



# The PILGRIM

Vol. 9 No. 10 Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) October 1998

**Our Lady's MESSAGE of 9/25/98 via Marija Pavlovic Lunetti and the *Franciscans* at Medjugorje**  
*Dear children! Today, I call you to become my witnesses by living the faith of your fathers. Little children, you seek signs and messages and do not see that, with every morning sunrise, God calls you to convert and to return to the way of truth and salvation. You speak much, little children, but you work little on your conversion. That is why, convert and start to live my messages, not with your words but with your life. In this way, little children, you will have the strength to decide for the true conversion of the heart. Thank you for having responded to my call.*

Father Slavko Barbaric's REFLECTION starts on

page 12

## A PRAYER

**Lord, Release the strength of Your Holy Spirit that the world may be bathed in healing Love. You are the Lamb sent forth bringing wholeness to the earth. Send forth Your Spirit to rain on the land, saturating it like a river which gives birth to new life.**

**Release Your power Lord. Flow through each of us human vessels. Use us to flow into the womb of the Church. Birth forth new fruit that will nourish every soul to Truth, Love, and Conversion. Break all demonic oppression that hinders Your work in each one of us.**

**Continue to send Mary, Your Mother, to summon Michael and all the angels to fight off all evil. Convert the earth so that Your Kingdom may gloriously reign forever.**

**AMEN**

(Kathleen prays from the heart to guide each issue.)

## WOW! YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE

Through the guidance of **Father Robert DeGrandis, Society of Saint Joseph (SSJ)**, the Holy Spirit poured down graces, healings and teachings on those gathered in the **Hilton Hotel, Cherry Hill, NJ** for the **Healing Seminar and Workshop, 9/25 – 9/29/1998**.

It has been difficult for **Kathleen** to explain to **Keith** and the **Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC)** staff, as well as others, what she learned and experienced

**"The PILGRIM" Theme for October 1998 is "Our Lady, Mother of the Church."** Page 3 contains the Table of Contents or "IN THIS ISSUE . . ." block.

in **Houston, Texas** at a similar event in *March 1998*. History not only repeated itself with this *September 1998 Healing Seminar and Workshop* but the Holy Spirit poured out to every attendee more than what each one could ask for.

The nearly 200 attendees experienced a whole new concept of what God does through each of us when He wants to use us to be instruments of His healing love. We learned the true meaning of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Many different concepts are presented in the preparation for this great Sacrament and most are aimed at those who receive it while moving from childhood to young adult status. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are giving to ALL. The Sacrament of Confirmation is suppose to empower the recipient to experience and use those gifts. They are truly more vast and effective than ever imagined. As soldiers of Christ, we are empowered by the Sacrament of Confirmation to move from self to others as we reach out properly using the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

We know that those who attended will never be the same after experiencing the teachings and workshops like those presented in this *September 1998 Healing Seminar and Workshop*. We not only received but experience giving. We are going forth to give to all we come in contact with.

We invite all to join us for the *February 1999 PFMC RETREAT CONFERENCE* with **Father DeGrandis** and his sister **Dorothea**. The entire focus from *Friday* through *Sunday, 2/26/99 through 2/28/99* will be on inner healing. From *Sunday* night through *Wednesday* afternoon, *3/1/99 through 3/3/99*, **Father DeGrandis** will again focus on knowing, experiencing and using the **Healing Gifts of the Holy Spirit**.

If you want to know how God can use you more effectively and you want a deeper relationship with Him, try to come for the entire period *Friday* through *Wednesday, 2/26/99 through 3/3/99*. If you are OPEN and

PHYSICALLY and SPIRITUALLY PRESENT, the LORD will HEAL you and you will never be the same afterwards.

**LAST REGULAR APPARITION of the QUEEN of PEACE to JAKOV COLO, SEPTEMBER 12, 1998.**

While on his journey in America, Jakov reported the following text to us [the **Franciscans** at **Medjugorje**] from **Miami**. "On Friday September 11<sup>th</sup> during the regular apparition Our Lady told me to prepare myself specially by prayer for tomorrow's apparition because she will confide the 10<sup>th</sup> secret to me. On Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> Our Lady came at 11:15 (local time). When she came she greeted me as always with '*Praised be Jesus*'. While she was confiding the 10<sup>th</sup> secret to me she was sad. Then with a gentle smile she said to me:

*'Dear child! I am your mother and I love you unconditionally. From today I will not be appearing to you every day, but only on Christmas, the birthday of my Son. Do not be sad, because as a mother I will always be with you and like every true mother I will never leave you. And you continue further to follow the way of my Son, the way of peace and love and try to persevere in the mission that I have confided to you. Be an example of that man who has known God and God's love. Let people always see in you an example of how God acts on people and how God acts through them. I bless you with my motherly blessing and I thank you for having responded to my call.'*

The apparition ended at 11:45."

P.S. In a short telephone conversation with **Father Slavko Barbaric**, Jakov said that he cried for a long time and that he is very sad.

(The above is [a copy of] an official announcement from the Information Center in Medjugorje.)

**THE NEW BUILDING for PFMC SPACES**

The multiple use zoning variance on the property at **61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043** was approved and published by the **Voorhees Township, NJ Zoning Board** at its meeting on *20 August 1998*. This will allow us to maintain the residence that is there plus construct the residential / home-office / **PFMC** office building originally planned behind our current home at **129 Deerfield Avenue, Marlton, NJ 08053**.

The Preliminary and Final Site Plan presentations were made in front of the **Voorhees Township, NJ Zoning Board** on *3 September 1998* and contingent final approval to the site plan was given that night. The contingencies included **Camden County Planning Board** approval which was granted at their meeting on *29 September 1998*

and final review by the **Voorhees Township, NJ Zoning Board** consulting engineer. This latter review will take place as soon as the requirements of the **Camden County Planning Board** are added to the Site Plan. We have to dedicate another 12.25 feet of easement across the entire frontage on **Camden County Highway 675** as well as rip out the current asphalt curbing and replace it with 140 feet of new concrete curbing which meets the latest code for county highways. If all goes well, we hope to complete site plan approval with building permits submission shortly after the closing on the property currently scheduled for *7 October 1998*. We will continue to keep our readers informed.

Please continue to pray for us in this project. We appreciate all help financially, materially, spiritually and voluntarily to put up this building. If you have talents to put in telephone or computer network lines, or can volunteer to do interior finishing work, make signs for the interior of the building, clean or paint, please contact us. We will need your help. We will also need help moving when the time comes. We'd like to line up a moving truck and moving professionals to help with the move. Call (609) 768-9228 to volunteer.

We are taking the \$165,000 it will cost to purchase the property in **Voorhees Township, NJ**, from the \$300,000 we originally planned to borrow for the building itself. We are trusting in God's providence that He will see us through the building project with the necessary resources to finish. We have already begun the process of borrowing a total of nearly \$500,000 to complete this project.

One donor has set up a trust fund to give us quarterly income for the next several years. We are most appreciative of this since it removes the wonder as to whether we can make ends meet on a month to month basis. You can make contributions in a variety of ways including investments with income payable as contributions to the **PFMC**, trusts, wills, etc.

**RESERVATIONS NEEDED – SIGN UP NOW PLEASE**

With regard to all the activities below, we ask your consideration of hotel reservations to be made now. We encountered a shortage of rooms for our September Conference because people held out till the last moment. To eliminate this happening for the November retreat and the February Retreat-Conference, we ask you to call today as you read these articles and book your room.

*Sunday, November 1 through Saturday, November 14, 1998* **LAST week to sign up for the Pilgrimage to Italy** to include **Milan, Bergamo, Montechiari, Padua Venice, Ravenna, Florence, Siena, Assisi, Loreto, Lanciano, Sorrento, Pompeii (Our Lady of the Rosary),**

We recognize and accept that the final authority regarding the apparitions, locutions and related messages from *Our Lady* at, and to the recipients from, **Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina**, as well as all other private revelations, rests with the **Holy See of Rome**, to whose judgment we willingly submit. We vow total allegiance to our **One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church**, its **Magisterium (Cardinals, Bishops and Priests)** together with the **Holy Father, Pope John Paul II**.

**IN THIS ISSUE . . .**

<b>FIFTEEN PRINCIPLES of the SPIRITUAL LIFE.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>TO BOW or TO GENUFLECT?</b>	
<b>THAT IS the QUESTION!.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>A PRAYER FOR MY HUSBAND,</b>	
<b>THE CASE AGAINST COMMUNION in the HAND.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>DEVOTION to MARY LEADS US to CENTER OUR</b>	
<b>VERY BEING in the EUCHARIST, ADORATION,</b>	
<b>ILLUSTRIOUS VIRGIN, MARY'S JEWISHNESS SEEN</b>	
<b>KEY to CATHOLIC UNDERSTANDING of HER.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>SAINT MICHAEL'S the WORLD of TRADITIONAL</b>	
<b>CATHOLICISM, PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE and</b>	
<b>RESPOND - STAY ON the MAILING LIST - .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>REFLECTION on Our Lady's MESSAGE of 9/25/98 .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>HELP NEEDED: .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>PRESS BULLETIN #98, 08/26/98 .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>PRESS BULLETIN #99, 09/09/98, PRESS BULLETIN</b>	
<b>#100, 09/23/98, CAUTION TO ALL</b>	
<b>AIR TRAVELLERS FLYING US AIRWAYS.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>SAINT FRANCIS MEDITATES the OUR FATHER,</b>	
<b>JUST FOR A MINUTE, PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE</b>	
<b>and RESPOND - STAY ON the MAILING LIST - .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>REFLECTIONS in LATER LIFE, PRIESTS: ANGELS</b>	
<b>on EARTH.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>LOVELY LADY, THE PRAISES of MARY .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>IF WE BUT REALIZED the GIFT of GOD!</b>	
<b>KENT and KATHERINE WERNER GETTING</b>	
<b>MARRIED!.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>DESPERATELY NEEDED IMPORTANT – CAN YOU</b>	
<b>HELP A FEW HOURS OR DAYS???????</b>	
<b>BOOK REVIEWS .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>THE PILGRIMS of FAITH MARIAN CENTER (PFMC</b>	
<b>BULLETIN NOTICES.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>CALENDARS:, AROUND THE PFMC AREA,</b>	
<b>MARIAN PILGRIMAGE PRESENTATIONS,</b>	
<b>INTERNET.....</b>	<b>24</b>

**Mugnano (Saint Philomena), Monte Cassino and Rome.** Spiritual Director is **Father Joseph Sioli**, and **PFMC** Coordinator is **Kathleen Werner**. Departure on **British Air** from **Philadelphia** and **Pittsburgh** available. Cost **\$2399** double occupancy, plus **\$79** taxes and **\$79** insurance. From **Pittsburgh**, **\$2550** double occupancy, plus **\$79** taxes and **\$79** insurance. Single supplement **\$425**. We will have a general audience with **Pope John Paul II**. All breakfasts and suppers are included. All entrance fees to sites are included. Full spiritual program and daily celebration of Holy Mass.

**Saturday, November 21, 1998** A **one day** retreat for Engaged, Married Couples, Separated/Divorced individuals who want to focus on healthy and spiritual "Communication, Priorities, Intimacy and Prayer." It will be held at **Saint Pius X Retreat House** in **Blackwood, NJ**. Retreat master is **David Haggerty, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.** **Father Cadmus Mazzarella** will be the **Spiritual Director** celebrating Holy Mass and hear Confessions. Cost is **\$100 per couple** or **\$55 per person**. This includes Lunch and Supper. This retreat will be limited to 100 persons.

Call the **PFMC** for reservations, or print your name address and phone number with area code on a card and send a check to **PFMC**. To charge on **VISA (CIRRUS/PLUS), MASTERCARD (CIRRUS/PLUS),** or **DISCOVER (NOVUS)** give us your charge account number and expiration date.

**FATHER ROBERT DeGRANDIS and DORTHEA DEGRANDIS SUDOL to RETURN. PLAN NOW to ATTEND the 1999 PFMC RETREAT CONFERENCE: 2/26/99 - 2/28/99 with EXTENTION on "THE GIFTS of the HOLY SPIRIT" to MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup>.**

The teaming of **Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol** with her brother, **Father Robert DeGrandis**, will enter the areas of healing through the **PFMC 1999 RETREAT CONFERENCE (RC), FRIDAY thru SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 27 and 28, 1999.** This will be the first weekend in **Lent**. The **RETREAT CONFERENCE (RC)** will again be held at the **Four Points Inn by Sheraton** in **Cherry Hill, NJ**.

We are extending the **FEBRUARY 1999 RC** for those who can stay over and remain **MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY** after the retreat, **MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.** **Father Robert DeGrandis, SSJ** will make himself available for an intense and deeper teaching on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

**Bishop James T. McHugh** of the **Camden Diocese**, has again given us permission to have **Eucharistic Adoration, Holy Mass, Confessions** and a **Youth Track**.

**WE CAN ONLY ACCOMMODATE 700 PEOPLE** in the **Assembly Ballroom**. Last year we had over 600 attendees, and we hope to fill the entire hotel for the **1999**

event. Please consider attending and **MAKING YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY. SHERATION ROOM RESERVATIONS ARE NOW OPEN SO MAKE YOUR CALL TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM NOW.** We may not be able to have walk-in attendees.

The three weekend **RC** days will focus on various aspects of **"HEALING, INTERGENERATIONAL HEALING, HEALING THE INNER CHILD and HEALING OF MEMORIES."** The 3 day extension of the weekend will focus on the **"GIFTS of the HOLY SPIRIT and HEALING MINISTRY."**

**Father Michael Semana** will again be with us for a **Saturday** night Concert and Healing Service. **"VOYAGE"** will also join **Father Semana** for the concert. **Father Louis Marucci** will again talk on **Saturday** afternoon and **Father Cadmus Mazzarella** will speak on **Saturday** morning.

Please see enclosed flyer for more details and reservations for the **1999 RETREAT CONFERENCE**.

Cost for the weekend will be **\$75** for the 3 day **RC** per person. For both the **RC** and the 3 day Extension Workshop the cost is **\$125** per person.

Anyone with a high school or college student identification may register individually for the **RC** at a special rate of

**\$50** for the weekend and **\$100** for the **RC** and the 3 day Extension Workshop.

**There is no RC registration cost for priests and religious. We welcome priests to concelebrate Holy Mass and to hear confessions.**

For a husband and wife together the **RC** registration cost is **\$140** for the **RC** and **\$240** for the full 6 days.

Family rate, at least one parent and 2 or more related children, is **\$190** for the **RC** and **\$290** for the full 6 days.

A Youth Track will be held only during the **RC** with a **\$25** donation requested as there will be **limited space for 80 youth**. The ages are limited from **10-16** for the Youth Track. Anyone outside of these ages must register for the **RC** either individually or as part of a family.

**Last year we had 50 in the Youth Track and we know they enjoyed the weekend. Please sign up early.**

**IF YOU CAN SPONSOR A YOUTH THIS YEAR, PLEASE SEND IN A CHECK FOR \$25 TO PFMC MARKED "YOUTH TRACK SPONSOR."** Last year we were gifted to have many sponsors for those who could not afford to pay their own way and we ask again that those who can will help us. If you are signing up your own youth, please mark your **\$25** check to the **PFMC** with name and age of youth.

You might want to request your vacation time from work ahead of time, but certainly put us on your calendar for the full weekend or 6 days. **Call for hotel rooms at the Four Points at Sheraton at 1-800-257-8262 NOW. Tell them you are with the PFMC Group.** Rooms for two to four persons (1 King or two Queen beds) cost **\$68** per night. Extra Cots are \$5 per day.

Please continue to let us know what you liked about past events and send us your suggestions for improvement.

Call (609) 768-9228 if you need additional information.

## **FIFTEEN PRINCIPLES of the SPIRITUAL LIFE**

### **1. Let God Be God.**

This is the first and the most important principle. Let God Be God. God is the Supreme Master of the Universe. He is the potter, we are the clay. He is the Creator, we are the creatures. He is the Vine, we are the branches. He is the Son, we live in the "Son"light. He is the Ocean, we live in His waters. "In Him we live and move and have our being." So let God have His way.

We do this by surrender. Let go of your plans, be open to HIS plan. Let go of your petty insights, be open in His Wisdom. Let go of your vested interests, be open to His love. Let go of the small, be open to the large. Let go of the denominational, be open to the universal (Catholic). Let go of the division, be open to unity—for all is one in Him. He is simplicity itself. Wisdom itself, holiness itself. Let go and let God. Let God be God. You and I are not God. This is such a simple truth, but because of the sin of Adam and Eve, most people do not really believe it. We

are perverted humanists, secularists, practical pagans. **We give God at times lip service, but not our minds, our wills or our hearts.** We seek freedom from His restraint, His will, His plans. This brings all the sufferings, sins and evils of the world. So please let God Be God!

### **2. Let You Be His.**

Since He is the source of everything, consecrate yourself to Him often. Consecrate your mind and your heart, your will and your emotions, your time and your talent, your friends and your foes, your past and your future, your whole self and your life. Be willing to live a life of poverty, chastity and obedience. **By making Jesus your treasure, you can be poor in spirit. By making Jesus your romance, you can be pure. By making Jesus your Lord, you can be obedient.** Say this simple prayer:

***Dear Jesus, to You I consecrate my mind (+make the sign of the cross on your forehead), my heart (+make the sign of the cross on your heart), my lips (+make the sign of the cross on your lips), my entire self (+make the sign of the cross on each shoulder). I am yours. Amen.***

### **3. Let God's Will Be Your Will.**

To live in His Kingdom of the Divine Will is the greatest holiness. Next to praising and worshipping God, the highest act of holiness is to strive to listen, to discern and to obey the will of God in your life. God has a will for us, His children. He has a plan. The greatest gift we can offer is the "obedience of faith." (cf. **Romans 1:6, 1:5, 16:26**) – the total yes.

Jesus always did the will of His Father. This was His "food," His sustenance. Mary always did the will of God. The saints were those people who strove to do the will of God. Meditation on the person, presence and teachings of Jesus. Let them penetrate your mind and heart. Then, as Mary did, Do whatsoever He tells you. For Jesus said, **"The wise man who build his house upon the rock (Christ) is he who listens to the word of the Lord and OBEYS IT!" "If you love me, obey my commands."** The obedience of faith is key.

In Eden, the one test, **the one thing that established the sovereignty of God was obedience.** Nothing was said of faith, hope, love, purity or patience. Obedience included all. The one thing that brought us back to the Tree of Life was obedience of Christ and Mary. Through the disobedience of Adam and Eve, we lost the Spirit. Through the obedience of Christ and Mary, we can regain it – if only we, like them, obey.

### **4. Let God's Voice be Heard.**

**God is speaking to all of us all of the time.** He speaks externally through the covenant, the bible, the Church, creation, signs, symbols, people and events. He speaks internally through inspired thoughts, our deepest intuitions, sometimes even through dreams and visions. The most often repeated theme (over 20,000 times in the Bible) is

that He speaks to us. Our prayers should often be, **“Speak Lord, Your Servant is listening.”**

As we learn to hear the voice of our Shepherd, we come into His flock, His Church, His Kingdom. **The whole of the life and example of Jesus can be summed up in two words, “Yes, Abba.”** Jesus always listened to, discerned and obeyed the voice of His Father. All life, all holiness comes from Him, through the Son, in the Spirit. To listen to, to discern, to obey the voice of God is to be alive in His Kingdom.

#### 5. Let God’s Kingdom Come.

As we listen to, obey and discern the will and the voice of God, we are transplanted into a new kingdom—the realm of the Spirit where God is God and Jesus is Lord. **We think thoughts inspired by His Spirit. We have desires enflamed by His love. We have lives empowered by His Spirit.** Our wisdom, love and power is that of His Kingdom. We become “poor in spirit,” humble of heart, forgiving, loving, pure, childlike and submissive as the Spirit of God rules our lives. This kingdom we find is now within us. We understand all the Kingdom of God parables; for, as Jesus taught, they can only be understood by those who stand under Him. **“He who belongs to God hears what God says” (Jn 8:47).**

#### 6. Let His Blood Cleanse.

Jesus comes with a Kingdom of love and mercy. He comes to save us, to forgive us, to cleanse us of all guilt and sin as we repent and are willing to forgive those who have hurt us. He cleanses us through His Blood shed for us upon the cross.

There is great power in that blood. He has given the Church the keys to forgive and unbind. On *Easter Sunday evening* after His horrendous death and glorious resurrection, he appeared to his first priests, His apostles, showed them the wounds of His crucifixion, and then said, **“As the father has sent me, I now send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven. Whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.”** Just as in the **Old Testament**, it was the priest who poured the blood of the lamb upon the Mercy Seat in the holy of holies. So also, in the **New Testament**, the blood of the lam is administered through the priest.

Every time we go to confession, three miracles take place. First, every bit of sin and guilt is washed away. Second, all bitterness, hatred and unforgiveness is let go of—especially if we realize the truth of Christ’s words, **“Your sins are forgiven,”** spoken through the priest. Third, we are given the awesome power to forgive ourselves and get on with our lives. When you realize that over 95% of all people walk around loaded with guilt, this sacrament is powerful. Most people repress guilt, deny it, rationalize it, or project it. Yet **only this sacrament can cleanse and purge it.** This is a powerful key that His blood cleanses.

#### 7. Let His Body Be Eaten.

**The PILGRIM**

Jesus, realizing that He was calling us to a supernatural life, gave us supernatural food. He said, “With all the earnestness I possess, I tell you this, unless you feed on the flesh of the Son of man and drink His blood you have no life within you. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me and I in him. Just as the Living Father sent me and I live because of Him, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me (**Jn 6:53-57**).

Jesus is the bread of our life, our very sustenance. Every time we receive His body and blood at holy Mass, we become what we receive. We become bone of His bone, and flesh of His flesh, humility of His humility, love of His love. We become as bread that is broken for a darkened world. **Our lives live out our Eucharistic celebration as we say to those we know, love and meet along the way, “This is my body, (my life), for you. This is my blood for you.”**

#### 8. Let his Church be Revealed.

The Kingdom incarnate that Christ has come to bring to earth is the one holy, apostolic, covenanted people for all men and women. That is His Church, which Jesus has left as the pillar and standard of truth (cf **1 Tim 3:15**). Because God is one, this Church is one. Because God is holy, this Church has the means of being holy. Because God is apostolic, this Church is apostolic. And because God loves everyone, this Church is universal or Catholic. Because the God we worship is a family—that is the trinity of persons loving one another, deferring to one another and delighting in one another—this Church is His family upon

**The PILGRIM** is a normally a Monthly Publication of the **Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) A Religious Association, Inc.**

Non-Profit and **IRS** Code 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt  
129 Deerfield Avenue, **Atco (Evesham), NJ 08004-2716**  
(609) 768-9228 FAX: (609) 768-9428

**DISTRIBUTION:** To more than 2200 addresses in most of the 50 United States (U.S.), U.S. territories and many foreign countries.

**President / Editor: Kathleen Werner,**

**Vice-President / Publisher: Keith Werner**

**Secretary: Fay Ramos, Treasurer: Dot Lyons**

**Typesetting: Sam Berger, Communications: Bob Van Horn**  
**Eucharistic Adoration: Joe Ferry, Pro-Life: Linda Howard**

**Healing Team: Elizabeth and Bob Purden**

**SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE: Father Glenn Hartman, Father Joe Szolack, Father John McFadden,** as well as many of *Mary’s* other beloved priests from the **Omaha, Philadelphia and Newark Archdioceses** as well as the **Camden, Harrisburg, Metuchen, Paterson, Pittsburgh, Scranton, Trenton and Wilmington Dioceses.**

**PRINTERS: Bill Stauts, Stauts Printing and Graphics, (609) 654-5382**

**Jim Toudy, Brian James Printing and Graphics, (609) 783-1116**

**TYPING, PROOFREADING, ASSEMBLY and MAILING:** Too many wonderful pilgrims and volunteers to mention them all by name.

earth (cf. “**The Joy of Being Catholic**” by Father Bill McCarthy). Jesus said to *Peter*, “**You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church.**” Jesus prayed that we all may be one. “**As the Father is in him and he is in the father**” (cf Jn 17:20-21). And that there would be but “**one flock and one shepherd**” (Jn 10:16).

#### 9. Let His Vicar—the Pope—Be Obeyed.

Since Jesus built His Church upon Peter and His successors, to whom he would give the keys of the Kingdom, we are to live in union with the pope. Knowing the weakness of human nature and our tendency toward disunity, **Christ founded the new covenanted people upon one male head.** In each of the previous covenants, with **Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Ezra, and David,** He had done the same. In **Isaiah 22, David,** the king of **Israel,** gives to his prime minister the keys to the earthly kingdom along with the authority to open doors and close doors. Using this symbolism of giving the keys of the new kingdom to a prime minister, Jesus gave the keys to *Peter*. *Peter* alone, as prime minister, and his successors are the final authority here on earth to bind and to lose. Therefore, we have to obey him in matters of faith and morals.

#### 10. Let His Love Be Shown.

What would God’s Kingdom look like if you drew a picture of it? Would it look like a bunch of monks in prayer? A room of students at a bible school? A group of people in a courtroom? Or a family around a table? The last is the closest to the truth, because what God is doing upon earth is creating family. His way. This is the covenant: “**I will be your God and you will be my people**” – which in Hebrew means family. The heart of God is that God is a family, a trinity of persons loving one another, deferring to one another, delighting in one another, respecting one another. That is what God wants of us who He created into His “image and likeness.” “**Let us create man (and woman) into our image and likeness**” so “**male and female God created them.**” God calls us to love one another with the height, depth, length and breadth of His love. As Jesus taught, “**Love one another as I have loved you.**” We cannot do with this without His Spirit. When we do this, however, mankind, for the second time in history, will have discovered fire!

#### 11. Let his Mother Be Honored.

Through Jesus (The new **Adam**) and Mary (the new **Eve**), we gain our new life. We are now in the family of God, new creatures by grace. We have God as our Father and Mary as our Mother. On the cross, Jesus gave Mary to *John* and to us when he said, “**Behold your mother.**” This is confirmed in **Revelations 12:17** where it says, “**Satan, angry at the woman (Mary) goes to war on the rest of her children**” -- that is, those who keeps God’s commandments of Jesus and bear witness to Jesus’ name.

“**All generations shall call her blessed**” (Lk 1:48). God asks us to honor our fathers and mothers. In a preeminent way, He asks us to honor Mary, His Mother, the Mother of all the living.

#### 12. Let His Spirit Guide.

God the Father and the Son have sent their Spirit to enlighten our minds as we mediate and pray, to enflame our hearts as we receive the Eucharist and love, and to direct and guide our lives as we are open to the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of Christ within us wishes to guide us each and every step of the way. The Spirit will enlighten our minds as to what to do and will enflame our hearts with the desire to do it. This will guide our lives, telling us not only what to say and do, who to see, but also where not to go.

We are not alone on a minefield filled with dangers. God’s Spirit is with us to warn us of all impending danger. God leads us “not into temptation, but delivers us from evil” – if we follow His directions. “**My word shall be a lamp unto your feet.**” He will guide every step of our journey lest we stray into sin and danger. The Spirit brings the gifts of wisdom and understanding, compassion and forgiveness, healing and power. The fruits of the Spirit’s presence will be “**love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, kindness and self-control**” (cf **Gal 5:22**). “**So I say live by the Spirit**” (Gal 5:16).

#### 13. Let His Fire Start.

Jesus said, “I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already enkindled” (Lk 12:45). We sing, “Come Holy Spirit, Let the Fire Fall,” and “Fire, Fire, Fire...Fire fell on me; as the day on Pentecost, fire fell on me.” The Spirit’s coming on Pentecost was accompanied by flames of fire. **The Spirit of God wants to fire us up, to excite us, to set our hearts aglow.** We are too lethargic, too lukewarm, too lazy, too laid back. **There is an urgency in the things of God. “Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall ride as if on wings of eagles. They shall run but not grow weary. They shall walk but not grow weak: (Is 40:31).**

When we ride the new wind of the Spirit, our lives will be inspired, our minds will be enlightened and our hearts will be on fire. We will understand what the disciples on the road to **Emmaus** meant when they said, “**Were not our hearts burning inside us, as He walked with us along the way**” (Lk 4:32). Our prayer will be, “Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful and enkindle within us the fire of your love.”

#### 14. Let His Mission Unfold.

Once we are fired up Christians, we will spread the fire. We shall discover the truth of the evangelization maxim: “If you wish to attract a crowd, set yourself on fire.” People are attracted to inspired people whose faces are radiant with the love of Christ. “The love of Christ will

impel us to spread His Gospel. His great commission – **‘To make disciples of all nations’**” ...to spread His kingdom ...to be His witness—will be our command. **The love of Christ, burning inside us, will become diffusive of itself. And the fire will spread. The kingdom will expand, and more and more men and women will be brought to Christ.** They will be saved and healed and inspired themselves.

### 15. Let God Have the Glory.

Once we, like mirrors, reflect the first of God’s love, once we become the light of the world, men and women will give glory to God.” “To God be the Glory,” as the hymn sings. “Not to us, O lord, not to us, but to your name give the glory,” the psalmist admonished.

We are here on earth to give glory to God. Whether we eat or drink, we do it to glorify the Lord. We will spend our eternity saying, “Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God of Hosts.” **We are surrounded, even now, by a heavenly chorus of saints and angels giving all the glory, the honor, the adoration and the praise to God.**

*Let God have the glory!*

(by Father Bill McCarthy, MSsA, dated 1998)

## TO BOW or TO GENUFLECT? THAT IS the QUESTION!

Many Catholics seem to be very perplexed on the issue of bowing vs. genuflecting in church. How may a person know, with certainty, what to do? This question will be answered by understanding what we are doing, why we are doing it, and by seeking the Church's guidance.

These acts are known as gestures. They are physical expressions of the relationship of a person with something or someone else. An example might be that of a soldier kissing the picture of his mother. He is expressing love of his mother through this act.

We use and see gestures often in our lives. They carry many meanings. They are a form of communication, and can be considered, in that light, to be a type of prayer, when directed toward God.

In diplomacy, where one is extremely careful not to offend the other party, great emphasis is given to even the smallest of gestures. Proper behavior and etiquette is of the highest concern.

Also, when associated with some type of stigma, such as when before a judge, one is quite careful not to offend.

**We should keep these attitudes in mind. We love God, and we do not wish to offend Him.**

In the Church, we have many gestures. Some are an act of veneration (giving honor), some of adoration (the worship given to God alone.) They range (in order of increasing humility) from sitting, standing, bowing, genuflecting and kneeling, to prostrating.

1. Sitting- This gesture implies "taking one's ease" or "sitting in judgement". **Sitting denotes superiority.** There is no element of veneration or adoration in the act of sitting. We may, though, give some small amount of honor by paying attention while seated.

2. Standing- This is a little less comfortable (therefore more humbling) than sitting. It starts our venerational gestures. **When we stand, we give a little more honor, such as when we stand for an important person or, when we stand for the Gospel.**

3. Bowing- More humble than standing, it is a higher form of veneration, **but still NOT adoration. Bowing is an expression of equivalence. Bowing also acknowledges being honored,** as when an actor "takes a bow." Sometimes, the bow even signals to the audience that applause is now expected.

4. Genuflecting- Much more humbling than bowing, **we actually lower ourselves and touch our knee to the ground. This starts our adoration gestures, where we give to God the worship due to Him alone.** Some people recall the verse, "*at the name of Jesus every knee shall bend.*" Occasionally, someone attempts to genuflect to the Pope, but he usually pulls them up and says, as *Saint Peter* said, "Get up, I am only a man, like yourself."

5. Kneeling- More humbling yet, this is the traditional position for prayer. Both knees are on the ground and we are almost as low as we can be.

6. Prostrating- This is the most humbling position we can take. We are the lowest that we can be, and our face is to the ground. We are acknowledging our minuteness in comparison to the greatness of God.

Therefore, **genuflection, kneeling, and prostration are forms of adoration, and should be done before God only. Bowing and standing are acts of veneration.**

It is easy to see that altars, crucifixes, Scripture, relics, saint statues, pictures, and other people may be venerated (honored) by standing or bowing. But, what about the Blessed Sacrament, which is Jesus Himself, Who resides in our tabernacles?

If we were to consider Jesus in the tabernacle as only human, it would be an act of veneration, and humility to bow before Him. If He were an ordinary king, this would be acceptable.

Jesus humbled Himself to become man. He "gave up", or "sacrificed" or "restricted" Himself concerning many of His divine attributes. For example, He became confined to a human body, subject to hunger, cold, heat, thirst, sorrow, etc.

Consider now, that Jesus has further humbled Himself for us by being present in the Blessed Sacrament. He has "given up" more yet, such as mobility, speech, comfort. He begs for our company during the long, lonely hours, when no one in our churches keeps Him company. He is doing much more than bowing to us. **THERE IS SIMPLY NO WAY THAT WE CAN HUMBLE**

**OURSELVES AS GREATLY AS HE**, as we were never as great as HE, and can't make ourselves as lowly, either.

Now, considering that He is much more than King and Lord, that He is also God, what adoration, veneration, and humility is most suitable for us to "give up" to Him? What gesture of love is needed and appropriate? What has Holy Mother Church to say, in Her wisdom?

The traditional teaching of the Church is thus:

1. **When we pass before an image of our Lord, our Lady, or the saints, we should show our reverence by bowing before it.**
2. **Upon entering or leaving the place where the Blessed Sacrament is exposed, or while Holy Communion is being distributed, we should make a double genuflection, that is, kneel on both knees and bow, in adoration of God, there before us.**
3. **When we enter or leave the church, or pass before the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved, we should genuflect on the right knee as an act of adoration to our hidden Lord. In genuflecting, the knee should touch the floor, and not merely be bent."**

(*"My Catholic Faith"* by Bishop Louis Morrow, 1966).

This is the traditional teaching of the Church, but are there official Church documents that clarify this, especially current ones? Yes.

The **Ceremonial of Bishops** is the basic guidebook for all the bishops of the world. It states, **"a bow of the body, or deep bow, is made to the altar, if there is no tabernacle with the Blessed Sacrament on the altar, but a genuflection, made by bending the right knee to the ground, signifies adoration, and is therefore reserved for the Blessed Sacrament."**

The **Roman Missal**, which contains directives concerning the liturgy of the Mass, says that for priests, **"Three genuflections are made during Mass; after the elevation of the Host, after the elevation of the Chalice, and before Communion. If there is a tabernacle with the Blessed Sacrament in the sanctuary, a genuflection is made before and after Mass, and whenever passing in front of the Sacrament."**

Perhaps you have seen priests, deacons, and lay people reject these instructions. The Pope, too, has knowledge of these and other abuses. **In 1980 he issued an instruction to all bishops, priests, and laity, to address this and other issues. Its Latin title is *"Inaestimabile Donum."* In article 26, Pope John Paul II commands, "The venerable practice of genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament, whether enclosed in the tabernacle or publicly exposed, as a sign of adoration, is to be maintained. This act requires that it be performed in a recollected way. In order that the heart may bow before God in profound reverence, the genuflection must be neither hurried nor careless." Article 27 adds,**

**"If anything has been introduced that is at variance with these indications, it is to be corrected."**

But may not a deacon, or even a priest change this, to suit his congregation, or situation? **NO! The documents of VATICAN II state: "NO PERSON, EVEN IF HE BE A PRIEST, MAY ADD, REMOVE, OR CHANGE ANYTHING IN THE LITURGY ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY."** Therefore, anyone who does this, even a priest, is against the directives of **VATICAN II** unless they can produce more recent directives from the Holy Father or the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church!

Remember that Jesus says of His Church, **"he who hears you, hears Me, he who rejects you, rejects Me, and he who rejects Me, rejects Him who sent Me."** The people, including priests and religious, need to be kindly and graciously made aware of the current and often unchanging teaching of the Church, particularly the true directives of **Vatican II** and the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church. All those who wish to participate in the Sacraments of this Church need to bring themselves or be brought into the obedience to the Pope and his obedient Magisterium. As Jesus says, we are to rebuke sinners, and sinners they are, when they reject that God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit guided the Church. Since Jesus would never tell us to perform evil, it is a good act to rebuke these people, and one which will gain for us merits and indulgences (which we all need)!

(A compilation from many sources which have been identified where reference may be desired. Editor)

## **A PRAYER FOR MY HUSBAND**

***Lord, I pray that You would make my husband a man of integrity, according to Your standards. Give him strength to say "Yes" when he should say "Yes" and courage to say "No" when he should say "No". Enable him to stand for what he knows is right, and not waver under pressure from the world. Don't let him be a man who is "always learning and never able to come to a knowledge of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:7). Give him, instead, a teachable spirit that is willing to listen to the voice of wisdom and to grow in Your ways.***

***Make him a man who lives by truth. Help him to walk with Your Spirit of truth at all times (John 16-13). Be with him to bear witness to the truth so that in times of pressure he will act on it with confidence (1 John 1:8,9). Where he has erred in this and other matters, give him a heart that is quick to confess his mistakes. For You have said in Your Word, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins and to cleanse us from***

**all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:8:9). Don't let him be deceived. Don't let him live a lie in any way. Bind mercy and truth around his neck and write them on the tablet of his heart so he will find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man (Proverbs 3:3,4). AMEN**

## **THE CASE AGAINST COMMUNION in the HAND**

Herewith are excerpts from a source with their respective address so that readers can write there directly for more information. Write to the **EUCHARIST PAMPHLET**, 1037 Consuelo, Malate, Metro Manila.

Here too are portions of the letter sent us by **Father Joseph Taschner** of **The Little Soul of Culion** who wrote:

"It is not only Our Lady who is said to have warned against such a revolutionary practice. There are many theologians and priests and a minority of bishops who are 'on the side of the Blessed Virgin.' For many priests such as me the 'new theological understanding' is defective if not heretical.

"The holy celebration in the Cenacle was more than 'just a meal.' It was the (anticipated) celebration of the Sacrifice of Calvary. This is exactly what **Luther, Calvin, Cranmer, Buccer, Knox**-- the so-called 'reformers' of the *16th century* denied and were excommunicated for... When the Church for how many centuries used (and still uses) the altar, did not offer the Sacrifice of Christ?"

**Father Taschner** asks in his Post-Script, "Did you not see how the **Holy Father, Pope John Paul II**, did not give Communion in the hand here in **Manila** last month?"

We certainly did for we watched the whole proceedings on TV from Day One to the departure and, as we followed the Mass together with all the thousands at UST and the millions at PICC and the Luneta, we had our eyes glued to the TV screen, precisely because we wanted to confirm what we had read when His Holiness had gone to the States two years ago -- that he had asked the advance party to inform those who were to receive Holy Communion from him, about his aversion to the practice of Communion in the hand. He was even quoted to have said: **"I DO NOT APPROVE OF THIS CUSTOM AND ONLY GAVE MY RELUCTANT PERMISSION AT THE INSISTENCE OF SOME BISHOPS. I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF IT AND CANNOT RECOMMEND IT."**

According to both pamphlets, **Pope John Paul II** in his pastoral letter **"DOMINAE CENAE"** of Feb. 25, 1980, restated the Church's teaching that "to touch the Sacred Species and to administer these with the hands is a privilege only of the ordained," thus reinforcing Pope Paul VI's Encyclical of May 28, 1967, **"MEMORIALE DOMINE."** "The distribution of Holy Communion, with the priest placing the Host on the

tongue must be observed... any innovation could lead to irreverence and profanation of the Eucharist as well as the gradual erosion of correct doctrine."

The **EUCHARIST PAMPHLET** states that "every unnecessary touching of the Host by the laity violates the due reverence required and prescribed regarding the Holy Eucharist. Through the additional touch of hands (for both the left and right hands of the recipient touch the Host in hand-communion) more holy particles, wherein are contained the Body and Blood of Our Lord, can unnoticeably and unwillingly be dispersed... every hand-communion is, therefore, also a spiritual consent to the risk of the unnecessary dishonoring of the Holy Eucharist.

"The psychology of man tends to consider as profane anything that is touched by many, and things which are commonly held with the hands impress themselves by their being used as ordinary things, since one exercises free power of disposal over them. Hence, if the Holy Eucharist is held by the hands of the faithful in general, the Sacrifice of Christ is subconsciously equaled to an ordinary object. This subconsciously wrong mode of consideration of the Holy Eucharist is a hidden danger to faith.

"In the **Old Testament** God dealt with this human weakness by the prohibition of touching Holy things. (Like the **Ark of the Covenant**.) Only those whom God calls for a special service (the priests) are exempt from the prohibition of touching.

"In the **Semitic** culture at the time of Jesus, there was no offering of food into the hands during meals. When a host wanted to honor a guest, he took a piece of food and placed into the guest's mouth. Older Jewish reports still mention this custom; **thus historical evidence confirms the biblical conclusion that Christ instituted communion by mouth as basic norm and thus made it a "divine principle."** Hence, Christ's command of "Take and eat," does not contradict communion by mouth because one can take food that is offered, with the mouth.

According to the **Benedictine** fathers of the **Holy Family Monastery**, the church teaches that "only that which is consecrated (the hands of the priest) should touch the Consecrated (the Sacred Host)" -- **that communion in the hand is not an authentic liturgical development; was never mandated by the Second Vatican Council, (in fact, was not even once mentioned in the 16 Vatican II documents) and was introduced only under a false ecumenism.** This started first in **Holland** as a consequence of the denial of transubstantiation until **Pope Paul VI**, backed by an overwhelming majority of all the bishops throughout the world, opted to retain the traditional practice of receiving Holy Communion on the tongue.

**Pope John Paul II** decries "the lack of reverence at the reception of the Eucharistic Species, a lack that burdens not only the persons guilty of such behavior

**but also the Shepherds of the Church... every danger of false conceptions about the Eucharist has to be averted.**

Marguerite, the Belgian housewife and mother we featured here two weeks ago, wrote in the diary **Message of Divine Mercy for Little Souls** that Jesus said to her: "My Body is profaned through the presumption of those who arrogate to themselves the authority which I have given only to My chosen ones. The non-ordained hands are loaded with guilt and not worthy to touch me!" (*April 8, 1977*). And again on *June 7, 1979*: "This practice of hand-communion offends Me gravely. It must be abolished promptly!"

Two saintly mystics, **Anna Catherine Emmerich** and **Therese Neumann** saw in visions Christ's dispensing communion by mouth at the Last Supper.

ADDENDUM: All those who would like to send donations for "EUCCHARISTIC PAMPHLET" can call **Father Joseph Taschner** at 522-1104. In the meantime, you can clip this article, have it copied and distribute this to your friends, as your loyal fan from **Cotabato, Potenciano Alino** does. He missed reading our column on Sundays.

(from Monday, February 27, 1995 issue 'PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER')

NOTE: If you agree with this article, please make as many copies of it for your friends. For bulk orders, write me, or call my printer (521-41-41). Thank you. God bless us all.  
Cesar A. Ymzon P.O. Box 3497, Manila

## ADORATION

Every creature, both spiritual and material, must give glory to the Creator. The whole material universe, the sun, moon, stars, and planets give honor and glory to the Creator by their existence. The same is true of the vegetative and animal kingdom. Man, made in the image and likeness of God, also must give Him honor and glory. Because of man's intelligence and free will, however, he is able to adore God freely.

The **Catechism of the Catholic Church** teaches: "The Eucharist is also the sacrifice of praise by which the Church sings the glory of God in the name of all creation. This sacrifice of praise is possible only through Christ: He unites the faithful to His Person, to His praise and to His intercession, so that the sacrifice of praise to the Father is offered through Christ and with Him, to be accepted in Him."

(Catechism of the Catholic Church #1361)

## DEVOTION to MARY LEADS US to CENTER OUR VERY BEING in the EUCHARIST.

The "mysteries" of the rosary afford opportunities to reflect on the events of our salvation. They highlight the role of Mary in the important work of our savior Jesus Christ.

These are some of the ways we can nourish true devotion to Mary. There are many other private devotions, but in them we must always see the call to be personally involved in the work of our redemption. They are prayers that remind us that faith is not bent in on itself but opens our vision to the work of loving care for others. They are also an important part of the process of evangelization because they remind us that our lives, like Mary, "proclaim the goodness of the Lord."

Through the intercession of **Mary of Nazareth**, may our prayer be, "**Let it be done to me according to God's Word.**"

Mary's special presence is to the poor. Through the intercession of **Mary of Nazareth**, may our prayer be: "In the way I live my life, may it be known that the Lord has lifted up the lowly and filled the hungry with good things."

(from "Mary's People" June 25, 1995)

## ILLUSTRIOUS VIRGIN

***O most illustrious Virgin and Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, who did worthily bear in thy sacred womb the very Creator of all things, whose most holy Body and Blood I have just received, vouchsafe to make intercession to Him in my behalf, that whatsoever I have omitted or committed in this unutterable Sacrament whether through ignorance, negligence or irreverence, may be graciously pardoned by thy dear Son in answer to thy most holy prayers. AMEN***

## MARY'S JEWISHNESS SEEN KEY to CATHOLIC UNDERSTANDING of HER

Catholics who think of Mary in terms of **New Testament Scriptures** alone may miss some of the depth of her significance for Christianity, according to **Father Lawrence Frizzell**.

Director of **Seton Hall University's Institute of Judeo-Christian Studies**, Frizzell in a *May 25* speech discussed the **Old Testament** traditions and texts that shed light on Mary's **Jewish** heritage and, in turn, deepen her connection to the Christian and **Jewish** faiths.

He spoke at the **Mariological Society of America's 46th** annual meeting, "**Faith, Mary, Culture**" held 24-26 at the **University of Dayton, Ohio**.

Frizzell said that connections between Mary and her **Jewish** heritage are important for Catholics to recognize.

"Many Catholics seem to have forgotten the Marian interpretations of Jewish Scripture, or perhaps they don't consider this a part of the heritage relevant to modern piety," Frizzell said. "there may be ways to recapture these insights so that they will serve our needs for integration and understanding God's plan of salvation to a

piety that is grounded in Scripture and expressed in Liturgy.

To help facilitate this understanding, **Frizzell** talked about the biblical and historical practices of **Jewish** society and how Mary's life reflected its influence.

**"The Luke infancy narrative portrays Mary as someone who is responsible to the community and responsive to the divine presence in her life," Frizzell said. "She is also acutely aware of her bond to the people of Israel both in her own generation and all the way back to Abraham and Sarah."**

Such an awareness and emphasis on community echoes the **Jewish** heritage itself, he said.

To belong, each member of the **Jewish** community had certain duties to fulfill that enabled the community to sustain itself. Each of these duties revolved around or reflected the importance of the temple.

"Ritual purity laws prepared both priests and people for worship," **Frizzell** said. "Tithing and other dietary laws as well as the rules governing marriages touched the fabric of everyday life."

As dictated by **Jewish** tradition, **Mary would have followed the customs typical for Jewish women to fulfill, such as adhering to menstruation restrictions, lighting the lamp to signify the beginning of the Sabbath and tithing meals, or setting aside a certain portion of each meal for the poor, Frizzell** noted.

"The home was the setting where people would try to experience the presence of God as they prepared for their meals and said the blessing before meals and enjoyed fellowship, reflecting quite possibly on God's Word," **Frizzell** said. "Natural nourishment for the body would be accompanied by spiritual nourishment."

Other spiritual nourishment would come from the Temple. As part of the **Jewish** community, **Mary would have been familiar with the Scriptures and the common prayer in particular, the Amidah, show up in her Magnificat, according to Frizzell.**

"The prayer is one that Mary would have known, one that **Luke** and the early Church had prayed," **Frizzell** said. "The prayer gives us one way of seeing how the prayer of Mary comes not just from knowledge of the **Greek Bible**, but from the lived experience of **Jewish** faith articulated in prayer."

(from "Mary's People" June 25, 1995)

## **SAINT MICHAEL'S the WORLD of TRADITIONAL CATHOLICISM**

One *Sunday morning* we missed Mass because I crammed too many obligations into a single day, from visiting grandparents, to tennis, to long neglected yard work. So that afternoon, I desperately poured through the church listings in the yellow pages to find an evening liturgy.

After a frantic search, I discovered a nearby parish that had a 5:30 Mass. My wife and I herded our four daughters into the car and hastily headed down the highway to **Saint Michael the Archangel Church**.

We had often passed the nondescript red brick church, built before **Vatican II** by **Polish** immigrants, but never visited it. A towering statue of Our Lady of Grace, her arms outstretched toward the city below, made **Saint Michael's** stand out.

We walked up the stone steps, opened the tall oak doors and stepped inside to another world, a totally different spiritual dimension—the world of traditional Catholicism. It was a world inhabited by angels and saints, a world where you believed the miraculous was indeed possible—right before your eyes.

The interior was adorned with magnificent artwork, reproductions of Renaissance masterpieces, statues and stained glass, and beautifully sculpted Stations of the Cross, almost 3-foot-high.

### **Altar of Marble**

There was a towering altar of marble, ornately decorated with gold filigree and sacred images like the Lamb of God, the Sacred Heart and the anchor cross. At the top of the altar was a life-size statue of **Saint Michael the Archangel**, plunging his lance into the snarling dragon that is Satan. In the center was a gold tabernacle set in stone, where Christ, Himself, resided in the Blessed Sacrament.

"Daddy, this church is so beautiful!" my 9-year-old daughter, Julie, proclaimed as we walked down the aisle, overcome with awe, somewhat like tourists in Saint Peter's Basilica. My children had never seen a pre-Vatican II church, and the experience was overwhelming. There were murals on the ceiling and walls. There were stained glass windows depicting Christ's baptism, the death of **Saint Joseph**, **Saint Margaret Mary's** mystical vision of the Sacred Heart, and the Blessed Virgin's apparition to **Catherine Laboure**. There were statues and paintings of angels and saints, including **Saint Vincent de Paul** and **Saint Therese of the Child Jesus**. There seemed to be no unoccupied space.

The artwork offered a noble testament to hardworking immigrants, who valued their faith.

### **PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE and RESPOND - STAY ON the MAILING LIST -**

We do need to hear from you in writing at least once a year in order to keep you on our mailing list. So, **if you haven't written us a note asking to stay on the list, please do so this month.**

The value of **"The PILGRIM"** is appreciated in the hearts of you the readers. **"The PILGRIM"** serves to provide you with overviews to plant seeds in your life to fulfill all the above needs. If you know someone who would enjoy the **"The PILGRIM"**, please ask them to contact us.

My children were entranced. All the Bible stories they had read and all the accounts of the apostles and martyrs seemed to come alive here.

### Recalls Days of Youth

The church evoked nostalgia in me, too, as I recalled the days of my youth and realized how much majesty and mystery had been lost in our attempt to contemporize and sanitize. As a youngster I couldn't grasp the full beauty of the faith, and as an adult I seemed to be denied the opportunity.

Too often, we strip Catholicism of its wonder, of its devotions, of its rituals and of its symbols. We take away its power and majesty at a time when they are most needed. Even worse, our children are ignorant of the riches of their faith.

I understood how deprived my kids were when I noticed my 7-year-old daughter. Her neck was craned as she stared in awe at the ceiling. A panoramic reproduction of Christ's Transfiguration by **Raphael**. Here in all its glory was the spiritual and emotional power of our faith.

After Mass we didn't want to leave. The church seemed to be a refuge from the turmoil of the modern world, the strife, the anti-Catholicism, the anger and the violence.

It was a place protected by celestial forces; forces we could almost feel.

(by **J.R. Pisani**, Used with permission of **Vance E. Lichty Publisher**)

---

### REFLECTION on *Our Lady's MESSAGE of 9/25/98*

Again I greet all of you who are following Mary's messages and those who are with joy waiting for them. But again let us first remember what Mary said to us in last month's message. She called us to come closer to her in prayer, she again told us that she is our mother and that she loves us, and expressed the wish that each of us may be saved so that we may be in Heaven with her. And she called us three times to pray so that prayer then becomes our life. It is always very important to realize that Mary loves us and that is why she wants us to be in Heaven with her. Whoever loves us wants to be with us forever and whomever we love we also want to be with them forever. Mary loves us and therefore wants us to be with her in Heaven, so our assignment should be to respond to this love with our love in that we yearn with love and joy for eternal life. St. Paul said: **"I want to die to be able to be with Jesus, but if I am supposed keep living and offering myself up, then I am willing."** All of us believe in the eternal life but one can also believe in that one knows that eternal life exists. But this is not enough. We should begin to love eternal life. Eternal life is not something up behind those clouds, something unclear, but rather a real community of those who love. We can with love and joyful expectation wait for eternal life in the same way that we can with love and

joyful expectation wait to go back home. In Heaven there is a real community with Mary, with the Saints, with the Angels, with Jesus, with the Holy Spirit and with God the Father, and so there are plenty of reasons that we really ought to come to love this eternal life and therefore come to yearn for it. When we have this love in our hearts, then we will also arrange all the goals in our life according to this eternal life. If we start with this then it will mean that we have earnestly begun to convert. Our life should become prayer, says Mary. This does not only mean that we give a short time of each day to prayer but rather that our whole life becomes prayer. Therefore we have to rethink what prayer really means. Prayer means a meeting with God, and meetings happen on different levels and in different ways. That which we express in words in our prayers, and this has happened in so many languages, is that we really only make requests for things to happen. So, when I need something, then I ask for it, and then I seek it. But this remains only a tiny dimension of what prayer really means. We may ask and we may seek, but we may not get stuck with doing only that. Prayer is meeting with God in all that we do. The Rosary is not merely 50 Hail Marys, but rather a meeting with Jesus and Mary in joy, in sorrow and in glory. Confession is a meeting with God who forgives us and then heals us. Reading the Bible is a meeting with God who is speaking with us. When we work and with love live and make use of our abilities, then we are meeting with God the Creator. The only real enemy of these various types of meetings with God is our own pride, as when we ascribe what we are doing to ourselves. That is why it is so important that we really start working on, as St. Paul puts it, that everything we do starts being for the glory of God.

Since September 12, there are only three visionaries left who have daily apparitions -- Vicka, Marija and Ivan. For the second time already this year Vicka experienced a break in the apparitions from July 20 until September 6 and since then she again has had her daily apparitions.

On September 12 Jacov had his last daily apparition: While on his journey in America, Jakov reported the following text to us from Miami.

"On Friday September 11th, during the regular apparition, Our Lady told me to prepare myself especially by prayer for tomorrow's apparition because She will confide the 10th secret to me. On Saturday Sept. 12th, Our Lady came at 11:15 (local time). When She came she greeted me as always with *'Praised be Jesus'*. While She was confiding the 10th secret to me She was sad.

Then with a gentle smile she said to me: *'Dear child, I am your mother and I love you unconditionally. From today, I will not be appearing to you every day, but only on Christmas, the birthday of my Son. Do not be sad, because as a mother I will always be with you and like every true mother, I will never leave you. And you continue further to*

*follow the way of my Son, the way of peace and love and try to perservere in the mission that I have confided to you. Be an example of that man who has known God and God's love. Let people always see in you an example of how God acts on people and how God acts through them. I bless you with my motherly blessing and I thank you for having responded to my call.'* The apparition ended at 11:45."

I have spoken with Jacov. He is sad and has wept much, but naturally, just like Mirjana and Ivanka, he must also accept this new reality. So now we have three visionaries who have their apparitions once a year -- Mirjana on March 18, Ivanka on the Anniversary and Jacov on December 25 of every year. And because of this, when we say that the daily apparitions cease then the apparitions still do not cease, they only occur less frequently. Because of this we have no real idea of what else will be happening in Medjugorje. Yet that is not our concern. The most important thing Mary has already told us and that is that we should do what she has been telling us for so long now, and if we listen to her then it is certain that much more will be happening here in the coming years.

We have many people in Medjugorje and in fact the numbers seem to be growing consistently. At the moment we have between 4 and 5,000 pilgrims here and the Masses right now are being celebrated in some 14 different languages. Today, on September 25, a group of about 400 Spanish speaking South Americans from 15 different countries began with a week-long conference. For the ninth time they are being organized by Louis Siman and Franciska Ferrar and the many Latino-American Peace Centers. It is a good example for everyone, in one way or another, that we can grow in helping one another in the Spirit of Our Lady.

In this message Mary has not called us to prayer and it is one of the very few in which she has not. But instead this is a message in which she calls us to conversion. First she says...

**TODAY I CALL YOU TO BECOME MY WITNESSES BY LIVING THE FAITH OF YOUR FATHERS**

In the situation in which we today find ourselves in this modern world, we can without any exaggeration say that the faith for which our fathers both lived as well as suffered has disappeared in the hearts of many. Many Christians are no longer ready to witness to their faith, and many Christian parents are no longer living their faith in their families. For instance, they no longer make an example of communal prayer within the family, and when the faith is no longer lived and no longer passed on by way of the family, then it becomes very difficult later on to teach them their lost faith. So, the family becomes irreplaceable when it concerns the continuation of faith. Through this message at least the parents should be able to understand what it means to live the faith and to witness

for it as their fathers had. Today it is certainly not easy to live the evangelizing values, but all those who have in their families had received a religious evangelizing education will also stay with their faith and will continue living it. In this message we are in fact hearing somewhat of a complaint. She tells us that...

**YOU SEEK SIGNS AND MESSAGES AND DO NOT SEE THAT, WITH EVERY MORNING SUNRISE, GOD CALLS YOU TO CONVERT**

Here she is saying that we do not see the daily sign of God's love for us. Jesus also said that those who seek signs are not the ones to whom the signs are given. This is being said now because we have become blind to the daily wonders that abound around us. Every new day is what Mary calls a new call to conversion, and conversion means to turn oneself toward God, to turn away from the world, and, as with each new sunrise, the darkness of night disappears, so too should our daily decision be to turn ourselves toward God, and...

**TO RETURN TO THE WAY OF TRUTH AND SALVATION**

When we are called to take the way of truth and salvation, it means, regarding conversion, to turn away from the way of the lie and destruction, and to take the new way. Jesus is the Absolute Truth, He is the Way, He is the Light and Life, and He is Salvation. That is why returning to the way and the truth in fact means to return to Jesus. So here we see the two dimensions of conversion -- for one we have to turn away from sin and other bad habits, and then we have to turn toward God. When we turn toward God, we grow in truth and then we are healed. Then we hear another complaint in this message.

**YOU SPEAK MUCH ... BUT YOU WORK LITTLE ON YOUR CONVERSION**

In one message Mary said that we should work with our hearts as we work on our fields and on our acreage. Anyone who has ever worked in the fields and acreage will immediately understand what that means. If we wish to have good fruits, then we must first prepare the ground well. But when someone works on the ground only

**HELP NEEDED:**

Volunteer or part-time person with compensation for travel need to set up and maintain a **PFMC Web Site**. Many ideas available but no one seems to have time to maintain the web pages. Decision on methods of hosting and Internet Service Provider (ISP) still to be finalized.

Volunteer or part-time person with compensation for travel needed to set up and maintain **ACCESS** data base(s) for all **PFMC** records starting with mailing list and moving through inventory and pilgrimages.

Call **Keith** at (609) 722-5047, **Monday thru Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM, or (609) 768-9228, evenings and weekends.**

superficially, then he can leave behind some of the dangerous roots of plants that could later suffocate the good plants. One has to go down to the very bottom to pull out what may become dangerous in us, so that only the good in us may then grow strong. St. Paul would say: "You have not resisted evil and sin all the way to the blood." Of course, one needs to speak about conversion, yet it is still more important to work on conversion than it is to speak about it. Moreover one needs to work on it every day. And this conversion, when we think about July's message, means that everything that we think, plan, say and do must always be in the light of our eternal goal. Then in this light of our eternal goal we will then easily be able to recognize our poor ways, our poor decisions, our sins and our poor habits. It is not easy to fight against sin and to constantly be working on our own conversion, but with the strength of the Holy Spirit it becomes possible. Mary then repeats the same thought in another way when she says.

**THAT IS WHY, CONVERT AND START TO LIVE MY MESSAGES, NOT WITH YOUR WORDS BUT WITH YOUR LIFE**

She is speaking to us in the name of God. She says the words of God to us, and so when we begin to live what she is telling us, then we will become witnesses of God. She tells us to convert, pray and fast, believe and love. She has also quite specifically told us what we ought to pray -- daily the whole Rosary, Mass as often as possible, monthly Confession, reading Holy Scripture, and through all these to grow in love and in holiness. That is what it specifically means for us when she says...

**START TO LIVE MY MESSAGES, NOT WITH YOUR WORDS BUT WITH YOUR LIFE**

We know that we are weak and therefore she says...

**IN THIS WAY ... YOU WILL HAVE THE STRENGTH TO DECIDE FOR THE TRUE CONVERSION OF THE HEART**

We know that we need this strength. When we pray and fast, then we will grow in love and in faith. Then it will become possible for God, through His Holy Spirit, to give us this strength to decide for the true conversion of the heart. When we hear the words "true conversion", then we may also think that there is such a thing as an untrue conversion. Jesus spoke to us using several different parables concerning seeds, sowing, and the growth of the seeds. He says that there is such a thing as a seed that falls next to the path into the bushes, and that such as a seed has no chance to be able to grow. It starts to grow but then it does not last for long. It is the same with conversion. We all perhaps run the risk of saying too easily that we have experienced conversion. This also entails those who have come to Medjugorje. A true conversion of the heart can really only happen on a daily basis. There is no such thing as a true conversion of the heart that happens all at once, because sin, what is evil and Satan do not all give in so

easily. So a true conversion of the heart means a daily conversion, and for that to continue and to show good fruits we really need strength because we easily become tired. How many people decided to pray daily and only after a short time they begin to leave it behind? How many good decisions were made to fight against sin and all other bad habits, how easily have we become tired, how easily do we decide, for instance, for the prayer group or for attending Mass regularly, and how easily do we forget and find ourselves good excuses and do not do so? The true conversion of the heart happens only where there is regular prayer and fasting, where one goes to Mass and to Confession, and where the means that God gave to Mary to recommend to us are well accepted and then also followed. So, conversion means a deep returning to God, and a constant search for God's love, and out of this love our peace, our joy and our trust will then be able to grow. May it also be this way.

Let us pray...

**God, our Father, we thank You that You, through Mary, Your humble servant, are speaking to us in these times. With her we ask You, give us the grace that we may live the faith of our fathers and can witness to it. Forgive us for when we have been looking for signs and messages and in so doing have become blind for the great miracles in everyday life, and open our eyes for these miracles that You give us each day. Open our ears so that we may hear the messages that You are also giving us each day so that we may triumph over each lie and be open to and then take the way of the truth and salvation. Give us, O Father, we ask of You with Mary, the grace that we may untiringly work on our own conversion, and forgive us for we have spoken to You only with our lips, when we only spoke of conversion, and give us a deep and true conversion of the heart. Free our hearts of everything that can hinder us on this path of conversion. For all those who are at the moment living in deep sin, bad habits and dependencies, we ask You through the strength of Your Holy Spirit, give them the renewed strength that they may decide for You. Bless all the youth so that they may remain on the path of truth. Bless all parents so that they may be able to pass the faith of their fathers on to their children. Bless all our sick and suffering, and give us peace through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.**

Fra Slavko

Medjugorje; September 26, 1998

**PRESS BULLETIN #98, 08/26/98**

**NEW**

In the liturgical readings these days we heard about the young man who comes to Jesus and reveals his desire to

Him that he wants something more out of life. To the word of Jesus: "Fulfill the commandments!" he is able to answer that he has fulfilled the commandments. Indeed, he is conscious of being in a state greater than fulfilling commandments and is seeking direction about what to do. Jesus does not lose the opportunity of indicating to him the way that is greater, but one that also makes greater demands. "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give your money to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven! Then come and follow me!" The young man was taken by surprise. That was too much for him and he goes away sad. That which he possessed was the security that promised him more.

To have and to possess can be a real obstacle. And, there exist the same kind of other real obstacles which in the same way alienate from Christian life. They can be acquired habits, or a nature that is not ennobled. They can be ways of behaving that we claim cannot be changed and therefore do not have to be changed.

But, the Christian who yearns to be a serious believer must free himself from fear of what is new. That newness is not so much something new on the outside, as it is on the inside. What is new on the inside can also create something new on the outside. And what is really new in the Christian life are the new effort and momentum to be like Jesus Christ. If a doctor today were to reject new effective forms of healing, we would consider him unreasonable in regard to his vocation and his patients.

New efforts to be Christian are necessary and possible. For all who believe in Christ that is an unavoidable task. Medjugorje is a great sign that with Our Lady it is possible to recognize what is really new and unavoidably necessary.

**Fr. Ivan Landeka**

## **PRESS BULLETIN #99, 09/09/98**

### **PRAY . . .**

In her message of August 25th Our Lady talks about and exhorts to prayer. At first glance it seems to be the only content of this message. But the last sentence of the message: "pray until your life becomes prayer", places prayer into a framework without which prayer is an empty word. Our Lady does not prescribe prayer to us that is separated from life, rather prayer that unconditionally fits into life's practice, content and sense. Because a prayer life prescribes that kind of prayer to us, we must carefully watch over our prayer life and prayer content. For that there is no better literature than Jesus's own teaching on prayer in Chapter 6 of Matthew's gospel. Jesus's directives on prayer direct that prayer be a search for the possibility of man, by his own likeness with God, drawing close to God. Prayer, therefore, helps a Christian on the path of life, which is a path toward God, not to lose sight of his goal. When he is on a path toward God, he sees God as his goal, his journey is continuously imbued with experience

that does not make him a burden to his neighbor. On the contrary! Joy develops and grows, despite any kind of difficulty, and becomes a harmonious life in which it is hard to distinguish which part of it is prayer. Our Lady's primary wish is harmony in life and prayer is the assistant in man's labor to realize harmony in life. In that sense Our Lady invites us, pray, pray, pray. . .

**Fr. Ivan Landeka**

### **NUMBER of COMMUNIONS and CONCELEBRANTS**

During August in the shrine of the Queen of Peace in Medjugorje 202,000 Holy Communion were distributed and there were 4,707 concelebrations at mass by priests from home and abroad, that is 152 priests per day. We shall enumerate some of the countries from which pilgrims came to visit Medjugorje in August: Poland, Hong Kong, The Caribbean, Austria, Germany, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Brazil, Italy, France, Korea, Romania, Mexico, Slovenia, Hungary, Korea, Lebanon, Ukraine, Macedonia, Aruba, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, Paraguay, South Africa, Argentina, Spain, Portugal, Siberia, Canada, Gabon, England, Ireland, Sweden, United States and, of course, Croatia.

### **POPE VISITING CROATIA for the SECOND TIME**

Our Holy Father Pope John Paul II is visiting Croatia for the second time. It is an exceptionally important moment for the history of our church and nation. Many Medjugorje pilgrims are asking us how to take part in the meeting with our Holy Father whether in Marija Bistrica October 3rd or in Split October 4th, 1998. The Medjugorje parish office has the possibility of securing the necessary entrance ticket for taking part in the meeting with our Holy Father. We are therefore notifying all foreign pilgrims who want to participate in one of these meetings to contact us no later than September 15th, 1998 in order to secure an entrance ticket in time. Your reservation can be made by fax: ++387-88-651-444 or e-mail: <medjugorje/mir@medjugorje.hr>. This applies only to those pilgrims who have already made plans for their travel by bus, and not to those pilgrims who intend to

### **CAUTION TO ALL AIR TRAVELLERS USING US AIRWAYS.**

The cheapest fare is not always the best fare. We had an incident where a good friend of the **PFMC** booked round trip air travel from **Atlantic City, NJ**. The return portion came through **Philadelphia** with over a *two hour* lay over. We decided that it would be simpler to pick him up in **Philadelphia**. **U.S. Airways** would NOT let him check his baggage to **Philadelphia** and said that if he wished to depart the flight there it would cost him an extra **\$300**. Both the agent who purchased the tickets and **Keith** tried to reason with them but there was NO JOY. The passenger left the flight in **Philadelphia** but we had to go to **Atlantic City** to pick up his bags.

travel by private automobile.

## **PRESS BULLETIN #100, 09/23/98**

### **THE CROSS - A SIGN WHICH DOES NOT FRIGHTEN**

In the parish of Medjugorje the feast of the Triumphs of the Cross was celebrated. In spite of the bad weather, the cross on Mount Krievac attracted ten thousand faithful. The storm was not able to spoil the festive spirits of those who know about the meaning of the cross: the cross does not frighten but gives courage. And for this reason, one did not see any somber faces, one only saw happy faces on Krievac. The Holy Father will again visit Croatia soon. For many years, he has been addressing all Christians with the cross staff in his hand. With this, he does not want to make people afraid of God but wants to stimulate them to a life with God.

The Holy Father will visit Split on the feast of Saint Francis. The suffering Christ was very important in the life of Saint Francis because of everything that happened in his holy life. However, he did not forget the glorified Lord. But the real life begins for Saint Francis in front of the crucified Christ.

This is why his poverty is not an unbearable thought but an endearing lifestyle. According to the testimony of the visionaries, the Gospa appeared to them also with the cross. For Mary, who is not only the Mother of Sorrows, the cross is not an affliction of sorrow, but rather a sign through which She, as a mother, has overcome the loss of Her son. This is why She says, "Pray especially in front of the cross, from which great graces are coming!" And on another occasion, "The cross should be in a visible place in the home!"

**Father Ivan Landeka**

### **THE FEAST of the TRIUMPH of the CROSS**

This year, the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross was also celebrated on Krievac on September 13th. More than 10.000 faithful from Croatia and from abroad took part in the Holy Mass, which, together with 50 priests, was celebrated by Dr. Father Ivan Dugandzic, the Guardian of the Franciscan Monastery in Zagreb and Professor at the Catholic Theological Faculty in Zagreb. As in previous years, the pilgrims arrived in Medjugorje throughout the whole night. Many of them had walked to Medjugorje hundreds of kilometers on foot, some of them even bare-footed. Neither the wind nor the rain could detain the pilgrims from participating in the celebration of the Holy Mass even though, due to the bad weather, there were less pilgrims than usual.

We would like to take this opportunity to give you a brief history of Mt. Krievac and the cross, which was built on its top. About one kilometer air distance from the church of Medjugorje rises Mount Krievac which, together with the Apparition Hill, forms a triangle. The parish priest, Father Bernardin Smoljan, and the residents of Medjugorje

built this cross of reinforced concrete, which is 8,56m high. They inscribed the following words on the cross: "To Jesus Christ, the redeemer of the human race, as a sign of our faith, love and hope, in memory of the 1900th anniversary of the passion of Jesus".

At the center of the cross they built in a relic of the true Cross of Jesus, which they had received from Rome. This relic was obtained from the larger part of the true Cross, which remains in the Church of 'Santa Croce di Gerusalemme' in Rome. The building of cross was completed on March 15, 1934. Later it became a custom to celebrate Holy Mass at its base on the first Sunday after September 8th, in honor of the Triumph of the Cross. Mt. Krievac doesn't draw the numerous pilgrims because of its natural beauty or because of the large cross erected on its top, but because many pilgrims claim to have seen various "signs" of light and other signs on this cross since the apparitions began in Medjugorje. They have all associated these signs with the apparitions of Our Lady, with the message of the apparitions in Medjugorje, with peace between God and man and with peace among man. They have understood that the way to this peace leads unavoidably through the cross. On this mountain, many have found peace and discovered their way to God. Many pilgrims have also included the veneration of the Cross in their religious life and put it into practice. By climbing this steep and difficult path up to the cross on top of the mountain, the pilgrims demonstrate their faith in the Way of the Cross. Along this path up to the top of Mt. Krievac, fifteen bronze reliefs of the Stations of the Cross have been mounted; each one of these also shows Our Lady. The Gospa accompanies Jesus but also each one of us on our way of the cross throughout our life.

### **THE LITURGICAL PROGRAM**

We would like to inform all pilgrims and all groups of pilgrims who come to Medjugorje that in the winter time the daily evening program takes place from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm (5:00 pm Rosary, 6:00 pm Holy Mass, followed by the Blessing of Religious Articles, Healing Prayer and the Glorious Mysteries). Every Wednesday and Saturday from 9:00 pm to 10:00 pm there is Adoration of Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar and each Thursday there is also an hour of Adoration immediately after Holy Mass. Each Friday immediately after Holy Mass, there is an hour of Veneration of the Cross. On Sundays at 3:00 pm a rosary for peace is being prayed on Apparition Hill and on Fridays also at 3:00 pm on Mt. Krizevac. There are opportunities for confession at least one hour before the evening program begins. This is the new schedule as of September 14, 1998.

Holy Masses for the various language groups take place during the morning, as previously agreed upon.

All information regarding the prayer program in the Shrine of the Queen of Peace in Medjugorje and all other information can be obtained through the Information Center

under the tel. No.: +387 88 651 988 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

We also ask all organizers of pilgrimage groups to inform the pilgrims upon their arrival in Medjugorje that all needed information can be obtained in the Information Center next to the parish and not in the parish office itself.

### THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY of the PRESS BULLETIN

While sitting here at my computer in order to write something appropriate for this anniversary issue, it comes to my mind that perhaps it would be best to simply copy what we already wrote in the "0" edition of the Press Bulletin on November 23, 1994, since the reasons for its formation still apply today.

It has not been easy to reach this 100th issue. It took much effort. But, of course, we are very pleased about the positive reactions we have received. Thus, we were able to get to know each other better and to clarify the events of Medjugorje to our readers. We have always tried to transmit to you the official position of the Shrine of the Queen of Peace and this will continue to be our goal.

I also want to take this opportunity to express my special thanks to two co-workers, who have been with the Information Center since its beginning. They are: Mrs. Marija Dugandzic and Mr. Stipe Cavar. Besides many other duties in the Information Center, Marija Dugandzic spends much time in putting together each edition of the Press Bulletin. For this, I sincerely want to thank her, personally, as well as on your behalf and on behalf of the Shrine. Stipe Cavar has conscientiously been in charge of technical matters and thus has made it possible for you to receive the Press Bulletin. I thank both him and Marija.

In addition to Marija and Stipe, I want to thank the great Croatian poet Kresimir Sego. He is in charge of the publications of the Center. Later, we were joined by Ivo Sego who, with his experience, also helps in the publication of the Press Bulletin. I also thank him sincerely.

The above-mentioned persons thus make up the editorial staff of the Bulletin. I hope that with the help of God and Our Lady we will continue to be able to produce the Press Bulletin conscientiously. And we shall all continue to read it and hand it on to others.

May the Queen of Peace also continue to be your light and guidepost in life.

**Father Miljenko Stojic**  
**Director of the Information Center "Mir"**

### SAINT FRANCIS MEDITATES the OUR FATHER

*Saint Francis* and one of his monks were on their way back to **Assisi** from **Perugia**; it was a long walk and *Francis* suggested to **Fra Leone** that they see who could say the most *Our Fathers* during their walk. Once they

had arrived *Saint Francis* asked how many he had said. **Fra Leone** said that he counted as far as 200 then stopped counting. "How many did you say?" he asked. *Saint Francis* said that he didn't even say one. When asked why not, *Francis* replied:

"When I said *Our Father* it made me think of the relationship between a father and son and that if God is my Father, then all men are my brothers. When I said *Who art in heaven*, it made me think that the house of my Father is up there, while I'm here on earth, outside the house. I became nostalgic about my Father's house and sadness overcame me for being so far away. At that point I couldn't go on, however, the certainty that one day I will return to Him, and remain in the House which will become also mine because I am His son and heir, filled my heart with joy."

*How easy it is for us to forget that our homeland is in heaven, absorbed as we are by our land of exile and busied by thoughts of possessing as much as possible those things which we cannot take with us!*

(from "ECHO of MARY QUEEN of PEACE", March/April, 1998)

### JUST FOR A MINUTE

I remember, when I was only four,  
Mother would bring me round to the store,  
And just outside of the church she'd stand,  
And "Come in," she'd say, reaching down for my hand,  
"Just for a minute."

And then when I started going to school,  
She'd bring me down every day as a rule;  
But first the steps of the church we'd climb  
And she'd say: "We'll go in—you've always got time—  
Just for a minute."

Then I got real big, I mean seven years old,  
And I went by myself, but was always told:  
"When you're passing the church don't forget to call,  
And tell Our Lord about lessons and all  
Just for a minute."

Sometimes I run the most of the way,  
Or I meet some guys and we stop to play;  
But I manage to squeeze out time enough  
To make for the church, where I pant and puff

### PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE and RESPOND - STAY ON the MAILING LIST -

We do need to hear from you in writing at least once a year in order to keep you on our mailing list. So, **if you haven't written us a note asking to stay on the list, please do so this month.**

The value of "**The PILGRIM**" is appreciated in the hearts of you the readers. "**The PILGRIM**" serves to provide you with overviews to plant seeds in your life to fulfill all the above needs. If you know someone who would enjoy the "**The PILGRIM**", please ask them to contact us.

Just for a minute.

And now it's a sort of habit I've got  
In the evening, coming from Casey's lot,  
Though it takes me out of my way a bit,  
To slip into the church with my bat and mitt  
Just for a minute.

But sometimes I see some other fellow  
Standing around, and I just go yellow.  
I pass by the door, but a Voice from within  
Seems to say, real sad: "So you wouldn't come in  
Just for a minute.

There are things inside of me, bad and good,  
That nobody knows, and nobody could,  
Excepting Our Lord, and I like Him to know,  
And He helps, when in for a visit I go  
Just for a minute.

He finds it lonesome when nobody comes  
(There are hours upon hours when nobody comes),  
And He's pleased when anyone passing by  
Stops in (though it's only a little guy)  
Just for a minute.

I know what happens when people die,  
But I won't be scared, and I'll tell you why  
When Our Lord is judging my soul, I feel  
He'll remember the times I went in to kneel  
Just for a minute.

(from "THE MARY FAITHFUL" dated January-February,  
1995, by Patrick O'Connor. Reprinted from Mary-April  
1993 MARYFAITHFUL)

## REFLECTIONS in LATER LIFE

*October* in **San Diego** is almost the same as any other season except that the days gradually grow shorter; and in the evening there is a stimulating nip in the air when the sea breeze drifts in. The gardens are resplendent with chrysanthemums, asters, and nasturtiums, along with the exotic flowers that bloom throughout the year. The birds never fly South, and as the winter months approach, they even seem to multiply, singing their joyous songs all through the day.

On this *October* afternoon I sat by the window in a condominium located above the ocean. I was working on my novel which was nearing its completion. I looked out at the patio...tenants wearing dark glasses were basking in the sunshine, while others splashed in the pool. It was like a scene from one of **Scott Fitzgerald's** novels. I smile. How happy the past few years had been. I knew most of the tenants: **Peggy** with her whimsical humor who called herself a "born again agnostic"; **Peter** and **Wendy** who were forever in and out of love; **Dave**, a lonely man who had just left his wife; **Bill**, a long-haired, bearded, starving artist; **Jackie**, a struggling writer. Because I left my door open and was always willing to listen to their problems, they gave me the title of the resident shrink.

I left my typewriter, went into my bedroom, and put on my jeans and sneakers. I walked out the front door, down the flower-bordered path that led to the ocean. I found my favorite spot and stretched out on the sand. I put my hands behind my head and lay there watching the foamy waves dash against the rocks. I could smell and taste the pure salt air...a gentle peacefulness coursed through my body. I looked at the rosy sky while my past life flipped through my mind like scenes from a motion picture. I lived that day in June when at eighteen I walked into the convent and said within my heart: "This is my life forever." Now, lying here with the breeze blowing against my face, I realized with joy and gratitude that I had reached the autumn of my life – a time for reflection, creativity, growth, happiness.

Many years ago, my favorite poet, **Robert Browning**, inspired me with his constant theme of love, delight, compassion. To **Browning**, life was a continuous growth. There was no turning back, always a pushing forward. His famous "**Rabbi Ben Ezra**" speaks of old age as the best of life. This is the time to use all of the creativity that lies within us – "The last of life, for which the first was made."

Years later I discovered a scientist-priest, **Teilhard de Chardin** who spoke in language of poetry. **Teilhard**, like **Browning**, believed that in spite of our years we may remain forever youthful. **Teilhard de Chardin** said: "May Christ-Omega keep us always young...(And what better argument for Christianity could there be than an enduring youthfulness drawn from Christ). For old age comes from Him. Old age leads on to Him, and old age will touch me only in so far as He wills."

**Eckhart**, a **Dominican** writer and poet of the fourteenth century shared the same thought. He said that to be near to God we must be eternally young. We should forever enjoy the power of springtime. Yet, it is only when we relinquish the material things of this life that we can attain the joyfulness of youth. When we learn to sink into God's beauty we shall feel that heaven has already begun. **Eckhart** says that all human beings are artists because they all feel the need to create. "Every artist," said **Eckhart**, "wants to leave behind a gift. It is their way of saying thank you."

One does not have to write a book, erect a building, or leave a painting for an art gallery to feel that life is complete. Self-fulfillment is to marvel in the beauty of created things – to see and feel and hear God's voice in the roaring sea, the blossoming flower, a cry of pain, and the music of a child's laughter. It is to live in peace with oneself and all of God's creation.

As the sun begins to set beyond the horizon, casting golden lights over the sea. I see the future spread before me like a soft green meadow filled with peace. My youth with its carefree happiness is gone forever, but in its place is something new and beautiful. The years that have passed have seen pain, joy, suffering, and triumph. Because of this my life is now richer, fuller, more

meaningful. Now more than ever before I can be a true **Dominican** and go out to others and share, "the fruits of my contemplation."

(by Sister Helen Wall, O.P. Used with permission of Vance E. Lichty Publisher)

---

## **PRIESTS: ANGELS on EARTH**

To help us understand the divine dignity of the priesthood so we shall comprehend more fully the infinite greatness of the Mass, read carefully the following pronouncement of saints.

*Saint Ignatius*, martyr, says that the priesthood is the most sublime of all created dignities.

*Cassian* says that the priest of God is exalted above all earthly sovereignties, and above all celestial heights--he is inferior to God alone.

*Innocent III* says that the priest is placed between God and man; inferior to God, but superior to man.

*Saint Denis* calls the priest a divine man and the priesthood a divine dignity.

*Saint Ephrem* says that the gift of the sacerdotal dignity surpasses all understanding

*Saint John Chrysostom* says that he who honors a priest honors Christ, and he who insults a priest insults Christ.

*Saint Ambrose* has called the priestly office a divine profession.

*Saint Francis de Sales*, after having given orders to a holy ecclesiastic, perceived that in going out the priest stopped at the door as if to give precedence to another. Being asked by the saint why he stopped, the priest replied that God favored him with the visible presence of his guardian angel who, before he had received the priesthood, always remained on his right and preceded him, but now since the moment of ordination, walked on his left and refused to go before him. It was in a holy contest with the angel that he stopped at the door!

*Saint Thomas* says the dignity of the priesthood surpasses even that of the angels.

*Saint Gregory Nazianzen* has said that the angels themselves venerate the priesthood. All the angels in Heaven cannot absolve a single sin. The guardian angels procure of the souls committed to their care, grace to have recourse to a priest, that he may absolve them.

*Saint Francis of Assisi* used to say, "If I saw an angel and a priest, I would bend my knee first to the priest and then to the angel."

*Saint Augustine* says that to pardon a sinner is a greater work than to create Heaven and earth. To pardon a single sin requires all the omnipotence of God. See the power of the priest.

*Saint Alphonsus*: "The entire Church cannot give God as much honor, or obtain so many graces as a single priest by celebrating a single Mass. Thus, by the celebration of a

single Mass, in which he offers Jesus Christ in Sacrifice, a priest gives greater honor to the Lord than if all men, by dying for God, offered Him the sacrifice of their lives. With regard to the power of priests over the real Body of Jesus Christ, it is of faith that when they pronounce the words of Consecration, the Incarnate Word has obliged Himself to obey and to come into their hands under the sacramental species."

*Saint Cyprian* said that all who had the true spirit of God were, when compelled to take the order of priesthood, seized with fear and trembling.

*Saint Epiphanius* writes that he found no one willing to be ordained a priest, so fearful were they of so divine a dignity.

*Saint Ambrose*, as he himself attests, resisted for a long time before he consented to be ordained.

*Saint Francis of Assisi* never consented to be ordained.

No one on this earth can give God as much glory as a devout priest.

(from "How To Be Happy, How To Be Holy" by Father Paul O'Sullivan, O.P.)

---

## **LOVELY LADY**

Lovely Lady dressed in blue  
Teach me how to pray  
God was just your little boy  
Tell me what to say!  
Did you lift Him up, sometimes  
Gently on your knee?  
Did you sing to Him the way  
Mother does to me  
Did you hold His hand at night  
And, did you ever try  
Telling Him stories of the world?  
And oh! Did He cry?  
Do you really think He cares  
If I tell Him things,  
Little things that happen? And  
Do angel's wings make a noise?  
Can He hear me if I speak low?  
Does He understand me now?  
Tell me, for you know!  
Lovely Lady dressed in blue  
Teach me how to pray!  
God was just your little boy  
And you know the way!

(**"The Child on Her Knees"** by Mary Dixon Thayer)

---

## **THE PRAISES of MARY**

Written by *Saint Loman*

According to **Jocelin's "Life of Saint Patrick,"** *Saint Loman* was the son of *Patrick's* sister, **Tigris**, and was one of those disciples who accompanied him to **Ireland**.

*Chorus*

O Mary, Loving Mary,  
Our joy and our delight.

Joy of the Father,  
Love of the Son,  
Delight of the Most High God,  
Thou who not man,  
Mother of the Holy One,  
Mother of Him Who was never made.  
He drank life from thy breasts.  
Before Adam He knew thee,  
To Adam He told of thee.

Eve's weakness is thy strength.  
Angels are enraptured before thee.  
The Blessed bow down before thee.  
Michael is thy captain.  
Gabriel thy messenger.  
Raphael thy healer.  
Angels and saints feast on the beauty.  
Delight of God.  
Peerless Mary,  
Thy face is heavenly beauty.

Straight lily without spot,  
Beautiful flower of every perfume,  
Heavenly rose, whose beauty draws all.  
Choicest and rarest flower of the Father's Garden;  
Tended by His angels.  
Gentle Mary, loving Mary.  
Heavenly wind, spring rain,  
Blinding Light that overcasts the sun.  
Mightier than the mountains.

Greater than the seas.  
The sun is thy chariot,  
The moon and stars thy playthings,  
The clouds skip like lambs around thy feet.  
The works of His hands are subject to thee;  
For thou art His Beloved  
Who rulest from the Trinity.  
Beauty that captivates all hearts.  
Light that dispels all darkness,  
Mary, whiter than the snows.

Envy of the fallen prince.  
Satan fears thee and awaits thy heel;  
He alone fears thee, for he never knew thee.  
Thy name is a scourge that sears him more than fire.  
The lost one in the pit groans;  
His throne rocked at thy coming.  
The beauty of thy countenance fills him with terror.  
He flies before thee; he fears the Light.  
Mary, thou art terrible in battle.

Hell trembles at thy name.

Thunder and Lightning to the bottomless pit.  
Destroyer of the Evil One's kingdom.  
Angels waited on thy word.  
The heavens were hushed.  
At thy consent angels sang hymns of great joy.  
The Father Eternal smiled on thee.  
The Son became thy own.  
The Divine Spirit took thee unto Himself.  
Silent Mary, the Holy Spirit spoke through thee.  
Elisabeth proclaimed thee.

All men claim thee.  
All peoples bless thy name.  
Broken-hearted Mary at the Cross.  
You saw the rabble mock thy Son.  
You saw the lance open His side.  
You saw them cast dice for His garments.  
You who care for all, could not give Him to drink when  
He cried,  
*I thirst.*  
He gave thee to us as our Mother.  
You saw Him die.  
You knew He was God.

Crimson rose of heavenly fragrance.  
Our birthright; lost through Eve's disobedience was  
restored through thee.  
From thy pure blood a stream has arisen that pours over  
the earth,  
Cleansing and healing our sin-stained souls and paying our  
ransom.  
From thy pure flesh was made Food for us who know thy  
Son.  
Beautiful Mary, you raised woman to a new dignity.  
Adam's Fall did not stain thee.  
Thy body did not know corruption.  
Peaceful sleep fell upon thee.  
Thy feet rested on the wings of angels.

In their hands they carried thee.  
The heavens opened to thee.  
You reign with thy Son.  
He placed the Sceptre in thy hands.  
The world He made thy footstool,  
Who rulest with love.  
The thrones of the great shall fall before thee.  
Woe to them that shall raise themselves against thee, to  
mock thee.  
He Who made thee, and came from thee, shall meet them  
as the bear robbed of her young.  
Woe to them in that day, when he comes: for He guards  
thee as the apple of His eye.

Thou, His creature; in thee He saw Perfection.  
He glories in thee; the work of His hands.  
As the Faithful Bridegroom, He is jealous if they hurt thee.  
Spotless Maid of Nazareth, humble unknown;

The humble and the little ones know thee and bless thee.  
The angels in choir sing thy praises at God's Throne.  
We thy children, poor, weak and sinful, sing thy praises.  
All men shall call thee blessed.  
Peoples of many colors shall sing thy praises.  
In strange tongues they shall call there: Light of Dawn.

For thy Son is at hand.  
Strange men, who live not as men, shall know thee;  
And find shelter beneath thy mantle.  
Fierce warriors shall become as little children, and grasp  
thy girdle.  
Their daughters shall cover their heads with thy veil,  
And live by thy example.  
From the high mountain and from valleys they shall follow  
thee, from the plains and from deserts.  
You come, not as the triumphant warrior in terrible array,  
But as the gentle Mother calling, calling thy children to  
thee.  
He has filled thee with wisdom.

You speak in divers tongues.  
All thy children know thy voice.  
Love of God: Thy voice is sweeter than the thrush and  
them lark.  
Angels stay their journey to hear thee.  
Your words are sweeter than honey.  
Your eyes are beautiful and gentle.  
We have no fear of thee.  
We love thee, Mary, we love thee, we love thee.  
O Mary, beautiful, life-giving Mary.  
Our Joy, our Hope in our sorrows.

Our eyes and hearts are lifted to thee.  
Hear us, thy children, who cry to thee.  
You hear the cry of your children;  
You, their Mother, will hasten to help.  
You gladden the hearts that mourn.  
You dry the eyes that weep.  
Mother of the widow and orphan.  
Safe home to the outcast.  
The mighty and lowly find peace before thee.  
Thy smile is peace.

Medicine and healing herbs to the sick.  
Sweetness in the bitterness of life.  
Light to those who travel by land and sea.  
Virtue to the innocent.  
Flame to kindle the clean of heart.  
Faithful Shepherdess, who guards the sheep and lambs.  
The Promised Land, overflowing with milk and honey.  
Sweet spices and heavenly perfumes that purify.  
Sweeter than the honeycomb.  
Glory of women.

Healer of men.  
Sight to the blind.  
Hearing to the deaf.  
Speech to the dumb.

**The PILGRIM**

Cool, life-giving waters to the thirsty.  
Food and drink to the weary.  
Whose breast feeds all men.  
Thy children call to thee.  
Heavenly Guide to the traveler,  
O Mary, our Mother, lead us home.

O MARY, when our eyes close in our last sleep, and open  
to behold thy Son, the Just Judge, and the Angel opens the  
Book and the Enemy accuses us; in that terrible hour,  
come to our aid. Be with us. When death came to Joseph,  
you and your Son with him: Thy Son to judge; thou to  
console. O Happy Joseph! When death comes for us, be  
near us.

O Mary, when we are held captive in the place of  
atonement; plead for us, and visit us, that we may find  
consolation in thy presence. Stretch forth thy hand to help  
us; deliver us from our bondage. We are thy children:  
Thou art our Mother. As little children we come to thee;  
we know no fear.

O Mary, He changed water into wine for thee, even as He  
said: *My hour has not yet come.* Now He will not refuse  
thee, when you plead for us thy children.

(“THE ANGELUS” August 1982)

### **IF WE BUT REALIZED THE GIFT OF GOD!**

All Catholics believe that Jesus is present in the Blessed  
Sacrament. And yet how many of us go to Mass Sunday  
after Sunday and not receive Him in Holy Communion!  
How many of us pass by the church, day after day, and do  
not stop to visit Him! Surely, we do not realize Who is in  
the Holy Eucharist!

**We say “Who” is present, because the Holy Eucharist  
contains the Body and Blood, the Soul and Divinity of  
Jesus Christ, the Son of God. After the Consecration of  
the Mass, the Host is no longer bread. It has been  
changed! It is not SOMETHING, It is SOMEONE!**

#### **KENT and KATHERINE WERNER GETTING MARRIED!**

**Kent Werner**, our middle child and second son, is  
marrying **Wendy Battagliese** at **Queen of Heaven  
Church** on **Route 70** in the **Erlton** section of **Cherry  
Hill, NJ** at **2:30 PM, Saturday, October 17, 1998**. They  
regret that the reception hall they have chosen holds a  
limited number of invited guests but have asked us to  
invite everyone to the Holy Mass at which they will share  
the Sacrament of Matrimony.

**Katherine Werner**, our youngest child and only  
daughter, is marrying **Ralph Bagnato** at **Saint Peter  
Church** on **Route 537** in **Merchantville, NJ** at **2:30 PM,  
Saturday, December 26, 1998**. They also regret that their  
invitation list for their reception has a limit but have  
asked us to invite everyone to attend the Holy Mass at  
which they will share the Sacrament of Matrimony.

The Host contains a LIVING PERSON, a LOVING PERSON. The Host contains the same Jesus Christ who felt pain, heat, cold and contempt, and who suffered from the sting of ingratitude. The Host contains a Person who understands our difficulties because He Himself experienced many of them. The Host contains a Person who is so tender-hearted that on two occasions, as Holy Scripture tells us, He actually wept. The Host contains the same Jesus who sweat Blood in the Garden of Gethsemane, when He had a vision of all the sins of the entire world, our own personal sins, too, which caused Him untold mental and physical agony!

**The Host contains the same divine Person who groaned and gasped for breath as sharp whips tore at His Flesh, ploughed deep furrows in His back, and caused Him to bleed profusely. The Host contains the same God whose head throbbed with pain when the soldiers placed on it a crown of thorns, pressed down the crown, struck it with sticks, and drove the thorns deeper and deeper into His sacred brow. The Host contains the same Savior whose eyes filled with tears, which overflowed and trickled down His bruised and battered cheeks.**

The Host contains the same Christ who wrestled with His heavy cross and fell under its great weight several times along the way to Calvary; the same Jesus who was spit upon, cursed, mocked; the same Jesus whose face turned a deathly white, who gasped for breath and moaned as sharp nails were driven through His hands and feet. The Host contains the same Christ who, as He hung dying on the cross, suffered the terrible agony of seeing His own people stand around the cross, mocking and cursing Him. The Host contains the Christ who while hanging on the cross scanned the centuries with His divine penetrating gaze and saw each one of us. His tender Heart pierced with sadness when He saw us sinning against Him, abandoning Him, and ignoring His Gift of the Holy Eucharist! The Host contains the same Jesus who suffered intensely in Soul and Body, and finally died of a broken Heart!

**The Host contains the same Jesus who loves all mankind in general, but loves us, individually and personally, as if no other person existed in the world; the same Jesus who loves us now, and is continually thinking of us, and loving us with an infinite love.**

No, the Host is no longer bread. It is a **LIVING PERSON, JESUS CHRIST, THE SECOND PERSON OF THE BLESSED TRINITY, GOD HIMSELF!**

**If we ponder these truths, how can we be indifferent to the infinite love of Jesus for us in the Blessed Sacrament? How can we fail to receive Holy Communion often? How can we not want to visit Him often, even every day?**

If we were convinced of these truths, the most precious moments of our lives would be the minutes we spend with Him in the Blessed Sacrament, the times when we receive Him into our hearts in Holy Communion. Truly, receiving

Jesus in Holy Communion, and visiting Him in the tabernacle, will transform our lives! Jesus will give us the graces we need, and make us saints. We must ask Jesus in the Host to help us understand to appreciate what His being there really means!

(from "THE MARYFAITHFUL" dated Jan-Feb, 1989, by  
Rev. Lawrence Browning, C.P.)

---

## **DESPERATELY NEEDED IMPORTANT – CAN YOU HELP A FEW HOURS OR DAYS???????**

We are in need of volunteers to answer phones, do light book keeping, type articles (computer knowledge needed), and many hands 1 day a month to help put out the News Letter. Kathleen would like to have someone help with the organization and operation of pilgrimages for 1999 and 2000. We also need help with registration, book and hospitality for the February Retreat Conference. If you can donate any time, a few hours a week or a day a week or a day or two a month, please call us.

We need men to help us paint outdoors and indoors, shampoo rugs, build book shelves, put in telephone wires etc. We'll also need men to help us move when the new Center is ready. Please call us so we can coordinate and call you.

Call Kathleen at 609-768-9228

---

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

We try to highlight several books in our inventory in each issue so that over time our readers know a little bit more about the books on the order form.

### **"REBUKING THE NEW WORLD ORDER"**

Written by **Roger Thibault**, and available for \$15 plus \$3 postage, this book takes you into the lives of **Paul and Barbara Bohatch**, a home schooling couple with several children from **Steubenville, Ohio**, who "accidentally wind up hosting a major Marian Conference in **Acadia National Park** in July 1998.

This book is a thoughtful reflection on the signs of the times. It is a wake up call that delights the reader with a cascade of characters and families that are drawn into a pauper's crusade that thwarts the emergence of a new totalitarianism. It is a story permeated with Christian hope, confidence in God's providence and trust in the "Woman clothed with the sun."

### **"WHY CHRISTIAN KIDS LEAVE THE FAITH"**

This book goes into the depth of why kids abandon their parents' values as they reach adulthood. Written by **Tom Bisset**, and for donation of \$11.99 plus \$3 shipping, kids who have left have been interviewed with openness and honesty. But this is not just a "why did they drop out" book. It deeply explores four basic reasons for faith rejection and what you can do to help someone who is struggling with these issues. You'll find insight and

practical advice for communicating the Christian faith to the next generation. **Tom Bisset** is general manager of **WRBS-FM**, a Christian radio station in **Baltimore, Maryland**.

### **“A RAINY AFTERNOON WITH GOD”**

A \$5.95 donation and \$2 postage will bring you a little book rooted in the belief that people need to take time out from their busy, over-scheduled lives for rest and reflection on God and God’s creation. **Catherine Cawley** offers practical suggestions for creating their own Day of Reflection. She gives gentle ideas that will help them meet their individual needs for time spent in God’s presence. This invitation to experience and embrace a Day of Reflection will help readers realize how vital it is to step out of their ordinary routines to sow the seeds of their own recreation. **Catherine** is director of **Shalom House Retreat Center** in **Montpelier, Va.**

For all books reviewed in **“The PILGRIM,”** please send your name, address, city, state, zip, and phone number to the **PFMC**. Add \$3 for postage. You may charge on your **Discover, Mastercard** or **Visa**. Send charge number and expiration date. Order will be sent out priority mail.

### **THE PILGRIMS of FAITH MARIAN CENTER (PFMC)**

We are not a store. We operate like a church pamphlet rack where you make selections and offer a donation based on value posted or received. We are NOW able to accept credit card payments. Please patronize your local Catholic Book Store as well as the **PFMC**.

#### **DONATIONS by CHARGE CARD AVAILABLE**

We accept **DISCOVER/PRIVATE ISSUE, MASTER CARD** and **VISA** for all donations to the **PFMC**. This includes for books and religious articles, pilgrimages, retreats and for **“The PILGRIM”** or the building fund.

This availability does not come without its cost to us. Every charge card use costs us about 3% of the total charged. Since we had to invest heavily in new equipment and must pay fees beyond the per charge cost to us, there will be **3% PROCESSING FEE, non-refundable if credit is necessary**, added to each charge card bill that is processed.

#### **COMPLETE ADDRESS — USE RETURN ADDRESS LABEL or STAMP!!!**

**ALWAYS fully complete any order forms or give us full address with any letter order.** Consider using one of the many mailing labels each of us receives in our mail so that we can see your address clearly printed and often with the ZIP+4 which is supposed to speed the mail delivery.

We appreciate the communication so that we can correct our mailing labels and list. ORDER and SPONSOR **“The PILGRIM”** for your favorite religious or priest.

### **BLESSED OIL**

**Kathleen** has bottles of blessed oil from **Medjugorje** blessed at Holy Mass in **Saint James** and then carried to **Vicka’s** house to be present in the room during an apparition. Volunteers transfer the oil to small bottles for you or your prayer group to use as a sacramental. We also have blessed oil from the Little House of Our Lady in **Loreto, Italy**.

Read the articles in the *November* and *December 1994* issues as well as the **Bible** readings for the **Holy Week Chrism Mass** about Blessed Oil and Oil of Gladness.

**Oil from Medjugorje and Our Lady of Loreto is a sacramental and should be handled as such. It is NOT the same as the oils blessed by the Bishop for official church ceremonies or during administration of the sacraments by a priest.**

We request a \$5 donation per small bottle, this covers \$4 for the bottle, packaging and special handling plus \$1 mailing or postage expense.

### **BULLETIN NOTICES**

We need YOUR HELP, with your **Parish Bulletin Coordinator**. Would you be so kind as to take the following BULLETIN NOTICES to your **Pastor** and / or **Parish Bulletin Coordinator** and ask them to publish these notices for your interest and because you an active parishioner has asked.

Thank you.

### **CATHOLIC RADIO**

Listen to **Dominic Lettieri** and his **In His Sign (IHS) Ministries** guests on **Putting It on the Line, WTMR-AM 800**, Monday thru Friday, 5 PM to 6 PM. Call in on (610) 527-2906 or (888) 34 FAITH [343-2485].

#### **One Day RETREAT for MARRIED COUPLES**

**Saturday, November 21, 1998 Saint Pius X Retreat House** in **Blackwood, NJ**. Retreat master is **David Haggerty, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.** Cost is **\$100 per couple or \$55 per person**. This includes Lunch and Supper. Call **Kathleen** or **Dottie** at (609) 768-9228.

#### **PFMC 1999 RETREAT CONFERENCE (RC)**

The teaming of **Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol** with her brother, **Father Robert DeGrandis**, will enter the areas of healing through the **PFMC 1999 RETREAT CONFERENCE (RC)**, **FRIDAY thru SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 27 and 28, 1999**. This will be the first weekend in **Lent**. The **PFMC 1999 RC** will again be held at the **Four Points Inn by Sheraton** in **Cherry Hill, NJ**.

The **FEBRUARY 1999 RC** will have an extension for those who can stay over **MONDAY, TUESDAY** and **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>**. **Father Robert**

**DeGrandis, SSJ** will make himself available for an intense and deeper teaching on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Call **Kathleen** or **Dottie** at (609) 768-9228 for an information sheet with more details and a reservation form

for the ***PFMC* 1999 RETREAT CONFERENCE and the THREE DAY EXTENSION.**

-----

## CALENDARS:

In *October*, the Church celebrates the Feast of *Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles (28)* and the Memorials of *Saints Theresa of the Child Jesus (1), Bruno (6), John Leonardi (9), Denis and Companions (9), Pope Callistus I (14), Teresa of Jesus (15), Hedwig (16), Margaret Mary Alacoque (16), Ignatius of Antioch (17), Isaac Jogues, John de Brebeuf and Companions (19), Paul of the Cross (20), John of Capestrano (23), Anthony Mary Claret (24)* as well as *The Guardian Angels (2), Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher (6)* and *Our Lady of the Rosary (7)*.

In *November*, the Church celebrates the Solemnities of *ALL SAINTS (1), ALL SOULS (2), CHRIST the KING (22)*, the Feast of the *Dedication of Saint John Lateran (9)* and *Saint Andrew the Apostle (30)*, Memorials of *Saints Martin de Porres (3), Charles Borromeo (4), Leo the Great (10), Martin of Tours (11), Josaphat (12), Frances Xavier Cabrini (13), Gertrude (16), Margaret of Scotland (16), Elizabeth of Hungary (17), Rose Philippine Duchesne (18), Columban (23), Clement I (23), Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions (24)* as well as *Blessed Miguel Augustin Pro (23)*, the *Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul in Rome (18)*, and the *Presentation of Mary (21)*. Church calendars recognize *Veterans Day (11)* and *Thanksgiving Day (26)*.

## AROUND THE PFMC AREA

### One Day RETREAT for MARRIED COUPLES

*Saturday, November 21, 1998 Saint Pius X Retreat House* in *Blackwood, NJ*. Retreat master is *David Haggerty, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.* Cost is *\$100 per couple* or *\$55 per person*. This includes *Lunch and Supper*. Call *Kathleen* at *609-768-9228* for information sheet.

## The PILGRIM

Page 26

Volume 9, Number 10 – October 1998

**Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC)**  
**A Religious Association, Inc.** - NON-PROFIT and  
IRS Code 501(c)(3) TAX EXEMPT

**Keith and Kathleen Werner,**  
Co-Directors, 129 Deerfield Avenue,  
Atco (Evesham), NJ 08004-2716  
(609) 768-9228 FAX: (609) 768-9428



**PRIORITY DATED**  
**RELIGIOUS MATERIAL**

**Mailed early AM,**  
**Saturday, 10/10/98**

**NON PROFIT**  
**ORG.**  
**U.S. POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
**ATCO, NJ**  
**PERMIT NO. 74**

## PLEASE DO NOT THROW THIS AWAY!!

*If you do not desire to read "The PILGRIM," please give it to your Marian prayer group or return it to sender. If address has changed, please send a change of address card.*

*If there is no time to read it all right now, please put it with other reading material in a place where you can read at least an article per day until the next issue arrives.*

*We operate on divine providence and the kind donations of those who can afford to support us.*

**PRIESTS!** *Please note that HOMILY ideas have come from priests reading articles in "The PILGRIM!"*



## PFMC 1999 RETREAT CONFERENCE (RC)

The teaming of **Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol** with her brother, **Father Robert DeGrandis**, will be the highlight of the **PFMC 1999 RC, FRIDAY thru SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 27 and 28, 1999.**

The **FEBRUARY 1999 PFMC RC** will have an extension for those who can stay over **MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.** **Father Robert DeGrandis, SSJ** will make himself available for an intense and deeper teaching on the Healing Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Please see article on pages 3 and 4 as well as the enclosed information sheet for more details along with a reservation form for the **PFMC 1999 RC.** Call **609-768-9228** for additional information.

## MARIAN PILGRIMAGE PRESENTATIONS

**Keith and Kathleen** are always willing to schedule presentations to prayer group, **Altar Rosary Society, Legion of Mary** or other parish group meetings. The experiences and continuation of ministry for **Our Lady** in this time of graces and manifestation of Our Lord's Mercy are shared through videotape, witness and/or slide presentations followed by a question and answer session.

There is no charge. Free will offerings are accepted especially for books, tapes and religious articles which are made available at the presentation sites just like they are at the **PFMC** which operates like a church book rack.

## INTERNET

Surf for the **PFMC** presence on the Internet at either <http://geocities.com/Heartlands/Woods/6240> or <http://www.PFMCkmw.org> with both sites still very much under construction.