady** daily. **The ten secrets "refer to the whole world and are linked together in a chain."** One of the ten secrets is that a visible sign on the site of the apparitions in Medugorje will be left. The visionaries have seen this sign in a vision and it is beautiful, permanent and indestructible.

**A general interpretation of the messages are peace, faith, conversion, prayer and fasting.** At the end of the third apparition, **Our Lady** appeared to Marija. A cross was behind her and **Our Lady** said, **"Peace, peace, peace and only peace. Peace must reign between man and God, and between all people!"** **Our Lady** has referred to the **"five stones": prayer, fasting, Mass, the Bible and Confession to help us live out the messages.** To meet the growing demand for the holy Sacrament of Confession, new confessionals have been built on the northwest side of St. James, to supplement the 25 on the opposite side. For those who have been

there, we know Confession is an important part of the pilgrimage and can lead us deeper in conversion, peace, prayer and commitment to faith.

**What is the Church's position on Medugorje?** The Church's policy is to begin an investigation after an apparition ends. With Medugorje's length, the Holy See, under the direction of Pope Benedict XVI, established an **International Commission of Inquiry** on March 17, 2010. The President of the Commission, Cardinal Camillo Ruini, led the group from March 26, 2010 to January 17, 2014 and as assigned, turned the report over to Pope Francis for any decisions. In May 2017, Pope Francis described the Final report as "very, very good" but alluded to doubts posed by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on the later alleged apparitions. The Holy Father stated that concerning the first several apparitions, *"the report more or less says that the investigation needs to continue."* Despite the reservations on the later apparitions, the Pope believed, however, that people go to Medugorje and that there is a "spiritual" and "pastoral fact" that "people go there and are converted, the people who meet God, who change their lives." This fact "cannot be denied." The Pope appointed Archbishop Henryk Hosier (Poland) as Special Envoy in 2017, then as Apostolic Visitor in 2018. Presently, he oversees Medugorje in this capacity and in the name of the Holy Father. *No decision, however, has been officially promulgated by the Holy See as to the character of Medugorje.* The existing ban, though, on official pilgrimages was lifted in May 2019 and more recently, **Our Lady, Queen of Peace Shrine in Medugorje** was selected as part of Pope Francis' Marian Shrines Rosary Marathon to end the Pandemic. It was broadcast worldwide from St. James Church on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**The CNY Marian Center** was founded from **Our Lady's** personal request to Dr. Pat Iannolo to build a center. The Center is now approaching 30 years in its mission with a newsletter, group meetings, prayer gatherings, lending library and a chapel for private prayer. The world receives a message monthly through Marija on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, which is presented in the CNY Marian Center

newsletter and website. We are currently entrusted with The Pilgrim Rosary, made by the late Richard Bingold, of stones he picked up from Apparition Hill. The Rosary was blessed by Father Jozo and approved by **Our Lady** to travel as a "pilgrim" Rosary. Visit our Chapel to pray before the Rosary and First, Second and Third Class relics of over 60 saints.



More recently, **we are making and distributing rosaries** for Sacraments, parish and Diocesan groups, schools and individuals. Rosaries have also been sent upon request to other countries, like the Philippines, Vietnam and Colombia. Nelson and Alice Kirkpatrick developed this growing ministry as we provide the tools to evangelize **Our Lady's request from Fatima and Medugorje to pray the Rosary daily.**

**June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>** will be days of celebration and we invite you to join us via livestream or in person at the Marian Center. *On the 24<sup>th</sup>, We will have a Zoom witness from Joe Ford about a miracle with the Pilgrim Rosary.* We plan to coordinate with livestreamed events from Medugorje on the 25<sup>th</sup> and pray the Rosary for Peace from the Center. All times and events will be listed on our website and Facebook and distributed through our weekly emailings. Please email us ([cnymariancenter@gmail.com](mailto:cnymariancenter@gmail.com)) to be added to the list.

Sources: kevinymonds.com, The Apparitions of Our Lady of Medugorje by Svetozar Kraljevic, OFM

**Bud O'Brien, Chairman of the Board**



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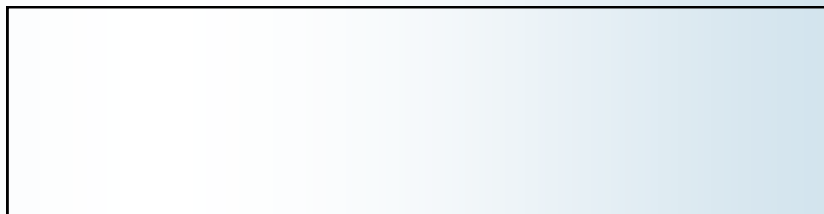
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## **CNY Marian Center is Pleased to Present**

### **Inside: Medugorje 40 Years - CNY Marian Center 30 Years**

We are devoting this issue of the CNY Marian Center monthly newsletter to the 40th Anniversary of the apparitions in Medugorje June 24-25, 1981 - 2021. Our regular articles are featured on our website. Go to [www.cnymariancenter.com](http://www.cnymariancenter.com) and you'll see a link to the Newsletters page. There you can enjoy and forward to a friend this Medjugorje edition and the edition prepared by Bud and Bridget O'Brien with the great feasts in June - Corpus Christi, Solemnity of the Sacred Heart and more. If you missed any old issues you will find them also on this page. Look for our TelePrayer schedule on the Welcome page of the website.

We ask for your prayers for the Marian Center: *Holy Mary, "chosen to be the Mother of God and your mother";\* Jesus gave you to us at the Cross. We pray for your intercession that the mission given by God to the Central New York Marian Center will be fulfilled. May we, your children, give our Fiat for His Will to be done. Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us. Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us. Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. Queen of Peace, Queen of Divine Mercy,\*\* pray for us. Amen. \*spoken by Our Lady in her February 2, 2020 message \*\*From 12/31/19 homily of Archbishop Luigi Pezzuti.*

For more information: [www.cnymariancenter.com](http://www.cnymariancenter.com); Call 315-452-4698; Email: [mariancenter.cny@gmail.com](mailto:mariancenter.cny@gmail.com)  
Central New York Marian Center, 5180 West Taft Road, North Syracuse 13212

### **Important Notice to Our Readers**

**With rising postal and printing cost we need to revise our mailing list. If you have email, please send us your email to the address below. Please respond by phone call, postal mail, or email!!** We are trying to continue to spread Mary's messages and need your support too. If you would like to be a regular sponsor or provide a donation towards our many Marian Center Projects throughout the diocese, please fill out the form & mail it with your donation to the **CNY Marian Center, 5180 W. Taft Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212**

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