



The PILGRIM

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December 2002

The PILGRIM is a periodical from the **Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC)**. The **PFMC** is a ministry of lay Catholic Evangelization and Healing through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

A PRAYER



Lord Jesus, make us completely available to fulfill the Will of Your Father. Act in our lives. We wish to serve You in all things. You call each of us every day and every hour of our existence.

Teach us the humility of Mary to say "yes", and to count on Your grace for strength to be Your instrument in our life's vocation.

Grant us a dominant passion for apostolic zeal to spend every living moment going out to the poor and those in need of hearing Your WORD.

Foster in us a hunger for souls as a missionary of simple obedience. Renew Your Church to a new charity and for the salvation of souls.

Call all Christians to be daring apostles. Place us in the heart of the Holy Spirit.

You have given each of us our human freedom, and You never impose Yourself on us.

Implant in us an ability to hear Your call in all circumstances of our existence and to carry out acts of piety with sincerity and great devotion. AMEN

(Kathleen prays from the heart for each issue)

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR from the PFMC STAFF

As we begin another Liturgical Year with the Advent Season preparation for the Birth of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we pray that all are recovering from 9/11/2001 and the ensuing struggle with fear as well as the war on terrorism.

We hope that you and your family will truly welcome Jesus Christ, as Christians throughout the world

The MESSAGE alleged to be from the GOSPA, Our Lady, Queen of Peace, to an alleged visionary from Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina for October and November are presented beginning on page 14 (on the centerfold pages) with the respective REFLECTION articles and PRESS BULLETINS.

commemorate His birth, at Christmas, 9 months after his Incarnation in the womb of His Blessed Mother Mary when she gave her YES to the Annunciation.

Mary's Immaculate Conception in the womb of Anne fulfilled the plan of God revealed in Genesis 3:15 that a special woman would bear His Son. God granted Mary the great grace of being sinless since conception so that her entire being would be a fitting tabernacle for His Son, Jesus Christ.

(Keith and All the PFMC Volunteers)

"MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS" – SATURDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2002

Saint John Neumann Parish, Sicklerville, NJ, and the PFMC are co-sponsoring and sharing a day filled with relaxation and fun in Lancaster, PA. We will travel by bus on Saturday, December 14, 2002. Donation of \$99 includes round trip bus, visit to Weaver Nut Company, importers of candies, dried fruits, and nuts, 1 PM show of the "Miracles of Christmas" at the Sight and Sound Theater, and a full family style dinner at Plain and Fancy Farm. All taxes and gratuities are included. There are still a few seats available on the bus scheduled to leave from and return to the Marshall's parking lot in Voorhees, NJ. We will have prayer, song and videos while traveling.

This is a perfect Christmas present for your spouse, children, and grandchildren. It is a wonderful gift to give your best friend. It will truly put you and your companions in the spirit of Christmas.

Please call the PFMC at (856) 768-9228 for flyers with reservation forms or see Father Hartman after Holy Mass at Saint John Neumann in Sicklerville.

If you wish us to set up such a bus trip for your prayer group or parish please call (856) 768-9228 or 1-800-788-MARY [6279] and ask for Liz or Kathleen.

"The PILGRIM" for December 2002 is dedicated to "Mary - A GARDEN ENCLOSED, A SEALED FOUNTAIN." See page 3 for Table of Contents / "IN THIS ISSUE".

LITURGY of the HOURS

What Is IT? Can I Learn to Pray IT?

For the past 16 months, Pope John Paul II has been encouraging people to pray with the Psalms, and particularly to pray the Liturgy of the Hours.

Many callers and visitors to the PFMC have been asking about the "Liturgy of the Hours" and how to pray it.

The papal audience talks reflect a growing reality: Priests and religious are not the only ones using the breviary for morning and evening prayer.

What's more, convents and monasteries are not the only places where lay people can experience the chanting or recitation of the prayers communally, the way they were designed to be prayed.

The first 23 papal talks, which began in March 2001, were published in book form by the Vatican this summer: the book is available only in Italian.

"It is an encouraging fact that many lay people, both in parishes and in church groups, have learned to value the Liturgy of the Hours," the pope said in the first talk of the series.

The Psalms used in the liturgy, Pope John Paul said, are highly poetic prayers reflecting a full array of human feelings: "joy, recognition, thanksgiving, love, tenderness and enthusiasm, but also intense suffering, sorrow and requests for help or for justice, which sometimes are expressed with anger or imprecation. The whole human being is found in the Psalms."

At Saint Peter's Basilica, like in many cathedrals around the world, everyone is welcome to join in Sunday evening vespers. The Sunday prayer is the only part of the Liturgy of the Hours celebrated in public by the Chapter of Saint Peter's Basilica, the group of priests who minister full time there.

The number of participants changes with the seasons, one of the priests said. As few as 50 people will add their voices to the chants sung entirely in Latin in midwinter, but with spring and summer tourist season, the numbers quadruple, he said

(Catholic Star Herald, June, 2002)

WOULD YOU LIKE to LEARN HOW to PRAY the LITURGY of the HOURS? JANUARY 9 and 30, 2002

Would you like to help your spirituality, and pray for the Church and join the Church in praying for it's members daily?

This is an opportunity to spend about 2 hours (one hour each session for two sessions) to hear an explanation of this beautiful prayer of the Church, learn how to use the Liturgy of the Hours book and guide, and have a follow up session to see if you have any questions or problems.

We will then explore possibly coming together at the PFMC to pray it together.

Father Glenn Hartman will be teaching on how to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. He will meet at the PFMC, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ, for the first session from 7:30 to 8:30 PM on **Thursday, January 9, 2003**, and will meet for the second session from 7:30 to 8:30 PM on **Thursday, January 30, 2003**.

Please mark your calendars.

There is no charge for these sessions to help understand how to pray the Liturgy of the Hours.

Reservations will be taken by phone **AND WILL CLOSE ON DECEMBER 20TH, 2002** to allow us to order the Liturgy books. They are \$32 each. Large print is \$35.95. **We will only order enough books and guides for those registered.**

It is mandatory that each person attending have their own Liturgy of the Hours book and 2003 guide. If you already have the book, you may bring it. It is not necessary to buy another book. If you do not have a 2003 Guide, ask us to order one for you.

If you wish to order the 4 book set, they run \$132. These are the more complete books and require less page turning. They contain the teachings of the early church fathers and the saints oriented to each day of the year as well as the church cycles.

Please call us at (856) 768-9228 if you are interested in coming to these 2 sessions with Father Glenn Hartman and particularly if you need a book / guide.

The volunteer Board of Directors and Staff of the PFMC recognize and accept that the final authority regarding the alleged Marian apparitions, locutions and related messages at, and to the recipients from, Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as all other private revelations, rests with the Holy See, to whose judgment we willingly submit. We give total allegiance to our One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church and its Magisterium, particularly Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. See page 5 for additional PFMC information.

While those presenters who work with the PFMC are selected for their personal qualifications and commitment to the Church, their comments and presentations are those of individual Catholics and no endorsement by ecclesiastical authority is to be presumed.

FATHER BILL McCARTHY to TEACH a TRIDUUM SEMINAR JANUARY 25, 26, AND 27, 2003

The PFMC will host Father Bill McCarthy, M.Ss.A., of My Father's House, www.myfathershouse.com, in a Triduum study of "THE TABERNACLE (OLD TESTAMENT TO NEW TESTAMENT), THE LAMB'S SUPPER, THE 7 COVENANTS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT AND ONE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, THE EUCHARIST, AND THE SACRAMENTAL SYSTEM".

We can accommodate 80 persons in the Upper Rood of the Epiphany House at 61 Cooper Road in Voorhees, NJ. So please sign up for this wonderful weekend NOW.

The time of this teaching will be from 9 AM to about 5 PM on Saturday, 1/25/2003, and Sunday, 1/26/2003, but 9 AM to about 3 PM on Monday, 1/27/2003.

The donation for the three days is planned at \$70 per person and will include a light lunch Saturday, Sunday and Monday. (If anyone knows someone who will donate the lunches for the people on retreat, we could reduce the program to \$45 per person.)

Call the PFMC at (856) 768-9228 for an information sheet and registration form if you do not find the one enclosed in this issue of "The PILGRIM."

You may charge this or any other event donation on your Visa, MasterCard, or Discover credit card.

A ONE DAY RETREAT with FATHER ROBERT DeGRANDIS – WEDNESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2003

**A DAY of PRAYER for FORGIVENESS and
HEALING for SEXUALLY, EMOTIONALLY,
and PHYSICALLY ABUSED WOMEN**

On WEDNESDAY, February 12, 2003, Father Robert DeGrandis will hold a day of prayer, forgiveness, and healing for women who have been abused physically, emotionally, or sexually. Social workers, counselors, crisis pregnancy staff and physicians working in this area are also welcome and encouraged to come.

It will be held at the PFMC, Epiphany House from 8:30 AM and close with Healing Holy Mass at 4 PM.

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If you are interested in such a day, please call the PFMC, 1-800-788-MARY [6279] or (856) 768-9228 for more information, and for a registration form if you do not find one enclosed in this issue of "The PILGRIM." This will be limited to about 50 women.

FATHER HAMPSCH TAPES

There have been many requests for the tapes for the 18-20 October 2002 Seminar on Spiritual Warfare given by Father John Hampsch.

Enclosed with this issue of "The PILGRIM" is an order form to be sent to CATHOLIC FOCUS or called in to 1-800-TAPES 123 for ordering one or more of these wonderful tapes.

If you do not have an order form, call CATHOLIC FOCUS or the PFMC at (856) 768-9228 or 1-800-788-MARY [6279] and one will be sent to you.

RETREAT CONFERENCE and 3 DAY EXTENSION, March 14th through 19th 2003 - MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW

The theme will be "He must increase; I must decrease." (John 3:30) [NAB].

The Hilton Hotel, Cherry Hill, NJ will be the site for the PFMC March 14th, 15th, and 16th 2003 RETREAT CONFERENCE (RC) and the 3 day extension (3DX) March 17th, 18th, and 19th, 2003. Music will be provided by "REFUGE" the Metuchen Diocese Charismatic Prayer Group musicians who play for the New Jersey Charismatic Conference at Seton Hall.

Guest speakers will be Father Bill Halbing, Father Andrew Apostoli, and Father Robert DeGrandis.

Joseph Terelya and his interpreter will be featured before the Concert on Saturday night.

"Hearts Afire" will join Father Michael Semana for the Saturday night concert.

The 3DX speakers will again be Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol and Father Robert DeGrandis. Our 3DX theme will be **"INNER HEALING and GIFTS of the HOLY SPIRIT."**

The Hilton Hotel is now accepting room reservations for the 2003 PFMC RC and 3DX. Please call 1-800-HILTONS or the Hilton Hotel locally at (856) 665-6666 to make your hotel reservation. Rooms are \$92 per room and will accommodate 2 persons in a king bed or up to 4 persons in two double beds. Cots are also available, but **must be arranged for prior to arrival. Refrigerators in rooms must also be arranged for ahead of time.** You must guarantee your room with a one-night charge on your credit card. Cancellation must be **72 hours prior** to the event. Please request smoking or non-smoking rooms ahead of time, but these are not guaranteed. The Hilton Hotel holds to a first-come first-served basis on their non-smoking rooms. Blocks of rooms and, where possible, entire floors are either non-smoking or smoking.

Please note that a youth program will be available. With over 120 youth at our last Youth Track (YT), we know that this is an important part of the program. Please register your youth and young adults.

Please note on the registration form if you want the luncheons or dinners available. These will **ALL be full hot meals**, and are well worth every penny.

Those who attended had their fill, and raved about the food and atmosphere.

Bishop DiMarzio has given us permission to have daily Holy Mass, 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration, and Confessions available.

Father John McFadden, Father Michael Semana, and others of Mary's Beloved Priests have indicated they will return. The 3DX will again be with Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol and Father Robert DeGrandis, SSJ.

The green information sheet with registration forms is enclosed. Please make your hotel and PFMC reservations **EARLY!** Please reserve the weekend of 14-16 March 2003 to be with us and, if possible, join us for Saint Patrick's and Saint Joseph's days during the 3DX, 17-19 March 2003.

(Kathleen and Keith for All the PFMC Volunteers)

PILGRIMAGE to ASSISI, MEDJUGORJE and ROME

Father Tino will be the spiritual director for a pilgrimage of peace departing March 19th, 2002 and returning on March 28th, 2003.

Fly into Rome and transfer by bus to Assisi for 2 days and one night. Then fly to Split on Croatia Air and transfer to a motor coach for the trip to Medjugorje. You will be in Medjugorje until March 26th.

Hotel and house accommodations are planned for double occupancy with private bathroom. Single occupancy requires a single supplement. The house in Medjugorje will be just a short walk away from Saint James Church.

You will have a full daily program of prayer, talks, meeting visionaries, as they are available, climbing Cross Mountain and Apparition Hill. You will be in Medjugorje for the Anniversary on March 25th.

On the 26th you will return to Rome where you will tour the Catacombs and the Major Basilicas, visit the Vatican museum and Sistine Chapel, and pray at a private mass in Saint Peters Basilica.

The cost for airfare, hotels, housing, guides, transfers and taxes and **ALL BREAKFASTS AND SUPPERS** throughout is \$1696 per person.

If interested call Kathleen at (856) 768-9228 to register. Ask for an information sheet and reservation form. We need names and deposits as soon as feasible. Deposit is \$500.

FATHER McCARTHY to LEAD a RETREAT WEEKEND for MARRIED COUPLES CHANGED to MAY 16, 17, and 18, 2003

Take the time as a Married Couple to explore the Marriage Covenant, and how the Holy Spirit can and does work in your Lives. Do you want something new in your marriage? Are you seeking something more to fulfill you? Is there something lacking or something you want to celebrate together? Explore with Father Bill the beauty and richness, the mountains and valleys, the joys and tears of the sacrament of Marriage.

We will have special rates for you at the Holiday Inn Express just around the corner from the PFMC. The hours of the Retreat are currently planned to be from 7 PM to 10 PM on FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2003 and 9 AM to 5 PM on SATURDAY and SUNDAY, MAY 17 and 18, 2003. The registration donation is planned at \$80 per couple and includes a delicious lunch each day. We are planning comfortable seating for 40 couples.

If there is sufficient interest, this retreat weekend for married couples may be moved to a local hotel to accommodate more couples with overnight accommodations available on site. Early registration is requested to assist in making this latter decision.

We hope that you will take advantage of this wonderful weekend and **register early**. We accept Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Call the PFMC at (856) 768-9228 for an information sheet and registration form if you do not find the one enclosed in this issue of "The PILGRIM." God bless you.

HUMANITARIAN AID to the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

There will be a Medical Mission from September 27, 2003 to October 11, 2003. If you are a Doctor (particularly a specialist) or a nurse, and would like to be part of this mission, please call Fay or Edwina or Kathleen or Liz at (856) 768-9228 or 1-800-788-MARY [6279]. The staff has established through the Diocese of Puerto Plata, a Humanitarian Aid Program and a Medical Mission. This program will be directly working with the parishes of the poor and sick. We have three orphanages that we will help, and several clinics and the hospital. We will also be helping with the Seminarian Program.

We have now put in place the ability to continue with aid to this very poor third world country. After talking with a representative from the office of Bishop Gregorio Nicanor Pena Rodriguez, we are asking our readers for help on a regular basis with the following:

Donations of money to support the seminarians, who are studying English. This money will be used to buy the second edition of English books for them to use. It will also help with buying them English Bibles, and Catechisms, and shipping them there.

We are collecting little girls white first communion dresses and veils. Attached to each dress should be the owners name and address and a little note to the girl who would be wearing this dress and veil. Often they will get back a note of thank you.

We need medicines to send to the medical clinic that ministers only to the very poor and destitute. Servas de Maria is run by the nuns, and Sister Blanca is in charge of the many demands of the clinics.

We also have a long list of medications the Sisters can use, but we need to get a doctor involved in getting them. If you are a doctor and reading this, or if you are a representative / sales person from a drug house, would you please get in contact with Kathleen for a larger list of antibiotics and drugs that are needed.

Please respond to God's call to join us in our Medical Mission, or to help with needed goods to send to the Orphanages and the Medical Clinics. We can use a lot of support. We are especially looking for Pediatricians, Neurologists, Surgeons, and specialists

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SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE: Father Glenn Hartman, Father John

McFadden, Father Bill McCarthy, MSSA, Father Robert DeGrandis,

SSJ, Father Jim Sauchelli, Father Brendan Williams, Father Joseph

Szolack, as well as many of **Mary's** other beloved priests from the

Philadelphia and **Newark** Archdioceses as well as the **Camden,**

Harrisburg, Metuchen, Norwich, Pittsburgh, Scranton, Trenton and

Wilmington Dioceses. Father Hartman is reviewing every issue.

Father Joseph Szolack, szolack@camdendiocese.org, is Dean of Men at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Philadelphia, PA.

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OFFICE HELP, ASSEMBLY, LABELS and MAILING: Too many wonderful pilgrims and volunteers to mention them all by name.

in the area of diabetes. Nurses will help with clinic work, and lay people will help with paperwork or in the Orphanages.

If you can help us collect toys for little girls up to ages 15, or new clothing for children up to this age, please send it or bring it to the PFMC. We especially want to be generous at Christmas time.

If you can help with finances to package and UPS packages direct to the Bishop's office, we would be most grateful. A 50 # box costs about \$140. If you know anyone going to Puerto Plata and can hand carry a large duffel bag of goods with them, please have them call Fay or Kathleen.

Since the Bosnian War the PFMC has been involved with many Humanitarian Aid projects. We are quite excited about this particular project, especially since we have seen the true poverty of this country. We ask each of you to look into your hearts and hear God's call to help. We can't do a whole lot, but we sure can make a tiny dent.

Please mail all checks or materials to **PFMC, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043**. Thank you.

A LETTER from GREGORIO NICANOR PENA RODRIGUEZ - BISHOP of PUERTO PLATA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Dear Keith and Kathleen,

On behalf of the people of the Diocese of Puerto Plata, I wish to thank you for the donations of medicines, school supplies, toys and clothing, including special dresses for First Communion, that you are arranging.

In addition, I understand that you are also planning and recruiting for a two-week medical mission here in September and October of 2003. I would encourage any doctors or nurses who wish to put their talents to the service of God's poor to consider participating. Many of our people cannot afford medical care, especially from surgeons and other specialists. Those who come to care for our needy and destitute will truly fulfill Our Lord's call to see and serve Him in all.

Your generous gift of time and effort is truly appreciated. I shall remember you and all those involved in your endeavors on our behalf in my Masses.

God Bless You,

**Gregorio Nicanor Pena Rodriguez,
Bishop of Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic**

DEDICATION of EACH ISSUE

We have a number of listings for titles of Mary from which we choose title for dedication of each issue of "The PILGRIM."

This issue of "The PILGRIM" is dedicated to: "MARY - A GARDEN ENCLOSED, A SEALED FOUNTAIN."

This dedication is based on scriptural images revealed by the Holy Spirit. A soul in the state of grace is also a sealed fountain because it bears the seal and stamp of the invisible God. It is also a garden enclosed because the Spirit of God surrounds it like a wall and guarantees its safety. Mary was filled with the Holy Spirit from the first instant of her existence, did not cease to struggle, ever advancing from virtue to virtue. She was filled with superabundant grace, one that is almost without measure.

**(Mary, Collaborator with the Holy Spirit, by Paul
Landolfi, SM, Saragosa Printing, #10)**

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Our Lady brings us the message of Peace in our hearts, in our families and in the world.

We here at the PFMC want to extend to you Mary's message of Peace and ask that this Christmas be filled with family prayer and gratefulness for many blessings of life that we have and share with others.

We ask that you look at the year 2003 with an increased desire and intensity to introduce the Holy Mass and Holy Eucharist into your lives on a daily basis, to focus on frequent Confession and recitation of the Holy Rosary individually and within your family. Only in these things will your life be filled with grace and rewards of everlasting happiness.

We have prayed for all of you daily, and we thank each of you for your generosity and your prayers. May Our Lady wrap each of you in her mantle of protection, and may you be surrounded with the angels and saints.

Have a Blessed 2002 Christmas and a Holy 2003 New Year.

(Kathleen and All the PFMC Volunteer Staff)

A NEW YEAR 2003 PRAYER

May the New Year be of peace as we join our voices in prayer with Mary, the Queen of Peace, to Jesus, the Prince of Peace. As we consecrate the year ahead to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, may our every action become prayer so that our Heavenly Father's plan for His children may be enacted and the vicious designs from Hell be reversed.

May the Holy Spirit raise our consciousness to the task at hand, and build in us expectant faith, that with Saint Paul, will convince us that we can do all things in Him who strengthens us (Phil 4:13).

May we trust the invitation of the Lord, as the Apostles did, abandon our comfort zones, and launch out into the deep waters with evangelical faith to help bring about the Springtime of Christian life for which Our Holy Father prays.

May Christ's peace reign in our hearts and may we live this New Year according to the promptings of Saint Paul: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Phil 4:4-7).

Happy New Year.

(by Father Brendan Willams)

MAGNIFICAT of BETROTHAL

Our souls are filled with wonder at the gift of our loving, and our spirits take on new meaning in the giving of love,

God of the Flowing Well, you have looked upon us with favor as we join our lives in response to you .

Yes, from this time on, all people who look upon us will recognize us as being life companions and will call us blessed. For you, the One who dwells in human hearts, have done great things for us.

Holy, is your name, and your confirming joy reaches from age to age to those who dare to journey on the unknown pathways of committed love.

You have shown us the life-changing power of our love in the eyes of those who know us and in the richness of our work.

(by Ann Johnson)

ADVENT SONG

Lady, what songs are bending
The tall grasses of your mind,

What secret music whispers down your veins,
What wax-leaf pondering', O Virgin Mary,
Waken our little shouts of expectation?
Our thoughts have lumbered down a treeless highway,
Have sputtered their heavy loftiness, have wept
Their protest. Now we hear the distant birdcall
Oh, dimly! but the woods have heard it well.
The stars are singing in their stupefaction,
The giddy little hills are clapping hands.
But Lady, what songs sway
The supple grasses of your thoughts,
What secret music whispers down your veins?
Glorious things are said about this city
Where the small citizen Christ moves in the lanes
Of so-brief arteried comfort; but what songs
Drift through this templed alabaster town?
We see the windows lighted, Virgin Mary,
City of God, by every hymn we raise
With chipped and broken voices, and our feeble
Vision guesses sacred silhouettes.
But when the little Seed fell in the furrow,
The warm and spotless furrow of your heart,
Tell us what pure songs stirred your delicate wonder,
What secret music whispered down your veins.

***(Sister Mary Francis, P.C., Friar Journal, Volume 4.
November 1966, pages 44-45.)***

THE NIGHT of CHRISTMAS

Apriest told me what happened to him once in his
first parish. After the Midnight Mass on

Christmas Day he personally locked the church. With the keys in his pocket he went to his room and had a good sleep.

At 7:30 he got up and went back to church intending to have one hour of prayer all to himself. He opened the side door leading to sacristy, turned a light on and then turned on a couple of lights for the church. As he opened the sacristy door and walked into the church, he literally froze. Most of the pews were occupied by strange people clad in the poorest of clothes and all were in total silence. No one so much as wiggled and nobody cared to look at him. A small group was standing by the Nativity scene contemplating the manger in total silence.

The priest recovered quickly and in a loud voice asked them how did they get in? Nobody answered. He walked closer to them and asked again who let them in? A woman answered totally unconcerned: **“Strange things happen on the night of Christmas.”** And back to total silence.

The priest went to check the main door and found it locked just as he had left it. He was now determined to get the facts and turned his face to the pews; but the pews were empty. The people had vanished.

He kept this puzzle to himself for some time. Unable to hold it any longer, he told me just what I have told you. Could I help with any plausible explanation? Let me hurry to say that the priest in question is a model of sanity and is as well educated academically as most of the priests I know, if not better.

My explanation was and still is as follows: Those were dead people who were doing their purgatory, or part of it, in the church. It is safe to assume that we atone for our sins where we committed them. Those people were immersed in total silence. Why?

Consider the irreverences committed before the Blessed Sacrament; how many people act in church: chatting, giggling, looking around. After Holy Mass some people gather in small groups around the pews and turn the church into a market place with no regard for Christ's Real Presence in the Tabernacle.

Why did they vanish? They did not vanish. They simply became invisible; but they remained tied to their pews unable to utter one single word to atone for their disrespectful chatter while living.

The Blessed Sacrament is no laughing matter. There is a price tag to all we do or say. In the end it is God who gets the last laugh – so to say. Those people had to give the Blessed Sacrament the adoration and

respect that Christ deserves. For how long? Only God can answer that.

Why did the priest see them? So he could pray for them and for all other poor souls detained in other churches. Why other priests do not see those people? Well, perhaps they already know in theory that souls can be detained in churches as well as anywhere else, so they do not need a miracle.

Why were they clad in such poor clothes? To atone for their vanity while living. People often use clothes not so much to cover their nakedness but as a status symbol to impress others. But God is not impressed by, say, mink coats. Also people walk into a church with hardly any clothes. In the summer months it is not unusual for people – mostly women – to go to receive Holy Communion in the most indecent clothing. The pastor may or may not put up with it; but God will have his day in court about this. Rags could be an appropriate punishment for these excesses.

A nun in purgatory revealed to another nun in the 1880's "It is not, however, on All Souls' Day that the most go to Heaven. It is on Christmas night. On Christmas night, thousands of souls leave their places of expiation for Heaven..."

In the writings of Saint Margaret Mary we find the following exhortation: "In union with the divine Heart of Jesus make a short pilgrimage to Purgatory at night. Offer Him all your activities of the day and ask Him to apply His merits to the suffering souls. At the same time implore them to obtain for you the grace to live and die in the love and friendship of His Divine Heart. May He never find in you any resistance to His holy will, nor any wish to thwart His designs in your regard. Fortunate will you be, if you succeed in obtaining deliverance for some of these imprisoned souls, for you will gain as many friends in heaven."

O you, my Christian friends, who read these lines, priests, religious, or devout lay-people, help to spread this devotion. It is so simple, and requires so little effort; moreover, you will be rewarded for it.

"On awaking this morning, on the Sunday of the Good Shepherd," wrote Saint Margaret Mary two hundred years ago, "two of my suffering friends came to take leave of me; today the Good Shepherd received them into His eternal home. They left with untold joy and happiness. When I asked them to remember me, they replied: 'Ingratitude has never entered Heaven.'"

(Segundo Llorente, S.J., *Heralders of Divine Love*, 58
Wayne Road, Monroe, CT 06468)

GATHER YOUR CHRISTMAS DREAMS

Take time to gather all your Christmas dreams
At this beautiful time of the year.

You'll find so much to treasure- to keep-
Along with your Christmas cheer,
A faith and a hope that lives in your heart,
As Jesus would enter your mind,
Goodness and mercy forever your own
With all of life's worries behind.
Gather the starshine to gladden your soul,
The blessings from heaven above,
All of the magic the season can bring,
God's precious caring and love,
Mistletoe, holly, a tree standing tall
And children you hold ever dear,
Your own Christmas angel to lend you a peace
This so holy time of the year.
I send you my greetings- dear family and friends-
That all of your dreams will come true,
May the Christ Child still bless you and offer you
peace
Through every day all the year through.
Merry Christmas- God's blessings to you and yours
And after the holiday's done,
Continue to gather your Christmas dreams
Though this new year and each one to come.

(Garnett Ann Schultz)

HELP US with a MONTHLY or ANNUAL DONATION

We do not like to beg for money. We have operated on Divine Providence and private donations for 13 years. All of the PFMC programs and operations are planned on a not-for-profit basis on donations only. We ask you to remember us in a special way as you pay your bills.

Enclosed in every issue of "The PILGRIM" is a donation slip and envelope. Please place the slip and envelope with your bills or in your checkbook.

We appreciate all those who have been helping with donations but we need more of those on our mailing list to contribute to cover our expenses. You are the hands of Jesus and Our Lady. Your help is important.

We want to thank all of you who have been faithfully supporting the PFMC.

Your donations have meant that we have been able to touch so many people through "The PILGRIM," retreats and conferences, and other activities at the PFMC. We are **very** grateful for every donation. Actually, no donation is small. All the donations add up and help us tremendously. We thank you for all your prayers, kind thoughts, sacrifices and donations
God bless you all,

(Kathleen and the Volunteer Staff)

THE DIME

Bobby was getting cold sitting out in his back yard in the snow. Bobby didn't wear boots; he didn't like them and anyway he didn't own any. The thin sneakers he wore had a few holes in them and they did a poor job of keeping out the cold. Bobby had been in his backyard for about an hour already. And, try as he might, he could not come up with an idea for his mother's Christmas gift.

He shook his head as he thought, "This is useless, even if I do come up with an idea, I don't have any money to spend."

Ever since his father had passed away three years ago, the family of five had struggled. It wasn't because his mother didn't care, or try, there just never seemed to be enough. She worked nights at the hospital, but the small wage that she was earning could only be stretched so far. What the family lacked in money and material things, they more than made up for in love and family unity.

Bobby had two older and one younger sister, who ran the household in their mother's absence. All three of his sisters had already made beautiful gifts for their mother. Somehow it just wasn't fair. Here it was Christmas Eve already, and he had nothing.

Wiping a tear from his eye, Bobby kicked the snow and started to walk down to the street where the shops and stores were. It wasn't easy being six without a father, especially when he needed a man to talk to. Bobby walked from shop to shop, looking into each decorated window. Everything seemed so beautiful and so out of reach.

It was starting to get dark and Bobby reluctantly turned to walk home when suddenly his eyes caught the glimmer of the setting sun's rays reflecting off of something along the curb. He reached down and

discovered a shiny dime. Never before has anyone felt so wealthy as Bobby felt at that moment.

As he held his new-found treasure, a warmth spread throughout his entire body and he walked into the first store he saw. His excitement quickly turned cold when the salesperson told him that he couldn't buy anything with only a dime. He saw a flower shop and went inside to wait in line.

When the shop owner asked if he could help him, Bobby presented the dime and asked if he could buy one flower for his mother's Christmas gift. The shop owner looked at Bobby and his ten-cent offering. Then he put his hand on Bobby's shoulder and said to him, "You just wait here and I'll see what I can do for you."

As Bobby waited he looked at the beautiful flowers and even though he was a boy, he could see why mothers and girls liked flowers. The sound of the door closing as the last customer left, jolted Bobby back to reality.

All alone in the shop, Bobby began to feel alone and afraid. Suddenly the shop owner came out and moved to the counter. There, before Bobby's eyes, lay twelve long stem, red roses, with leaves of green and tiny white flowers all tied together with a big silver bow.

Bobby's heart sank as the owner picked them up and placed them gently into a long white box. "That will be ten cents young man." the shop owner said reaching out his hand for the dime. Slowly, Bobby moved his hand to give the man his dime.

Could this be true? No one else would give him a thing for his dime! Sensing the boy's reluctance, the shop owner added, "I just happened to have some roses on sale for ten cents a dozen. Would you like them?"

This time Bobby did not hesitate, and when the man placed the long box into his hands, he knew it was true. Walking out the door that the owner was holding for Bobby, he heard the shop keeper say, "Merry Christmas, son."

As he returned inside, the shop keeper's wife walked out. "Who were you talking to back there and where are the roses you were fixing?"

Staring out the window, and blinking the tears from his own eyes, he replied, "A strange thing happened to me this morning. While I was setting up things to open the shop, I thought I heard a voice telling me to set aside a dozen of my best roses for a special gift. I wasn't sure at the time whether I had lost my mind or what, but I set them aside anyway. Then just a few

minutes ago, a little boy came into the shop and wanted to buy a flower for his mother with one small dime."

"When I looked at him, I saw myself, many years ago. I too, was a poor boy with nothing to buy my mother a Christmas gift. A bearded man, whom I never knew, stopped me on the street and told me that he wanted to give me ten dollars."

"When I saw that little boy tonight, I knew who that voice was, and I put together a dozen of my very best roses."

The shop owner and his wife hugged each other tightly, and as they stepped out into the bitter cold air, they somehow didn't feel cold at all.

May this story instill the spirit of CHRISTmas in you enough to pass this act along.

Have a Joyous and Christ-filled season.

(Bernadette 1/7/02)

IN MARY - DARKNESS

I live my Advent in the womb of Mary
And on one night when a great star swings free
From its high mooring and walks down the sky
To be the dot above the Christus i,
I shall be born of her by blessed grace
With hope's expectance of nativity.
I knew for long she carried me and fed me,
Guarded and loved me, though I could not see,
But only now, with inward jubilee,
I come upon earth's most amazing knowledge:
Someone is bidden in this dark with me.

(by Jessica Powers)

ACT of CONSECRATION to the ARCHANGEL SAINT MICHAEL

Most Noble Prince of the Angelic Hierarchies, valourous warrior of Almighty God, and zealous lover of His Glory, terror of the rebellious angels, and love and delight of all the Just ones, my beloved Archangel Saint Michael, desiring to be numbered among your devoted servants, today I, _____, offer and consecrate myself to you, and place myself, my family, and all I possess under your most Powerful protection.

I entreat you not to look at how little I, as your servant have to offer, being only a wretched sinner, but to gaze rather with favorable eye at the heartfelt affection with which this offering is made, and remember that if from this day onward I am under your patronage, you must during all my life assist me, and procure for me the pardon of my many grievous offenses and sins, the Grace to love with all my heart, my God, my dear Savior Jesus, and my sweet Mother Mary, and obtain for me all the help necessary to arrive at my crown of glory.

Defend me always from my spiritual enemies, particularly in the last moment of my life. ____ Come then, O Glorious Prince, and succor me in my last struggle, and with your Powerful weapon cast far from me, into the infernal abysses, that prevaricator and proud angel that one day you prostrated in the celestial battle.

Accompany me then to the Throne of God, to sing with you, Archangel Saint Michael, and all the Angels, praise, honor and glory to the One Who Reigns for all eternity. AMEN.

<http://home.att.net/~eucharistic/michael.htm>

SURRENDER PRAYER

Please take a moment to relax your mind and humble your heart to focus on Christ. Allow God, to be the only person on your mind while you read this prayer. If we can take the time to read long jokes, stories, etc., we should give the same respect to this prayer. Friends that pray together, stay together.

Dear Lord,

I thank You for this day. I thank You for my being able to see and to hear this morning. I'm blessed because You are a forgiving God and an understanding God. You have done so much for me and You keep on blessing me.

Forgive me this day for everything I have done, said or thought that was not pleasing to you. I ask now for Your forgiveness.

Please keep me safe from all danger and harm. Help me to start this day with a new attitude and plenty of gratitude. Let me make the best of each and every day to clear my mind so that I can hear from You. Please broaden my mind that I can accept all things.

Let me not whine and whimper over things I have no control over. Let me continue to see sin through God's eyes and acknowledge it as evil.

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And when I sin, let me repent, and confess with my mouth my wrongdoing, and receive the forgiveness of God.

And when this world closes in on me, let me remember Jesus' example-to slip away and find a quiet place to pray. It's the best response when I'm pushed beyond my limits. I know that when I can't pray, You listen to my heart. Continue to use me to do Your will. continue to bless me that I may be a blessing to others. Keep me strong that I may help the weak. Keep me uplifted that I may have words of encouragement for others.

I pray for those that are lost and can't find their way. I pray for those that are misjudged and misunderstood. I pray for those who don't know You intimately. I pray for those that will delete this without sharing it with others. I pray for those that don't believe. But I thank you that I believe. I believe that God changes people and God changes things.

I pray for all my sisters and brothers and for each and every family member in their households. I pray for peace, love and joy in their homes that they are out of debt and all their needs are met. I pray that every one that reads this knows there is no problem, circumstance, or situation greater than God.

Every battle is in Your hands for You to fight. I pray that these words be received into the hearts of every eye that sees them and every mouth that confesses them willingly. Lord I love you and I need you, come into my heart, please.

This is my prayer.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

(Pat Cousino)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The PFMC is a lay Evangelistic Ministry made up of dedicated Christians primarily Roman Catholics. It is totally dependent upon Divine Providence and financial donations. Every person working in the PFMC is a volunteer for Our Lady's work of converting souls to her Son, Jesus.

WOULD YOU PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING OUR STAFF at YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE?

We will train you for any of the positions listed on the next page and you will not be left alone until you are comfortable with what you are doing. A few hours per week is of great assistance. The more regular

volunteers we have the easier it becomes to remain open to those in need.

1. PARTICIPATE IN MAILING "The PILGRIM" (once a month) and OTHER MAILINGS,
2. HELPING to ANSWER PHONES – A REAL VOICE is SO COMFORTING to CALLERS,
3. BOOK and RELIGIOUS ARTICLE INVENTORY MAINTENANCE (REQUIRES SOME TYPING and COMPUTER SKILLS),
4. ORGANIZATION and DEVELOPMENT of PPMC EVENT PROGRAMS,
5. HOSPITALITY DURING RETREATS,
6. PILGRIMAGE PLANNING and SET UP (TRAVEL BACKGROUND REQUIRED),
7. ADDRESS and INFORMATION MAINTENANCE in MICROSOFT ACCESS,
8. HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMS,
9. VOCATION AWARENESS
10. EUCHARISTIC ADORATION LISTINGS and DEVELOPMENT
11. PRO LIFE ACTIVITIES
12. BOOKKEEPING,
13. TYPING (KNOWLEDGE of "MICROSOFT WORD" HELPFUL),
14. UPKEEP of COMPUTERS and WEB SITE.

We need your hands, heart, prayers, and just a little time each week or month. We need you and your friends. Consider holding your prayer group meetings in the Upper Room at Epiphany House and then staying for a few hours to help out. All our volunteers are Christian and most are Roman Catholic, and none are paid for services except by the graces of Our Lady. Call Kathleen at (856) 768-9228.

THE SHEPHERD BOY'S GIFT

When near to her at Bethlehem
I knelt at Christmastide,
"There is no pillow for thy Son,
No pillow, Lady, for thy Son,"
I said to her, and sighed.
But when I softly turned away
And tiptoed from His bed,
The Lady Mary smiled at me,
The Lady Mary smiled to see
(I'd tucked it in so carefully)
My heart beneath His head.

(Edith Hume, Robert, Cyril, Our Lady's Praise Poetry)

PPMC HELP at GIFT TIME

A priest we know tells his parishioners to always give a spiritual gift to anyone they know along with their material gift. This is particularly true at Christmas time but can also apply to birthdays and anniversaries.

Stop in at the PPMC and pick out a spiritual book, a holy card and medal, or a very beautiful statue or rosary. We have a large assortment of children's religious books.

Our staff is here to help you from about 10 AM to about 5 PM, Monday through Friday. Call (856) 768-9228 to make sure someone will be here to show you around. If you are looking for something in particular, ask for Livia. If it is not in the PPMC, then we can possibly order it for you. Thank you.

STRENGTH through PRAYER

The day had brought me heartache;
Turning skies to darkest gray.
With heavy heart I drew aside
And humbly knelt to pray.
I told God that my burden
Was more that I could bear –
Then I heard Him gently say,
"I'll strengthen you through prayer."
With anxious heart I still prayed on,
"Lord, take this cup from me."
Again I heard His voice so kind,
"My child, draw near to me."
There sweetly flowed an inner peace
That overcame despair;
In His kind and loving way
God strengthened me through prayer.

("Hope for Tomorrow" by Kay Hoffman)

TO MARY at CHRISTMAS

No stranger pilgrims wear the shepherd's way
Than those who seek the stabled Child alone;
In many inns where Mary's Son would lay
No stranger keepers Bethlehem had known
Than those who choose not none but One. Deny
The Virgin-Mother? - better both were barred
From hearth and threshold lest half-welcome cry
More insult than such doors that hold their guard

On any knock.....
 Where Jesus is there must
 His Mother be!
 O Prince of Peace and Queen,
 Whose love released our garden debt of dust,
 Whose wills were manger laid for Crosses foreseen,
 Such severing would flout all ordered plan
 And mock the heart which flamed with whiter fire
 Of human love, divinely fanned, than man
 Had known could ever burn and not expire.
 Before day-star elect, O heart most pure,
 Brought low and pierced, denials more unite
 What they would cleave, for scourge and Cross abjure
 The Lamb of God and her alike in plight.
 "I thirst;" and so athirst in kind was she,
 His earthly dearest, lone and last to cede,
 That Mary too became Love's legacy,
 As well the giver given with the deed
 So broadly writ in pain. Deny? ah, claim
 In awe-struck breath this wondrous grace
 Of kinship, children got in Adam's shame
 And born anew to hail our Mother's place
 In power above all angels, saints and seers!
 O Care, whose fulness is unceasing prayers
 For us, our days are momented with tears,
 Our years are tithed with waywardness and snares,
 Our exile versed in questioned ills and plaints,
 And prodigal in pride our courage faints...
 Yet over all our sweetest tribute rings-
 We fly to covert of our Mother's wings.

(John Gilland Brunini)
 (Thérèse. M., *I Sing to a Maiden*. New York:
 Macmillan Company, 1947)

THE CHRISTMAS SILENCE

Here in the cloister they who seek discover
 A wandered fragment of the Christmas silence
 That hid itself from the disquieted earth:
 The silence of the Virgin bending over
 The little Uncreated Innocence
 Upon the bed of a most hidden birth,
 The silence that was Joseph's sacrament
 Through years that were a threshold to this hour

And which was seed and stem to the white flower
 That blossomed on his rod,
 The speechlessness of the unlettered shepherds
 Who stood amazed before the Lamb of God.
 The angels sang at Christmas, but their music
 Was like a stillness to the inner ear,
 And soft as petals from a shaken bough.
 They who go walking in the Christmas silence
 Through any season of the changing year
 Come to a Man with peace upon his brow
 And see the Mother and the Infant near.
 This house, as once the Saint of Alcantara
 Said of Teresa's, is the little hospice
 Of Bethlehem.
 Cloister or cave- its solitudes shall be
 The dwelling of a human trinity
 And they who enter learn a wordless language
 And the Divine Untold addresses them.

(by Jessica Powers, Fremantle, Anne. "Christmas is
 Here: A Catholic Selection of Stories and Poems" New
 York: Stephen Daye Press, 1955)

CONSOLATION

Earth hath no sorrows
 That Heaven can't heal."
 As I softly repeat it,
 Great comfort I feel.
 And I long to reach out
 To those in the storm
 Of sorrow's dark night
 And point to the morn,
 When joy will abound
 Up there in the skies,
 As God gently wipes
 The tears from our eyes!
 Oh, then we'll see clearly
 The face we adore
 And greet our dear loved ones
 Who've gone on before.
 Gone every heartache
 That here we may feel;
 For "Earth hath no sorrows
 That Heaven can't heal!"

(By Alicce Hansche Mortenson)

MESSAGE of 10/25/2002 via Maria Pavlovic Lunetti

Dear Children! Also today I call you to prayer. Little children, believe that by simple prayer miracles can be worked. Through your prayer you open your heart to God and He works miracles in your life. By looking at the fruits, your heart fills with joy and gratitude to God for everything He does in your life and, through you, also to others. Pray and believe little children, God gives you graces and you do not see them. Pray and you will see them. May your day be filled with prayer and thanksgiving for everything that God gives you. Thank you for having responded to my call.

MESSAGE of 11/25/2002 via Maria Pavlovic Lunetti

Dear Children! I call you also today to conversion. Open your heart to God, little children, through Holy Confession and prepare your soul so that little Jesus can be born anew in your heart. Permit Him to transform you and lead you on the way of peace and joy. Little children, decide for prayer. Especially now, in this time of grace, may your heart yearn for prayer. I am close to you and intercede before God for all of you. Thank you for having responded to my call.

(The PFMC upholds the final decision of the Roman Catholic Church as to the authenticity of messages from Medjugorje.)

REFLECTION on the MESSAGE of 10/25/02

Once again, this message of Our Lady, as the majority of her messages, begins with a call to prayer. At this moment, she has nothing more important and more necessary to tell us. Mary, our mother, wants us to become filled with joy and gratitude as she is. It is prayer that should lead us to joy and gratitude. Our Lady knows no other path than the one that she is recommending us during all these years with such zeal. If she knew another or a different way, she certainly would not hide it from us. She is a mother that loves each one of her children and she cannot and will not mislead us. As for us, we will not be deceived by her if we listen to her and take refuge in her. This is why Saint Bernard used to pray: "Remember, o most blessed Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession was left unaided." Many have made the experience, even a tangible experience, of the power and the efficacy of prayer to God. The most powerful is the prayer of thanksgiving, which opens the heart of God, beginning by opening the door of our heart, through which God can and wants to approach us.

What the Virgin Mary recommends to us, what she puts into our hands and wants to put into our heart, is prayer, which may seem to us such a simple and weak means. By pure human logic and intelligence, it is difficult to believe that it can obtain something big. Our Lady's language here is very simple, it is not wise in the eyes of the world. Saint Paul said already: "For since in the wisdom of God the world through its

wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength." (1 Co 1:20-21, 25) And Jesus exclaims in the Holy Spirit: "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure." (Lk 10:21) Truly, only the little ones recognize God, they recognize the motherly presence here in Medjugorje. We know from the Gospel that Jesus himself could not help those who approached him full of themselves, with mountains of their haughtiness. God himself found no space to approach them and offer them his salvation. Through our prayer, we create ourselves space for God, and without this space, he is unable to enter into our lives.

Saint Theresa of Avila used to say: God waits for our decisions, in order to do everything in our lives himself. God is patient; he waits for us all our life. He waits for us with nothing else but his love, to give us himself and to enrich us with himself. He waits for every human heart, he waits for each family to receive him as a dear guest and friend, to open to him the door of their houses as Zaccheus did. Then a new life happened, a full life in his heart, which became grateful, able to forgive and to share. We can do little with our human powers. It is impossible to become holy with human strength, it is impossible to forgive, to love, to share one's time and one's heart with others. Very often the real problem in our life is not to be able or not to be able to forgive something to someone, but the real problem is our NO to

forgiveness and to the freedom that comes. The problem is also in the fact that maybe we have not allowed God to forgive us and we have not had the experience of his forgiveness.

Let us allow to Mary, our Mother, to lead us to her Son Jesus, so that we may become joyful and grateful to God, that we may become people who see and recognize God in their lives and in every person that God has put on our path.

(Father Ljubo Kurtović, OFM, Medjugorje, 10/26/02)

REFLECTION on the MESSAGE of 11/25/02

The Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of each man, addresses today also her maternal word to all those who want to listen and hear. She tells us: *“I call you also today to conversion”* as she has called us all the days for more than 21 years now. In Gospa’s words resound the words of John the Baptist: “Repent, because the Kingdom of heaven is near”. (Mt 3:2) Through Mary, a time of grace comes to us, a time when the Kingdom of Heaven wants to dwell in the heart of men. Through Mary, the Saviour of the world came to us, the Saviour of the world who wants also this year to be born in our heart. Conversion means change of path, of direction, of mentality, of sinful practices and habits. It is difficult, very difficult to change, but it is possible. It requires a permanent vigilance and perseverance, a permanent combat, it implies falls and raisings. Jesus speaks to us about the narrow and steep path, which leads to life. He wants to tell us that, on this path, we will be tired, that we will sweat, fall and bleed, but happy are those who persevere until the end. Life is a combat, and a proverb says: “Who does not want to fight, it is better for him not to live”. The Old Testament suffering Job tells us: “Isn’t the life of men on earth a combat?” (Cf: Job 7:1)

Mary, our mother, lived this same path of combat, renunciation and death to herself, so that God may live in her. Her glorification in Heaven shows that she was on the good path. At the moment of meeting God through the angel Gabriel, she did not say: “I understood what you say to me”, but “Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done to me according to your word”. (Lk 1:38) We cannot nor should not understand everything, but it is important that we trust the word of God, that we trust the maternal words that are addressed to us in this simple message, in which

we touch with the heart the maternal heart that beats for each one of us.

Conversion is the work of God, the work that He does in us if we allow Him. I cannot convert myself and even less can I convert others. What I can, it is to desire ardently, to seek, to yearn with all my faculties, all my forces and all the powers that God has given me and has put at my disposal. The problem is not in our distance from God, but in our negligence and our lack of desire to approach Him, to love him and thus to know him. God gives himself to those who seek him with their whole heart.

In this message, Gospa reminds us of the sacrament of Holy Confession through which we should open our hearts and prepare our souls so that Jesus can be born. Today still, Jesus wants and wishes to be born. Today still, he is thirsting for us and for our time, our prayer, and above all our heart to receive him. When Jesus enters into the life of a person, this life is not the same any more, but is transfigured and renewed. It is a life filled with peace and joy that this world cannot give.

The time of the Advent is in front of us, the expectation of the arrival and the birth of the Savior of the world and of men. Let us allow Jesus to enter into our houses and our families. May the door of our families and of our lives be open for Christmas and during Christmas days. Let us be at home, at home in our inner self, to meet him and carry him to others, like Mary.

Thank you, Mary, for being close to us. Thank you for not ceasing to intercede and pray with us and for us.

(Father Ljubo Kurtović, OFM, Medjugorje, 11/26/02)

PRESS BULLETIN 179, 10/26/2002

DEATH – A CLIMBING FROM THE NEST TO THE STARS

In these days, I believe that we have all visited the tombs of our dearest ones. We went intentionally to the places where rest our faithful departed. We encountered the memory covered by tombstones. Tombs are places where we also make the experience of the fragility of human existence. There, we can clearly feel our dependence on the Saviour. A cemetery is a place where even an unbeliever awakens to prayer. Cemeteries are places where the sinner beats his breast and asks forgiveness. The reality of the tomb is an appeal to each man to be converted and to believe in the Gospel. This visit propels the life that

is within us - the life given by Jesus Christ - to speak in spite of our mortality. Tombs whisper and tell us not to fail to spot heaven, eternity. The cemetery is a place of great messages, of dialogue between heaven and earth, between what is eternal and what is passing, between today and tomorrow. It is, finally, a discourse between those who gave their lives for our freedom and us, who enjoy the fruits of the benefits irrigated by blood.

To stand near a tomb, without hoping for eternity and a new life through Jesus Christ, would imply great suffering, hopelessness, failure and anguish. But to stand near the tombs, with a Christian belief in the life without end through the Resurrection of Christ, awakens consolation, brings light and inspires thoughts of a reunion in the house of our Heavenly Father, where each tear will disappear from our eyes.

Truly, the history of humanity until the coming of Jesus was a reign of death. Through Christ, this reality is transformed into the reign of life. By his death he conquered death itself, this is why he could say after his resurrection: "Why are you seeking the living among the dead?" Humanity, however, continues to be mortal, but it dies with Christ to live eternally with him. After the tombstone was taken away, Christian cemeteries are no more cities of the dead, places of death and pain, but fields in which God sows the wheat from which, when winds finish to blow and when winters pass, a new life will sprout. Mak Dizdar, a poet, beautifully states: "Death is not the end. There is in fact no death. And there is no end. Death is the light that shines on our path from the nest to the stars." If God himself has walked on this path, of what should we be afraid? If pain, because of her Son, has pierced Our Lady's heart, why should we not irrigate with our tears the paths of our dearest ones who – according to the teaching of our faith – have abandoned us only temporarily?

Father Mario Knezovic

NUMBER of COMMUNIONS and CONCELEBRANTS

During the month of September, 170,000 received Holy Communion and 3,364 priests from this country and abroad concelebrated Holy Mass in Medjugorje.

ARCHDIOCESAN VICAR from VENEZUELA on PILGRIMAGE

In thanksgiving for 25 years of priesthood, Monsignor Ricardo Guerra, juridical Vicar of the Archdiocese of Valencia in Venezuela came to Medjugorje at the end

of September 2002. A three-week long pilgrimage that he undertook with a group of 16 faithful includes Fatima, Santiago de Compostella, Lourdes, Medjugorje, Milan, Rome and Paris.

Monsignor Guerra has already been to Medjugorje. The experience that he had led him to found a Youth Prayer Group, which lives according to the spirituality of the messages of the Queen of Peace. When we asked him why he came again to Medjugorje and what attracts the faithful to Medjugorje, Monsignor Guerra answered: "I fell in love with Medjugorje! The motherly voice full of tenderness that resounds through Our Lady's messages leads the faithful to prayer and to Christ. Our Lady calls us "little children", and this word deeply touches the human heart. Bishops in Venezuela remain reserved towards the apparitions of Medjugorje, but the faithful feel that this call is authentic and they respond."

ON BICYCLE from MEDJUGORJE to LOURDES

On Monday, September 30th, 2002, Mate Vodanovic from Makarska (Croatia) started his journey on bicycle from Medjugorje to Lourdes. Mate wants to create a link between the Shrine of the Queen of Peace in Medjugorje and the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes. He will take 23 days, crossing daily about 100 km.

LITURGY of the PASSING AWAY of SAINT FRANCIS

On October 3rd, the vigil of the feast of Saint Francis, the Franciscan family all over the world celebrates the moment of their founder's passing away of from this world into eternity. In Medjugorje, this rite was celebrated immediately after the Evening Holy Mass. The Medjugorje Friars, the Franciscan sisters, the Franciscan Youth Fraternity (FRAMA), members of the Franciscan Third Order, as well as Monsignor John Ward, a Franciscan Capuchin, the retired Archbishop of Cardiff/Wales (Great Britain), took part this year in this celebration.

In this liturgy, the Franciscans and the faithful remember the last moments of the earthly life of Saint Francis, in love with God and the whole creation, who considered even death as his sister, and thanked it, because it leads him to his Creator. This year's liturgy of the Transitus was presided by Father Branko Rados, pastor.

RADIO “MIR” MEDJUGORJE RECEIVED LONG-TERM AUTHORIZATION for BROADCASTING

Radio “Mir” Medjugorje received long-term authorization for programme broadcasting in some more regions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and enlarged so the circle of listeners. The demanding work of obtaining this authorization was led by Father Miljenko Stojic, the former long-standing director of the Information Centre “Mir” Medjugorje, which includes the Radio “Mir” Medjugorje, and Nikica Dragoje, its technical director.

Radio “Mir” Medjugorje started to broadcast five years ago. Its contents are diverse, and improving every day in content and technically. Father Mario Knezovic, the present director of the Information Centre “Mir” Medjugorje and the Editor-in-Chief of the Radio “Mir” Medjugorje announced a new display of the program beginning with January 1st, 2003. Radio “Mir” Medjugorje is the first radio on Bosnia and Herzegovina that broadcasts the program live on Internet, on the address: www.medjugorje.hr.

MEMBERS of the INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC UNION of the PRESS (UCIP) VISITED MEDJUGORJE

Seventeen journalists from the USA, Canada, Bolivia, Peru, Argentina, Brazil, the Sudan, Tanzania, India, Pakistan, Lithuania, Albania and Germany, members of the International Catholic Union of the Press (UCIP) with its headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland), came to Medjugorje and Mostar on October 9 and 10, 2002.

In Mostar, the group of journalists visited the Franciscan Provincial House and the old part of the city.

In Medjugorje, they were received by Father Branko Rados, pastor, and Father Mario Knezovic, Director of the Information Centre “Mir” Medjugorje. Father Branko spoke to them about the pastoral activities of the parish and about the pilgrim movement, and Father Mario about the media activities of the Information Centre, underlining especially the importance of the Radio Station “Mir” Medjugorje for local population.

The journalists climbed Apparition Hill, where they spent some time in silent prayer, and they also participated in the Evening Prayer Program and in the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

This visit to Medjugorje is a part of a four-week program of the UCIP Summer University, where the journalists from all parts of the world have the occasion to know the history, people, cultures, religion, society and life of the countries they are visiting. This year, the members of the Summer University 2002 visited Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Yugoslavia. The visit to Mostar and Medjugorje, and then to Tomislavgrad, is the final point of this journey organized by the Association of Catholic Journalists of Croatia.

HOLY MASS in THANKSGIVING for the FRUITS of the EARTH

On Sunday, October 13, 2002, a Holy Mass in thanksgiving for the fruits of the earth was celebrated in the parish of Medjugorje. Children of the parish participated in this celebration by reciting poems, saying prayers and presenting offertory gifts, and have expressed their gratitude to the Lord – in the name of the whole parish - for all the fruits of the earth.

(Published by: Information Center MIR - Shrine of the
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<http://www.medjugorje.hr/ulazakenstipe.htm>)

PRESS BULLETIN 180, 11/26/2002

WILL THERE BE CHRISTMAS?

Some years ago, a child without arms was born in Lüttich. Eight days later, the newborn baby was given sleeping medication. The dosage was too strong and the child died. At that time, much was written about its' mother, its' family and the responsibility of the doctor. Little was said about the innocent victim.

I write about this event, because it can help us in the time that is in front of us: the time of Advent. In this time, we prepare ourselves for the gladdest tidings that came from the Orient – the Saviour of the word was born, Jesus Christ. We, Christians, celebrate this event every year for Christmas, but this celebration demands a deep preparation. We have to be ready for Christmas.

This is why God gives us, through the Church, a time of preparation and of tidying our inner self. We have to make good use of this time. Each time is a gift and an occasion for advancing at spiritual and human level. If we do not make use of the time of preparation, the time of celebration does not bring its' fruit and radiance in us. If we are not awake at every moment, according to the call of the Gospel, how can

we be witnesses of our time and of the events? So, let us live the time of Advent conscientiously and with an open spirit to the inspirations of God. Only then, we will approach Christmas with the hope that Jesus will be born in our heart.

In conclusion, I return to the image given at the beginning. The child was born and died. It is something that, unfortunately, happens in our spiritual life also. Jesus is born on Christmas, but does He remain alive within us? It seems that, in many of us, He sleeps or He dies. In many of us, Jesus wants to live, but the overdose of evil, addiction, blasphemes or licentiousness does not allow Him to grow and to live.

One thing is sure: this year also, Jesus will knock at the door of our heart. Will He live or die within us depends on us. Will this year there be Christmas for us personally? Only we ourselves can give the answer to this question!

Father Mario Knezovic

NUMBER of COMMUNIONS and CONCELEBRANTS

During the month of October, 115,000 received Holy Communion and 3,182 priests from this country and abroad concelebrated Holy Mass in Medjugorje.

IMPRESSIONS OF A BISHOP FROM THE FIJI ISLANDS

Monsignor George Pearce, retired Archbishop of the Fiji Islands, came at the end of September and beginning of October 2002 on a private visit to Medjugorje.

These are his impressions:

“I have no doubt about the authenticity of Medjugorje. I have been here three times already and I say to any priest who asks about it: just go and sit in the confessional, and you will see miracle, after miracle, after miracle... through Mary’s intercession and the power of God. We were told: “By their fruits you will know them”. Certainly, the heart and soul of the Medjugorje message is the Eucharist and the Sacrament of the Reconciliation.

I have no doubts whatsoever. This is the work of God. As I said: you cannot but believe when you spend a little time in the confessional. Signs and wonders are merciful gifts of God too - but this is the greatest of all miracles for a priest to see the people around the Altar of the Lord. I have been in several Shrines, I have spent quite a bit of time in Guadalupe, I have

been about eight times at Fatima, and also in Lourdes. It is the same Mary, the same message, but here at Medjugorje this is the “current” word of Our Lady for the world. There is so much anguish and suffering. Our Lady has been with us all the way through, and in a special way in Medjugorje.”

In answer to the question, “Do you know that, in the world, there are several thousands of prayer groups inspired by Our Lady’s messages from Medjugorje? There are more than a thousand groups in your country, the USA. How much is this a sign that the Church recognizes God’s words in the words of Our Lady?”

Monsignor Pearce answered:

“We have a little group in the Cathedral in Providence, where I am. They call it “Little Saint James”. They meet every evening; they have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and Holy Mass. I think that we have not got the message yet. There was a great turn to the Lord right after September 11, but I think, we need more than that before that country really turns to the Lord. So we just pray for that day. We hope we will turn to the Lord before we have to learn too many lessons, but this is also an act of the mercy of God. Everything is an act of the mercy of God. We know very well that God in His merciful love, in His permissive Providence, will take all the means possible so none of the least of His children will be totally lost. That’s all that really matters.

I would say: come in the spirit of an open mind, in prayer, and entrust your journey to Our Lady. Just come and the Lord will do the rest.”

IMPRESSIONS of a CANADIAN BISHOP

Monsignor Pearse Lacey, the retired bishop of Toronto (Canada), was on a private visit to Medjugorje from October 12 to 19, 2002, with a group of Canadian pilgrims.

These are his impressions:

“I came to Medjugorje in 1987. Things were much more primitive then than they are today, but the Spirit is still here and the presence of Our Lady is all around. You can’t move anywhere without sensing the marvelous grace of God affecting the lives of people. I have met people who are here because they are on drugs, on alcohol. I have met people with tragic situations in their lives and the miraculous way in which God is reflecting, manifesting Himself. One of the priests told me that he was hearing confessions, he eventually stopped and left, and they drew him back!

The magnitude of the Confessions is enough if you want to be satisfied that God is present here. For me, that's Medjugorje.

Our Lady's apparitions are no problem for me. Fundamentally, it is a question of belief. We can't inflict faith and devotion on people. Mostly you can show it by your own example. This is the freedom that God has given to all of us. He wants us to respond out of faith and love.

The basic message of Medjugorje is absolutely solid. We are living in 2002, but men and women are still made of a body and a soul. We all have traces of the original sin. Our needs are the same as in the times of the Apostles and in any generation. Basically, we are the children of God and our cries are as huge as of any generation. Therefore, the message has to be the same! We cannot do without God. This is the marvelous thing about Medjugorje. This is an oasis of God, this is the life of the Church as it should be. Tradition is not a dirty word, although it seems to be to some people! The life of a priest consists in bringing people back to God, people who have wandered away because they thought religion was irrelevant. Thank God that He is God and provides places like this. I have been to other places, but Medjugorje is the shining light today in our society."

FAITHFUL from the UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, DUBAI and ABU DHABI

A group of about ten pilgrims, Christians living and working in the United Arab Emirates, Dubai and Abu Dhabi, was on a pilgrimage in Medjugorje in October of 2002. This pilgrimage was organized by the Lebanese Catholic Television "Telelumiere" and accompanied by Father Boulos Fahd.

UN SOLDIERS

About 50 Polish UN soldiers in Bosnia and Herzegovina located in Doboj came on a pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Queen of Peace on Sunday, October 27, 2002. Led by their military chaplain, they prayed on the hills and celebrated Sunday Mass in the Adoration Chapel.

HUMANITARIAN HELP for AFRICA

The German humanitarian association "Gospa Mira" from Saint Peter's Catholic Parish in Sinzing, together with the humanitarian association "Medjugorje-Mir" from Split, organized the first humanitarian transport for Africa in September of 2002. About 20,000 kg. of goods for renovation of a

hospital were sent by boat through Mombasa (Kenya) to Goma (Congo), to the region devastated by a volcanic explosion. In the name of the Bishop, Father Innocents from Goma thanks all of Our Lady's friends!

SOLEMNITY of ALL SAINTS

Traditionally a great number of pilgrims come to Medjugorje on All Saints' Day and All Soul's Day. This year the most numerous pilgrims came from Austria, Germany, France and Italy. Here in this place of pilgrimage, these are days in which we - together with the pilgrims from the entire world - pray especially for the deceased, but particularly for the Croatian defenders, who gave their lives for our freedom. Many people in the world heard about our small country through pilgrims from Medjugorje and helped the suffering people of our homeland in the most difficult times. Parishioners of the parish of Medjugorje and all others who experienced their love, care and help always include them in their prayers and ask for God's blessing upon them. On All Saints Day and All Souls Day, Holy Masses were celebrated not only in the Parish Church, but also at the eight cemeteries of the Parish.

MALTESE ORDER CONCLUDES THIS YEAR'S SERVICE at the SHRINE

In the beginning of November 2001, members of the rescue and medical services of the Order of Malta from Köln (Germany) and volunteers concluded this year's service to the pilgrims of the Queen of Peace. We thank them for the help they have selflessly offered to the pilgrims of Medjugorje for several years now.

The Order of Malta invites volunteers who wish to join them in this service to contact them in time for next year.

ART GATHERING in MEDJUGORJE

About thirty artists, mostly academically educated painters, sculptors and graphic artists from Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia, gathered together on November 3rd, 2002, for an Art Gathering at the Saint Francis' Garden. Its' goal is to create and donate works of art towards construction of a Rehabilitation Centre - a Hipotherapy - within Saint Francis' Garden.

This first encounter lasted only a day, but there is a desire to organize Art Gatherings in summer time and to make it a tradition.

BLESSING of the NEW DISPENSARY

On November 12th, 2002, a newly constructed Dispensary "The Donum Dei" was blessed at the Shrine of the Queen of Peace. The dispensary was blessed by Father Branko Rados, who said that - for some time already - the need was felt for such a building within the Shrine.

Joseph Canizaro, an American businessman, founder of "The Donum Dei Foundation", and Danny Abramowicz, President of the Foundation, together with the Medjugorje visionary Ivan Dragicevic, who also helped in this project, all came to Medjugorje for the celebration of the blessing.

Father Branko Rados said that Dispensary should open in the spring, after the acquisition of necessary equipment.

3RD INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR for MARRIED COUPLES

The 3rd International Seminar for Married Couples will take place in Medjugorje from February 13 to 16, 2003.

The theme of the seminar is: "Put God in the First Place in Your Families".

It is recommended that you bring

1. a small FM radio with headphones and
2. a Bible.

The seminar will take place in the New Hall behind the Church. Participation fee per couple is 26 €. You may make reservations by e-mail: medjugorje-mir@medjugorje.hr, or at the Information Office, by phone/fax: +387-36-651-988 (for Marija Dugandzic).

Number of participants is limited because of the limited space in the Hall, so we ask you to send your registration as soon as possible, at the latest by the end of December of 2002. All the participants are to arrange for their accommodation in Medjugorje.

You can find the Program for the Seminar on our web page www.medjugorje.hr.

THE 10TH INTERNATIONAL MEETING for GUIDES and LEADERS of PEACE CENTERS and MEDJUGORJE PRAYER, PILGRIM and CHARITY GROUPS

The 10th International Meeting for Guides and Leaders of Peace Centers and Medjugorje Prayer, Pilgrim and Charity groups will take place in the New

Hall in Medjugorje from February 23 – 27, 2003. The theme is, "The Essentials of Medjugorje".

The number of places is limited, and the number of participants is increasing from year to year. This is why we ask you kindly to make your registration as soon as possible, at the latest by the end of December of 2002. You can make your registrations by tel/fax + 387 36 651 988 (for Marija Dugandzic) or by e-mail: medjugorje-mir@medjugorje.hr, or personally at the Information Office. Simultaneous translation is available for all language groups. The price of the seminar is 62 € per person. This includes all the costs of organization and of functioning of the seminar (lecturers, translations of texts, simultaneous translation and lunch the last day). When you register and pay on the first day, you will receive a nametag, which will allow you to participate in the seminar. We ask you to kindly arrange for your own accommodation in Medjugorje. We believe that will not be a problem for you, because you have been coming to Medjugorje for many years and have your friends and acquaintances here. We ask you to kindly bring a small FM radio with headphones.

We are looking forward to your reservations and to welcoming you at this meeting!

You can find the Program for this Seminar on our web page www.medjugorje.hr.

THE 8TH INTERNATIONAL MEETING for PRIESTS

The 8th International meeting for priests will take place in Medjugorje from June 30 to July 5, 2003: The theme of the meeting is "Servant of the Eucharist."

You may make reservations by e-mail: medjugorje-mir@medjugorje.hr, at the Information Office personally, or by phone/fax: +387-36-651-988 (for Marija Dugandzic).

We ask all priests who have arranged their own accommodation with a family in Medjugorje to note in their application the name and the phone number of the family where they will be staying. We will arrange accommodation for all the priests who have no direct contacts and have not arranged their own accommodation. (Please note in your application if you wish us to arrange accommodation for you.)

Instead of a monetary payment, we ask you to kindly celebrate five Mass intentions.

It is necessary to bring with you: your celebrant given by your superior, an alb and stole, a Bible, a small FM radio with headphones (for simultaneous translation).

Many priests who do not have access to Internet may not have been informed about the existence of this international meeting in Medjugorje. Therefore, we kindly ask all Organizers of pilgrimages, Prayer Groups and Centers for Peace to publish this information as widely as possible by all means at their disposal, so that as many priests as possible may participate. In as much as it is possible, we also kindly ask you to financially assist the priests who would like to come but do not have the necessary funds for such a journey. We thank you in advance and pray for God's blessing and the blessing of the Queen of Peace upon you and your work.

SEMINARS at "DOMUS PACIS"

In October and November, five "Prayer and Fasting" seminars for pilgrims from Germany, Austria France and Ukraine took place in the house of prayer "Domus Pacis". About 180 participants spent 6 days in deepening their faith in the Lord, while answering Our Lady's call to prayer, fasting and inner silence.

The Franciscan sisters led two seminars for 30 girls, and at the end of October, the Franciscan friars gathered 25 members of the Franciscan Youth Fraternity for a time of recollection.

For "Prayer and Fasting" seminars, contact Father Ljubo Kurtovic, Zupni ured Medjugorje, Gospin trg 1, 88266 Medjugorje, Bosnia and Herzegovina. (Fax: 00 387 36 651 444)

NEW YEAR'S EVE in MEDJUGORJE

On New Year's Eve, for many years now, the parish of Medjugorje has become a meeting place for young people from all over the world. This year, Eucharistic Adoration will begin at 10 PM on New Years eve, and the Vigil will end with the Holy Mass at midnight.

Also this year, a big screen will be put up in the New Hall, and a tent will be set up for all those who may not find room in the Church.

We invite young people again: Come and enter into the New Year in prayer, with Jesus and Mary!

(Published by: Information Center MIR - Shrine of the Queen of Peace, 88266 Medjugorje.
<http://www.medjugorje.hr/ulazakenstipe.htm>)

VOCATION DEPARTMENT: NAZARETH HOUSE

A place of discernment and formation for men aspiring to priesthood in the Roman Catholic Church, Nazareth House is located on the campus of Camden Catholic High School in Cherry Hill. The Diocese of Camden has begun a formation program to help young men investigate whether God is calling them to priestly formation.

The mission of Nazareth House is to assist young men between the ages of 18-35 in the discernment and development of the seeds of a priestly vocation. The staff will provide them with the foundation for seminary theologate formation, through a shared community life of prayer and worship; human, spiritual and intellectual development; and pastoral service. It now houses the Office of Vocations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION or APPLICATION MATERIALS, CONTACT:

Father Cadmus Mazarella,
mazarella@camdendiocese.org,
Director of Vocations, Diocese of Camden,
Nazareth House, 300 Cuthbert Boulevard,
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
(856) 910-4930 or FAX: (856) 662-8917
or visit: <http://www.beapriest.org>

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

O my God, pour forth upon thy priests the spirit of sacrifice in its fullness. It is their glory as much as their duty to be victims, to consume themselves for souls, to live without human joys to often undergo mistrust, injustice and persecution. May they reflect upon what they say each day at the altar: "This is My Body; this is My Blood. " May they reflect on it

HOLY MASS TIMES

If you ever think you will miss Holy Mass because you don't know the times of Holy Mass in the area that you are going to visit or are currently located, call 1-410-676-6000.

If you have access to the Internet and don't already have it book marked, type in the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) www.masstimes.org in the white box near the top of your browser. You can find maps to the churches in addition to the times of Holy Mass celebrations.

and apply it to themselves; "I am no longer myself, I am Jesus and Jesus crucified. I am, like the bread and wine a consecrated substance which has ceased to be itself."

O my God, I burn with the desire of the sanctification of Thy priests. I would that all those consecrated hands which touch Thee be friendly hands whose contact be sweet to Thee, and that the mouths which pronounce at the

May they keep in their entire person the habit of their noble functions. May one find them simple and great, like the Host, accessible to all and superior to other men.

O my God, make them carry away from the Mass of today the thirst for the mass of tomorrow, and may each of them, filled with gifts received, have the grace to communicate them generously to others. Amen.

(The Maryfaithful, Spring-Summer 2002)

INTERESTED in FORMING A VOCATION AWARENESS PROGRAM in YOUR PARISH?

If you are interested in participating in this very simple program please call the PPMC at (856) 768-9228 and ask for Liz. She will help you with materials and information. This program is very simple and very effective. We will be working in conjunction with Parish Vocation programs.

ARCHBISHOP CHAPUT on WHAT'S EATING AWAY at U.S.

Leadership and the Deeper Problem in American Life

Archbishop Charles Chaput of Denver gave this address at a gathering of the Denver Rotary Club October 10, 2002.

Let me start with two quick stories and some brief comments, and then I look forward to your questions and some time to talk.

Here's the first story: A friend of mine has a mentally disabled son. Part of her son's condition is that he has a lot of physical problems that go along with the mental disability. So she's always bringing him to the doctor, which means she spends a lot of her time

arguing with her HMO [health maintenance organization] about what is and what isn't covered by her medical insurance.

She earns about \$30,000 a year. She told me once that while it made her tired and angry to bicker with her insurance company about an unpaid \$20 or \$70 charge, what really set her off -- what really enraged her -- was reading about the \$1 million annual salary for the HMO's chief executive officer. The distance between her flesh-and-blood hardships on the ground, and HMO executives cruising at 40,000 feet, was so huge and so insulting that it became an even bigger injury than her unpaid bills.

Here's the second story: Over the past eight months, I've met and talked with hundreds of Catholics who are very rightly upset about the abuse scandal in the Church. A lot of our people are angry -- especially parents -- that a priest they trust might be capable of a terrible sexual crime against children. But what really incenses Catholics, what really enrages them, is the feeling that bishops who knew better did nothing to protect the faithful they were entrusted to lead. A lot of Catholics are far angrier at the American bishops than they are at the priests who actually committed the crimes.

Now I know a lot of successful business leaders, and most of them are good, decent men and women. I also know a lot of bishops, and none of them is indifferent or callous to the people he leads -- in fact, all of the ones I know are men I also admire for their dedication.

But in the wake of Enron, Arthur Andersen, World Com, Adelphia, Tyco and a national sex abuse scandal, I think it's fair to say that we've got two big problems. The first is a problem of leadership in all our public institutions, not just business and religion. The second is a much deeper problem in American culture at large, a crisis in personal moral character at the grass-roots level.

Let's talk about leadership first. What makes a good leader? Two things: character and competence. You need the professional skills necessary to the task; that's competence. And you need the moral conscience to use those skills properly; that's character.

A good leader creates a vision that other people can believe in and build together. And a good leader always acts honestly. Year after year, in almost every professional study, people rank honesty as the single most important quality in a leader. In 32 years, first as a priest and now as a bishop, I've seen again and again

that people will accept almost any hardship or bad news if they know you're being straight with them.

Even more importantly, a good leader will put the needs of his people before his own. Being a pastor is very much like being a parent. If a father really loves his children, they'll know it, and they'll forgive him almost anything. And if a father doesn't love his children, they'll know that too, and they'll forgive him nothing. People followed Jesus of Nazareth because he lived for them, he died for them and he created hope for them. That's what a real leader looks like. And I think we don't see enough of that anywhere today in American public life.

Talented people who work honestly and creatively deserve to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Making a lot of money is not a moral problem for Catholics. But how much is too much, in the face of other people's poverty? And what do we do with the money we earn, in the face of other people's needs? The flaw in American leadership in 2002 is that, too often, it's disconnected from the people it serves, focused on short-term gain, and blind to the links between public behavior and personal moral integrity. And it's a flaw that's been growing for decades. Nixon and Watergate and Clinton and Lewinsky are different symptoms of the same illness.

The philosopher Hugo Grotius once said that, "A man cannot govern a nation if he cannot govern a city; he cannot govern a city if he cannot govern a family; he cannot govern a family unless he can govern himself; and he cannot govern himself unless his passions are subject to reason." And I'd add that a man's reason can't truly serve himself or anyone else until he roots it in a moral conscience.

As a citizen, I think one of the worst moments in recent political history was when John F. Kennedy promised a Texas audience that he'd keep his Catholic faith out of his public service. I think all Americans -- not just Catholics -- have been paying for that mistake for 40 years. It's one of the turning points in our community life where this unhealthy fracture between public behavior and personal belief began to grow.

I want my elected officials to inform their actions with their religious and moral beliefs, even if I don't agree with them. I want them to do it prudently and in a spirit of reasonable compromise -- but on the hard issues, I want them to act on their principles, because then I can respect them. I can't respect and I can't trust an elected official, or any other leader, who claims that he or she personally believes one thing, but then publicly does another -- whether the issue involves abortion or the death penalty or prescription

medicines for the elderly or affordable housing for the poor.

One of the most interesting stories I've seen in the past decade was a little news item in the Denver Post back in December 1993. I was a bishop in South Dakota then, but I often read the Denver papers, and I've never forgotten this story. If you go to the parade ground at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, you'll see carved into a wall, in large letters, the academy honor code: We will not lie, cheat or steal, nor tolerate among us anyone who does. The Post reported in 1993 that because of the inadequate ethical formation of incoming cadets, the academy had established a sort of Morality 101 program to bring the cadets up to speed. These incoming cadets were the cream of American high schools, the cream of a generation that will run the country in 20 years -- and many of them needed a remedial class in basic ethics.

Now that's a potential problem for every aspect of our national leadership, but it also points to the deeper problem in American life that I mentioned at the beginning. Americans now live in a country where marketing and entertainment run our popular culture. Every hour of every day we're sold the ideas that no matter how much we have, we need more right now; that freedom is the absence of commitments; that nothing lasts -- especially relationships with other people; that "choice" is good even if the choices don't mean anything; and that authority is hypocritical.

I'm overstating things, but not by much. Just spend a couple of nights watching MTV or even the "adult" shows on network television. Or watch the car commercials for Mitsubishi or Nissan -- they're really a kind of product worship.

When Adam Smith praised the rise of commerce two

**PLEASE RESPOND to THIS NOTICE
and STAY ON the BULK 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. Bulk Mail is not required to be returned if the delivery address is incorrect. In Christian charity we do not want delivery to incorrect addresses and waste God's precious resources. There is no "subscription" fee. We do ask for free will donations to support **"The PILGRIM"** and the operations of the **PPMC**.

If you know someone who would enjoy the **"The PILGRIM,"** please ask them to contact us at the address printed in the box on page 5 or near the mailing label on the last page.

centuries ago, he did it in the context of a moral order that limited and guided the market. That moral order is much, much weaker today, and that's why Christopher Lasch and others have talked so critically about the market invading every aspect of our lives. We're very close to becoming what Lasch called a "culture of narcissism." We're living in an environment where the traditional American ideal of community -- a group of people united in mutual concern around shared principles and hopes -- is being replaced by a collection of individual appetites that are kept more or less constantly dissatisfied. Our marketing is too effective for our own good. It's teaching our young people to be permanently ungrateful and permanently self-centered. We have a lot of material things, but Americans are not a happy people.

John Adams once wrote, "Statesmen may plan and speculate for liberty, but it is religion and morality alone which can establish the principles upon which freedom can securely stand. The only foundation of a free constitution is pure virtue."

I want to quote Adams as I conclude my remarks because it's not enough to know we have a problem. The point is, what can we do about it? Well, if you do nothing else after our discussion today, go read David McCullough's terrific biography of John Adams. Adams was a founder of our country, and therefore we owe him for much of the freedom we enjoy today. But he also found a way to perfectly combine public service, moral character and religious faith. Adams always argued against slavery, and he did so because he felt that it violated human dignity, ignored the Gospel and was unworthy of a religious people. But I think the most revealing fact about Adams was his relationship with his wife Abigail. Adams loved his wife and his children with a tenderness and fidelity that spanned a lifetime. Saint Augustine once said, "to be faithful in little things is a big thing." Adams never allowed the big demands of his public life to eclipse the seemingly "little" things that were really the important things -- a devotion to his wife, his children, his friends and his God.

Devotion to family sounds like a simple thing, and it is. Gratitude, humility, faithfulness -- these all are simple things. They're also very difficult. It's easy to talk about fixing the problems of American society with big national programs and policies, because we can always blame somebody else when they don't work.

Personal change, personal moral integrity, personal fidelity to people and principles -- that's much harder

work, because we're stuck with the clay of who we are, and there's nobody to blame but ourselves if we fail. But in persisting in these little things, we accomplish a big thing. We affect others. A reporter once asked Mother Teresa the secret of her success. She answered that she wasn't called to succeed, but only to try. Success was God's business. Trying was her business. She wasn't called to find big solutions to poverty, but to live the little solution of personal love that would become a good infection in the hearts of other people.

We each have that same vocation, especially all of you here today, because each of you in his or her own way is a leader. Our lives matter. We're here for a reason. One life, lived well, can begin to change the world.

So lead well, with honesty and vision and moral character and unselfishness. Lead well, not only with what you say, but with what you do -- and in your example, that's where the renewal of American public life will begin.

("Renewing Our Public Life" Archbishop Charles Chaput Denver Rotary Club gathering at the Denver Athletic Club, October 10, 2002, DENVER, Colorado)

CONSECRATION PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF THE EUCHARIST AFTER COMMUNION

Mary is called Our Lady of the Eucharist, because without her, there would be no physical Body of Jesus to be present in the Eucharist. (see John 6:51). This prayer was taught to us by Father John Hampsch during our retreat weekend on Spiritual Warfare. He asked that all our readers share this prayer.

"Most kind Mother, we consecrate to you our bodies, which have just been honored and sanctified by the presence of your Divine Son, our souls which have conversed with him, and our hearts which have loved him.

O dearest Mother, may the words which we have spoken be made acceptable to Him through your intercession. Tell Him the things which we should have said but were unable to express. Love Him and beseech Him for us, your poor children.

Receive and keep us in your Heart. Warn us, protect us and guide us during this day, that we

may faithfully serve your divine Son, and please Him in all our thoughts, desires and actions. “

(Father John Hampsch, CMF, Claretian Tape Ministry, P.O. Box 19100, Los Angeles, Ca. 90019)

MARY and the MAGI

The wise astronomers of old
Were men devout, though free;
And heaven's siderial path of gold
Led them, dear Lord, to Thee!
The pole-star of mysterious ray
That drew their yearning souls,
Thanks be to God--as bright today
In faith's blue archway rolls!
When first the little Babe divine,
The Gentile kings adored,
Their homage--burning love benign,--
At Mary's feet was poured.
Thence did it rise to Him she pressed,
In awe and love supreme--
Unto her meek, her sinless breast,
Beneath that Star's pure beam.
Their gold, their frankincense and myrrh,
Were laid at Mary's feet,
As wonderingly they gazed on her
Whose Son they came to greet.
Divine the lesson taught to men
By ancient sages grand;
Homage to God is dearest, when
Received at Mary's hand.

**(Selected Robert, Cyril. Our Lady's Praise in Poetry.
New York: Marist Press, 1944)**

CRADLE SONG of MARY'S BELOVED

Sleep, O my little one, quietly sleep,
Angels shall guard thee slumbering deep.
White wings about thee
Enfolding that flame,
Holy, Immortal
Ineffable Name.
Sleep, O my little one, quietly sleep,

Heaven's high hosts around thee shall creep.
All love and glory,
Beauty and grace --
With kiss of a mother--
rest on thy face.
Sleep, my beloved, my little one sleep;
No crying be heard: O stir not nor weep.
A bright Star is shining
Above thy dear head,
And to this poor shelter
The great Kings are led.
Sleep then, my Kingly one, gently and still.
See how thine angels watch on each hill.
Here is thy mother
Close, dearest heart:
I shall be with thee
When shepherds depart.
Sleep, O my little Lord, darling one, sleep.

**(Patrick K. O'Horan, Robert, Cyril. Our Lady's Praise
in Poetry. New York: Marist Press, 1944)**

PILGRIMS of FAITH MARIAN CENTER (PFMC)

We are not a church, store or travel agency but have aspects of all three. We operate as a ministry whose volunteers are mostly lay persons professing a belief in Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, through the universal faith and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. We profess allegiance to the Magisterium of that Church led by Pope John Paul II. In a similar fashion as those who approach members of famous families such as the Carters and the Kennedys as well as the British Royal Family through the matriarchs or mothers, we believe that approaching Jesus through his Blessed Virgin Jewish Mother, Mary, may be of benefit in the answering of our prayers.

We operate on donations for all our activities. These activities include retreats and days of recollection at the PFMC where Holy Mass and Adoration take place for the public with Bishop DiMarzio's permission. The PFMC was established based on pilgrimages to Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and other holy places or shrine worthy of pilgrimage. Books, pamphlets and religious articles brought back from pilgrimages were placed on display for others to view and take based on donations. We are NOT a store.

For books, pamphlets and religious articles, we operate like a church pamphlet or bookrack where you make selections and offer a donation based on value posted or received. We have items from our inventory on display at Epiphany House and have produced order forms in the past. See the order forms enclosed in previous issues or loaded on the Internet Web Site, <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>, for a partial listing of items that can be obtained from the PFMC through donations. If you wish to order, please fill out your order request, make out a check or complete the information for use of a credit card and mail to PFMC, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043-4893. If you do not have an order form, call us at (856) 768-9228 with a FAX number or mailing address and we will send you an order form. If you know what you want and we carry it, you can order over the telephone using your credit card.

We accept DISCOVER/PRIVATE ISSUE (NOVUS), MASTER CARD (CIRRUS) and VISA (PLUS) for all donations to the PFMC. This includes for books and religious articles, pilgrimages, retreats, conferences, seminars, "The PILGRIM," or the building debt retirement fund.

Please come and see the PFMC. We know you will enjoy what you see and find a way of helping out.

Thank you and God bless you,

(Kathleen and the Volunteer Staff)

BULLETIN NOTICES for PFMC AREA EVENTS

Would you be so kind as to copy or cut out one or more of following BULLETIN NOTICES and take them to your Pastor and / or Parish Bulletin Coordinator?

One per week should not be an overload to you.

Ask your Pastor and / or Parish Bulletin Coordinator to publish these notices to support the events for which you have an interest.

It does wonders when a parishioner asks for a bulletin notice as compared to the thousands of requests that come in from outside the parish.

Thanks for your assistance, we really need and appreciate it.

Father Joseph Byerley of Saint Pius X Roman Catholic Church, 344 Kresson Road, Cherry Hill, NJ, 08034-3396, (856) 429-1330, FAX: (856) 429-8679, is the PFMC Liaison with Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio.

THURSDAY 2:15 PM to 2:45 PM "Put on the Armor of God" RADIO PROGRAM on WTMR, AM-800

Kathleen and Keith Werner host a weekly program with In His Sign (HIS) Radio Network <http://www.inhissign.com>. This half-hour is sponsored by donations to the Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC), A Religious Association, Inc.

There is prayer, scripture reading, discussion of Ephesians 6: 11-17, and, following announcements, call-in time, discussion with callers, healing prayer and summary. The call-in number is (856) 962-8178.

9 and 30 JANUARY – LEARN HOW TO PRAY THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) will host two training sessions of the Liturgy of the Hours. These sessions will be held in the Upper Room of Epiphany House, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ on Thursdays, 9 and 30 January 2003.

These sessions will be facilitated by Father Glenn Hartman and concentrate on the single volume Liturgy of the Hours book with its annual guide.

Books are available through the PFMC and must be in hand for the sessions.

The Shorter Version of the Liturgy of the Hours and the four-volume set of books for the Liturgy of the Hours will be briefly discussed.

For more information call (856) 768-9228 or visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>.

25-27 JANUARY 2003, FATHER BILL McCARTHY – TRIDUUM SEMINAR

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) will host a Triduum seminar study of "The Tabernacle (Old Testament to New Testament), The Lamb's Supper, The 7 Covenants of the Old Testament and One of the New Testament, The Eucharist, and The Sacramental System" taught by Father Bill McCarthy, M.Ss.A., co-founder of My Father's House in Moodus, CT.

These sessions will be held from 9 AM to 5 PM in the Upper Room of Epiphany House, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ on Saturday, 25 January 2003 through Monday, 27 January 2003.

For more information call (856) 768-9228 or visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>.

**12 FEBRUARY 2003 RETREAT for
WOMEN with FATHER ROBERT
DeGRANDIS, SSJ**

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) will host a special retreat for women with Father Robert DeGrandis. This retreat will be held in the Upper Room of Epiphany House, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ on Saturday, 12 February 2003.

It will concentrate on forgiveness, prayer, and healing for those women who have been abused, physically, emotionally, and/or sexually.

For an information sheet with reservation form visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith> or call (856) 768-9228.

2003 RETREAT CONFERENCE

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) 2003 RETREAT CONFERENCE (2003 RC) will be at the Hilton Hotel, Cherry Hill, NJ. The dates are Friday through Sunday, March 14th, 15th, and 16th, 2003.

The 2003 RC theme is "He must increase; I must decrease." (John 3:30) [NAB].

Father Bill Halbing, Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR, and Father Robert DeGrandis, S.S.J. will be featured speakers. They will speak on "Healing in our Faith."

Father Michael Semana, founder of the "World of Hope Foundation," will return for a concert Saturday evening as well as his very generous work with the youth and young adults in the Youth Track (YT).

Joseph Terelya will speak on Saturday night before the concert via his interpreter.

The Metuchen Diocese Charismatic Music Group "REFUGE" will be back to provide the weekend music. Al Barbarino has agreed to EMCEE for the Weekend and to provide background music for the 3DX. Other musicians including Marty Rotella, "HEARTS AFIRE," "CEDARS in CHRIST," "S'ELAH," and "VOYAGE," have been invited.

Father Robert DeGrandis and his sister Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol will share the seminars and workshops of the 3-Day Extension (3DX) on "Healing of Memories - Inner Healing."

The 3DX will be on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, March 17th, 18th, and 19th, 2003.

Rooms may be booked at the \$92 rate with 1-4 persons in a room for both the 2003 RC and 3DX as well as up to 7 days before or after the events. Rooms have either one King bed or two Double beds. Roll-

away beds are available. This rate and availability of additional rooms expires on 2/19/2003. **For Hotel reservations please call NOW: 1-800-HILTONS or locally (856) 665-6666. Please make your reservations with the PFMC and HILTON as soon as possible. Consider this as a Christmas gift.**

For an information sheet with reservation forms visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith> or call (856) 768-9228.

**16-18 MAY 2003, RETREAT WEEKEND
for MARRIED COUPLES**

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) will host a married couples retreat chaired by Father Bill McCarthy, M.Ss.A., co-founder of My Father's House in Moodus, CT. It is planned for the evening of Friday, 16 May 2003, and 9 AM to 5 PM on Saturday, 17 May 2003 and Sunday, 18 May 2003. Donation requested is \$80 per couple.

If there is sufficient early registration interest, this married couples retreat weekend may be moved to a local hotel with overnight accommodations available. Cost of rooms will be kept reasonable. Sign up early to assist us in making this latter decision.

For more information call (856) 768-9228 or visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>.

(Kathleen as well as all the PFMC Volunteer Staff)

**PLEASE SPONSOR a PFMC RADIO
PROGRAM**

Every Thursday on WTMR 800 AM from 2:15 PM to 2:30 PM, Keith and Kathleen present a radio program called "**Put on the Armor of God.**"

It consists of looking at Ephesians 6:10-17, and using the Catechism, and Church teachings to evangelize and help you with your prayer life. We need sponsors for this program.

In our arrangement with Dom Lettieri and In His Sign Ministries, this one-half hour program costs the PFMC \$75. If you are interested in donating to help us we will mention your name on the radio as our sponsor for that week. You may donate in memory of a loved one, and we will mention their name.

Prayer groups can come together and donate for their prayer intentions and we will mention the prayer group and as many of their intentions as time permits.

We thank you for listening, and for your support.

CALENDARS:

In *December*, the Church celebrates the Solemnities of **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (7)** and **CHRISTMAS (25)**, the Feasts of *Our Lady of Guadalupe (12)*, *Saints Stephen (26)*, and *John, Apostle and Evangelist (27)*, *Holy Innocents (28)* and *Holy Family (29)* and Memorials of *Saints Francis Xavier (3)*, *John of Damascus (4)*, *Nicholas (6)*, *Ambrose (7)*, *Juan Diego (9)*, *Damasus I (11)*, *Saint Jane Frances de Chantal (12)*, *Lucy (13)*, *John of the Cross (14)*, *Peter Canisius (21)*, *John of Kanty (23)*, and *Sylvester I (31)*.

In *January*, the Church celebrates the Solemnities of *Mary, Mother of God (1)*, *Epiphany of the Lord (5/6)*, the Feasts of *Baptism of the Lord (12)* and *The Conversion of Paul (25)*, and Memorials of *Saints Basil the Great (2)*, *Gregory Nazianzen (2)*, *Genevieve (3)*, *Elizabeth Ann Seton (4)*, *Raymond of Penyafort (7)*, *Hilary (13)*, *Anthony, Abbot (17)*, *Fabian (20)*, *Sebastian (20)*, *Agnes (21)*, *Vincent (22)*, *Francis de Sales (24)*, *Angela Merici (27)*, *Thomas Aquinas (28)* and *John Bosco (31)* as well as *Blessed Andre Bessette (6)*. Most Church calendars recognize *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr (15) (observed) (20)*.

AROUND the PFMC AREA

Please take note of the new centerfold location for the message alleged to be from Mary, GOSPA and its reflection. Please review the announcements on pages 1 through 6 and the Bulletin Notices on pages 26 through 27. We need everyone to help spread this information with prayer groups and Parish committees as well as to publish it in your Parish Bulletin. For additional information, call the PFMC at (856) 768-9228 or 1-800-788-MARY [6279]. Please speak

The PILGRIM

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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

61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043-4963

(856) 768-9228 FAX: (856) 768-9428

**PRIORITY DATED
RELIGIOUS MATERIAL**

**Mailed early AM,
Wednesday, 12/11/2002**

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PLEASE DON'T THROW THIS AWAY!!

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

If there is no time to read it all 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!"



clearly and slowly, leave your name, address and phone number with area code so that we may return your call. You may FAX your questions to (856) 768-9428. If you have Internet access, you may utilize the Internet web site or e-mail addresses posted below to obtain information about PFMC events.

PFMC PRESENTATIONS

Kathleen and Keith desire to participate in Altar Rosary Society, Legion of Mary, or other parish prayer group meetings with witness, and/or videotape or slide presentations, followed by a question and answer session. The experiences and continuation of the PFMC ministries for Our Lady in this time of manifestation of Our Lord's mercy and graces are shared at no cost. Free will offerings are accepted. This is especially true for books, tapes, and religious articles, when they are made available in displays at the presentation sites just like they are at the PFMC which operates like a church book rack. Recipients are asked to donate at or above the suggested value on each article. Call the PFMC at (856) 768-9228.



INTERNET

Surf for the PFMC presence on the Internet at:

<http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>

Send us interesting web sites and e-mails:

PFMCkmw@comcast.net

keithwerner@comcast.net