



The PILGRIM

Vol. 13, No. 6

Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC)

June 2002

The Monthly MESSAGE alleged to be from the GOSPA, Our Lady Queen of Peace, to an alleged visionary from Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina appears with REFLECTION starting on page 12.
(The PFMC upholds the final decision of the Catholic Church as to the authenticity of messages to alleged visionaries from Medjugorje.)

A PRAYER



O Most Holy Trinity, the more I seek you the more I find you, and the more I find You, the more I want to know you. My soul is insatiably hungry for You, O God.

I desire your light through truth. I desire that living water of Yourself. Consume every trace of anything that would dim my soul of Your Fire. You alone drive away all my coldness.

O God, You alone restore all peace. You alone disclose all hidden things to me. You alone give me the gift of a vibrant living faith. You alone are all joy, all good, all beauty, and wisdom. You are the garment, which covers my nakedness. You feed me with all Your sweetness, when I am spiritually hungry. Come to me O Holy Trinity.

AMEN.

(Kathleen prays from the heart for each issue.)

ANNUAL PFMC MEETING and PICNIC at 61 COOPER ROAD

The PFMC required corporate annual meeting combined with a pot luck picnic at the PFMC will be on Sunday, August 4, 2002 from NOON until ?.

We will have the grill, picnic tables, and chairs ready, a lovely patio for our 3 o'clock Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, and talk by a priest. Bring your own meat to cook, and a casserole to share (vegetable, pasta, etc. with or without meat) or your favorite desert. For those who don't cook, bring a bucket of chicken as that always is a welcomed treat.

We will have all the condiments and paper products to use, as well as the sodas. Be sure to bring the children. There will be bubbles to blow, balls to kick, and fun yard things to do. We will have hot dogs for

the children. Bring lawn chairs. See you then!

IN MEMORIAM: DEACON EBY

As we prepared this issue for printing, we took note of an obituary in the May 23, 2002 issue of "The MONITOR" for a beloved Cursillista, friend, pilgrim and assistant at the PFMC events, Deacon Richard J. Eby, Sr. Our prayers go out to Ann and the family.

SUMMER BREAK – NO JULY ISSUE of "The PILGRIM"

This summer we will take a break at the end of June beginning of July and produce a July-August issue of "The PILGRIM" at the end of July with assembly and mailing in the first full week of August.

PFMC SUMMER SCHEDULE TO VIEW BOOKS and RELIGIOUS ARTICLES – VOLUNTEER HOURS

During the summer months of June, July, and August the PFMC offices in Epiphany House are scheduled to be open Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 4 PM. This presumes volunteers are available. The plan is to allow current volunteers to have more time off with their children and families.

The PFMC will be closed on Fridays during the summer and will close earlier in the afternoons. Unless we have a scheduled event, the PFMC will NOT be open on Saturdays or Sundays. Volunteers will be present on nights that events are scheduled in Epiphany House. Come and meet the volunteers. Tour the addition to Epiphany House.

"The PILGRIM" for June 2002 is dedicated to "Mary, Protectress of the Eucharist." See page 3 for the Table of Contents / "IN THIS ISSUE . . ." section.

The PFMC will be completely closed for staff vacations between June 21, 2002 and July 5th. We will reopen on the 5th of July. We hope that all the volunteers will have a wonderful time with all their vacations, pilgrimages, and family togetherness. May God refresh you during this time, and renew in you a spirit of evangelization for the remaining months of 2002 and into 2003.

You may look over the thousands of book we have available for you by sitting in our library and looking at each book for materials you might need.

We have books, religious articles, medals, rosaries, chaplets, crosses, blessed oil, pictures and statues available in our little display room. Most of the rosaries have been blessed by Pope John Paul II.

Be sure to get a book for your summer time home reading and get one for a friend or relative. We also have children's books and coloring books. Parents of school age children, especially those doing home schooling, should schedule a field trip to the PFMC. Enjoy the library in the Upper Room. Do religious book projects. Even view a video on the large screen television. The library has been reorganized by one of the PFMC volunteers, Liz, and is a wonderful resource for Marian and healing literature.

Do you need a gift for a birthday, Christening, Wedding, or Anniversary? We hope we can help you in finding or ordering just what you need. Please consider coming and browsing. If there is something you want and we don't have it, we can order it for you.

Any donation exceeding the value received is tax deductible and helps the PFMC with expenses.

DAUGHTERS of RUTH SUPPORT GROUP - A WEEKLY DAY TIME PROGRAM for WOMEN

As a support group for Christian women who are healing themselves through defining themselves within a prayerful and therapeutic atmosphere, the Daughters of Ruth reaches out to all women willing to work on healing themselves. Within the Daughters of Ruth Support Group, women will learn new coping skills and develop more confidence in their skills as

they enter into new life roles and relationships.

Many women experience symptoms of depression, anxiety, anger, panic attacks, frustration, mood swings related to daily life stressors, or work and home environments.

Women have concerns about marital relationships, unforgiveness, parenting and family difficulties, as well as unresolved conflicts related to family origins. We will look at root causes that have disrupted daily living. We will deal with life issues of job changes, self-esteem, and parental aging and care. We will also explore issues of victimhood through verbal, physical and sexual abuse, dependency, co-dependency, and so much more.

Come and meet with Irene Atwell, M.Ed., LPC, a private practicing, licensed therapist, specializing in individual, family and group therapy. She has worked in the clinical field for over three decades including over seven years with Catholic Charities. Her skill and expertise are significant in working with those who need support, healing, and behavior changes.

There is no charge for this women's support group. Irene will accept free will offerings only. What an opportunity to receive healing supportive help and prayer. How can one turn down this opportunity?

The PFMC will offer a safe, confidential, and prayerful atmosphere from which you will be exposed to implementing new healthy techniques of living.

WHERE: Upper Room of Epiphany House at the Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC), 61 Cooper Road (CR-575), Voorhees, New Jersey 08043-4963

DATE: Every Tuesday Morning

TIME: 10 AM sharp to 11:30 AM (includes ½ hour of healing prayer)

CHARGE: None. Free will offering only.

Irene will be available to explore the need for individual therapy if needed. We will have a monthly Holy Mass (if priest available) and Confessions.

Bring yourself, your friends and family members. All are welcome. Pre registration helpful but not required.

Call Irene Atwell at (856) 665 0959 OR Kathleen Werner at (856) 768-9228.

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.

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.

DEAN PULCINI WILL TEACH on INTRODUCTION to LITURGY in SEPTEMBER.

Join us on Wednesday nights from 7 PM to 9:30 PM with Dean Pulcini starting again in late September or early October of 2002. Dean will be teaching on "Introduction to Liturgy." Mark your calendars.

The exact date of beginning these classes will be in the July-August 2002 issue of "The PILGRIM."

(Kathleen, Keith, the students, and volunteers)

FATHER ROBERT DEGRANDIS - HEALING GIFTS of the HOLY SPIRIT RETREAT for PRIESTS, DEACONS, and SEMINARIANS SEPTEMBER 10, 11, and 12, 2002

The PFMC will sponsor a weekday retreat for priests, deacons and seminarians with Father Robert DeGrandis, S.S.J. as the retreat master. It will be on the Healing Gifts of the Holy Spirit. The PFMC has sponsored this retreat in the past and all that have attended have been truly overwhelmed with their experience. Father Robert has given this retreat to thousands including several retreats held in Rome, Italy. Father will go over the Healing Charisms of the Holy Spirit as you have never heard them taught. You will be renewed in joy to use them in your personal life and in the fullness of your ordained ministry.

Please pencil September 10, 11, and 12th 2002 into your parish schedule and talk to your priests.

The location of this retreat will be the Holiday Inn on NJ 70 at Sayer Avenue, across from the main entrance to Garden State Park in Cherry Hill, NJ. Each priest, deacon or seminarian will have a king bed private room. The hotel has a nice gym and indoor heated swimming pool for some exercise.

For prayer time, we will have a small chapel and we have Bishop DiMarzio's permission for offering daily Holy Mass, confessions and adoration at the hotel.

Your retreat will be held in a portion of a ballroom, and meals will be available for you to purchase at the local hotel restaurant or restaurants nearby. The PFMC will have coffee and light snacks available throughout the day and evening. There will also be tapes, CD's and books for you to browse through.

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The cost of this retreat is \$199 and includes two nights of bed and breakfast in the hotel, and registration for the retreat. Please refer to the insert in this issue of "The PILGRIM" for more details.

For non-ordained persons, we ask that you give your retreat flier to a deacon or priest of your acquaintance.

Would you be willing to sponsor your priest or a few priests who want to come but do not have the funds?

Talk to your friends and prayer group members. Send a priest to this wonderful retreat! Please contact Kathleen at (856) 768-9228 if you can help.

OCTOBER 18th, 19th, and 20th, 2002 - FATHER JOHN HAMPSCH, CMF, SPIRITUAL WARFARE SEMINAR

Spiritual Warfare – it is what each of us encounter in our Christian lives every day. It is our struggle with truth vs. untruth, with good and evil, with Holy Spirits and unholy spirits. Do you ever want to understand what is happening to you or your family member? Do you ever feel helpless, depressed or dejected and cry out for help? Do you ever question why things happen in your life more than in others? Do you want to know how to pray against the evil one, and turn yourself around? Do you want to learn how to pray with others or over others? Do you want to know how to reach your family members and especially your children?

Come to this weekend with Father. John Hampsch to be held at the Hilton Hotel, beginning at 7 PM on Friday night and ending at 5 PM on Sunday night. With Bishop DiMarzio's permission, we will have daily Holy Mass, Confessions, and Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Daily and Holy Mass music will be provided by "S'Elah," and an evening of music will be provided by "Hearts Aflame".

Saturday and Sunday lunch meals are included in the registration price. This is not an optional feature. It is necessary to provide the luncheons to meet public space requirements for the hotel. These meals will be full hot dinner type meals, served buffet style and all you can eat. We will also have a gift and book display available for you to browse. Father Hampsch will also have his books and tapes available for you to purchase.

Please call the Hilton Hotel at 1-800-HILTONS or 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. Entire floors are either non-smoking or smoking.

Register for seminar and lunches by filling in the enclosed application and mailing it with a check or credit card number to PFMC at 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043-4963. You will be sent a confirmation letter and schedule upon receipt of your application.

NOVEMBER 1 to 14, 2002 PILGRIMAGE to ITALY

Keith and Kathleen will guide this group of pilgrims to the shrines and points of interest in Italy listed below. We encourage you to enjoy traveling with them by submitting your reservation NOW using the form at the bottom of the enclosed YELLOW information sheet. In their many years of visiting the shrines of Italy, they have been to most of these shrines and points of interest before. They have found that the history of the area coupled with the love of the people and the great spirituality of the places we visit will bring you to new heights of spiritual growth and internal joy.

There are 30 seats booked and 26 are available at press time. Please book early. We must have names for seat reservations at least 60 days before departure date. This means September 1, 2002. Please pray about joining this wonderful pilgrimage as you enjoy your summer. Please look over the program and sign up as soon as possible. Only the deposit of \$500 is required now.

We will fly from Newark directly into Italy. You will never get so much for your money, nor the quality.

Cost: \$2599 plus \$85 taxes.

For Single Supplement throughout: \$399

Dates: *Friday, November 1, 2002 through Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Pilgrimage includes the following:

Continental breakfast daily at each hotel.

7 dinners at hotels (beverages not included) – two in San Giovanni and three in Assisi and two in Abano Terme.

5 dinners at local restaurants – two in Florence and 3 in Rome.

Escorted visit to the Sanctuary of Padre Pio and the Grotto of Saint Michael. En-route stop in Lanciano and Loreto. ½ day guided tour of Assisi.

Full day escorted excursion to Cascia, Todi and Isola Maggiore on Lake Trasimeno, including round trip public ferry to Isola Maggiore.

Visit Ravenna, including entrance fee to the Mosaics
Full day excursion to Venice, including walking tour
of Venice with entrance fee to the Doge's Palace.

Visit Padova and Bologna.

½ day guided walking tour of Florence including
entrance fee to Academia to see Michaelangelo's
"David".

½ day guided tour of Historic Rome.

½ day guided tour of Christian Rome including
entrance fee to Catacombs.

½ day guided tour of the Vatican Museums and the
Sistine Chapel, including entrance fee.

Wednesday Papal Audience.

English speaking tour escort throughout itinerary
PFMC coordinator

Priest Spiritual Director, Daily Mass arrangements

Transportation by private deluxe air-conditioned
motor coach throughout itinerary

Round trip transfer by motor launch in Venice – with
walking tour and Doge's Palace and San Marco

Porterage of one suitcase per person at hotels

Tax and service charges levied by hotels.

We will stay 2 nights in San Giovanni Rotondo

3 nights in Assisi

2 nights in Abano Terme (near Venice)

2 nights Florence

3 nights Rome

Not included: Beverages in Rome, telephone,
lunches/snacks, alcoholic beverages, dry
cleaning/laundry, etc.

Gratuities to guides and bus drivers (recommended
about \$220 total)

We hope that you will join us this year on one or all
of these special planned pilgrimages. PFMC prides
itself with the many blessings that come from them,
and with the quality we can provide for a very
reasonable price.

Call (856) 768-9228 for reservations.

(Kathleen Werner)

RETREAT CONFERENCE-March 14th through 19th 2003 - MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW

We have gone to contract with the Hilton Hotel
for our 2003 March 14th, 15th, and 16th

RETREAT CONFERENCE and the extension March
17th, 18th, and 19th, 2003. Guest speakers will be
Father Bill Halbing, Father Andrew Apostoli, and
Father Robert DeGrandis.

The theme will be **"He must increase; I must
decrease."** (John 3:30) [NAB]. This was hand
picked for Kathleen by Father Abraham Mathew.

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

The Hilton Hotel is now accepting room reservations
for the 2003 PFMC RETREAT CONFERENCE.
Please call the Hilton Hotel at 1-800-HILTONS or
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. Entire floors are either non-smoking or
smoking.

Send to us the enclosed registration to attend to the
PFMC at 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees NJ, 08043.

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SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE: Father Jim Sauchelli, Father Brendan

Williams, Father John McFadden, Father Bill McCarthy, MSsA,

Father Robert DeGrandis, SSJ, Father Glenn Hartman, 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, Vocations

Director, Diocese of Camden, advises on discerning vocations.

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

Please note that a youth program will be available. With over 120 youth at our last retreat, we know that this is an important part of the program. So please sign up your children with your own registration.

Please note on the applications 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 extension will again be with Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol and Father Robert DeGrandis, SSJ.

We will publish a flyer for the next issue of "The PILGRIM" and then ask you to 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 3-Day Extension, 17-19 March 2003.

(Kathleen and Keith for All the PFMC Volunteers)

NEEDED for the PFMC

We have great need for 4-5 nice picnic tables with benches or chairs for the Epiphany House yard. The new rubber / plastic units are great since they require little or no maintenance. When we have gatherings it is so nice to have our breaks or meals outside. These would be placed around the beautiful patio and statue of Our Lady of Lourdes. If you can help with a contribution of a set of benches, chairs, and table or toward payment of one or more, we would be most grateful. Come and see our grounds this spring, enjoy a book from our library, and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere for quiet prayer.

We will again be hosting the Home of the Mother Vocation Awareness Retreats for Girls this summer and would love to have sufficient yard benches, chairs and tables to seat the girls and the Home of the Mother staff (approximately 30) in the yard for meals. The deck was a bit crowded last year.

We also need someone who would come into the PFMC one time a week, and vacuum, empty wastebaskets, and clean the kitchen and bathrooms. If you can't type or don't have a lot of time but have a

gift of cleaning, and would help us in this way, please call Kathleen at (856) 768-9228.

Kathleen won't admit it but she really needs some assistance with volunteers to answer the phone during all of the PFMC operating hours. Could you give one to two hours on a specific day just to answer the phone? You can bring your reading and prayer projects with you. Kathleen needs to have relief from answering the phone so she can get her creative work accomplished. She will speak with people but at her discretion based on the need presented.

We are still looking for someone to help with the typing, and if you have a gift of computer programs Keith needs a lot of help. He is especially interested in finding someone to maintain our web site, helping with format of newsletter, and Access programs. One or two hours a week would be great.

If interested in helping with Our Lady's work on computers, please call Keith at (856) 914-7297 to talk to him during his work hours and/or leave him a voice mail message. E-mail offers of computer support and assistance at either PFMCkmw@comcast.net or keithwerner@comcast.net will receive responses.

(The Volunteer Staff)

JULY 24 to 31, 2002 PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – HAD TO BE CANCELLED!



We have had to cancel a beautiful pilgrimage because pilgrims that have indicated they wanted to go did not sign up. Because of 9/11/01 the airlines have clamped down on group reservations, and require us (in order to get group rates which are definitely less than single bookings) to submit names 60 days ahead of the departing date. Large deposits must be made to hold the seats. It is just too difficult for us or for any non-profit organization or small travel agent to forecast the numbers, and thus they cannot make such a deposit.

If you are at all interested on going on pilgrimage, please call Kathleen at 856-768-9228 as many months ahead of time as you can so that we can garner interest in specific places at specific times. We are trying desperately to coordinate with other ministries to make sure that no one double books the same locations at the same times.

REDEEMING GRACE

We sometimes stumble along the way and we cannot see the truth...That God must have a reason for the pain we're going through. It helps to know we're growing and each trial will make us strong...And God will draw us near to Him because it's where we all belong. Don't let the hard times throw you and cause you to doubt your faith...God is just to make things right; He redeems us by His grace.

**(Jill Lemming, Hope for Tomorrow – Salesian
Inspirational Books)**

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 than 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.

(Kay Hoffman, Hope for Tomorrow)

FAITH

Faith can move mountains, no matter how steep, and calm the rough waters, no matter how deep. Faith can change darkness to heavenly light, while leading us tranquilly out of the night. All this I can grant with assurance, you see, for countless are the mountains Faith has moved for me.

(Laura Baker Haynes, Hope for Tomorrow)

REVELATION 8: 3-4

An angel came in holding a censer of gold. He took his place at the altar of incense and was given large amounts of incense to deposit on the altar of gold in front of the throne, together with the prayers of all of God’s holy ones. From the angel’s hand the smoke of the incense went up before God, and with it the prayers of God’s people.

The angels carry out God’s will. Let us pray that we too may listen carefully for His voice and hear His call.

O God, you made your angels messengers of your marvelous works, help us to proclaim your wonderful deeds to all people.

The angels unceasingly proclaim that you are holy and exalted, may your people on earth join their voices to the angelic song of praise.

You commanded your angels to watch over your servants in all their ways, guide those who are traveling and bring them home safely in joy and in peace.

You gave the angels the mission of announcing peace to all and inspire counsels of peace in the hearts of leaders and peoples of all nations.

When you send forth the angels to gather together your chosen people from every corner of the earth, do not let them pass over any of your children, but bring them all to the unending gladness of your kingdom.

(Angels of God — Edmundite Missions)

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!”

(Alice Hansche Mortenson, Hope for Tomorrow)

HEALING PRAYER at BEDTIME

Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, go back into my memory as I sleep. Every hurt that has ever been done to me—heal that hurt. Every hurt that I have ever caused to another person—heal that hurt. All the relationships that have been damaged in my whole life that I’m not aware of—heal those relationships.

But Lord, if there is anything that I need to do—if I need to go to a person because he is still suffering from my hand, bring to my awareness that person.

I choose to forgive, and I ask to be forgiven. Remove whatever bitterness may be in my heart, Lord, and fill the empty spaces with your love. Thank You, Jesus. Amen.

(Phyllis Devereux, 1994)

WHY a HOLY HOUR before JESUS in the BLESSED SACRAMENT?

PERHAPS MANY still ask that question. To it there is basically only one answer: Jesus Christ, the God-Man, is present....

He is present in that special Eucharistic manner of transubstantiation in which the very substance of the bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

Saint Thomas taught that the Eucharist is the greatest of miracles ever worked by Christ, to perpetuate his Passion and Sacrifice with us and to be especially present to each individual.

Christ is present there for us, to manifest his great love for us. Saint Thomas says, "He cares for us and is there." If we care for him, we would also be there for a Holy Hour or some other form of Eucharistic adoration. Christ had asked this of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque as he had asked the apostles in the Garden of Olives: "Can you not watch one hour with me?"

Vatican II insists that the Christian life is incomplete if it is not Eucharistic. In the Decree on Priests (No. 5) the Council wrote: "Every ministry of the Church and every work of the apostolate are linked with the Holy Eucharist and are directed to it." Of course, this refers primarily to the Eucharistic sacrifice and the Council said so in the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (No. 11): "Taking part in the Eucharistic sacrifice, which is the apex and fount of the whole Christian life, the faithful offer the Divine Victim to God and offer themselves with it."

However, it is in the Eucharist that Christians will find unity in Christ: "In the Sacrament of the Eucharistic Bread, the unity of all believers, who form one body in Christ (1 Cor. 10,17) is both expressed and brought about." (Consti. on the Church No. 3)

To stress that this did not refer only to the Eucharistic Sacrifice and the reception of Holy Communion but also to Eucharistic adoration, Pope John XXIII, who called the Council, arranged for the canonization of Blessed Julian Eymard, the apostle of Eucharistic adoration, for the solemnities of the closing of the

first session of the Council, that he was to be an example and model of true Catholic renewal.

(Franciscan Friars of Marytown-Eucharistic Adoration Department)

QUESTIONS FREQUENTLY ASKED CONCERNING EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

1. What kinds of Eucharistic Adoration are there?

- a) A simple, devout, very brief visit to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.
- b) A private or public (group) Holy Hour either in church or in the home.
- c) A traditional Thirteen or Forty Hours of Adoration in a parish.
- d) A 3 or 4 or 5 hour Eucharistic Vigil, usually by a larger group with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, perhaps with procession and other devotions.
- e) The all-night Eucharistic Vigil (watch) by a similar group, starting in the evening (8 or 9 p.m.) and ending with Mass in the morning (6 or 7 a.m.).
- f) Perpetual adoration. Some parishes have an organized program of continual adoration with one or several present in church each hour, day and night. Individuals would take the same hour each month, each week, or more frequently.
- g) Partial adoration. Same method as in "f" except that it would be only one day a week or month or perhaps only from morning (7 or 8 a.m.) to evening (6 or 7 p.m.).

2. What is Eucharistic Adoration?

Eucharistic adoration is the recognition of and honoring this special presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

3. How can an Eucharistic Adoration program be started in a parish?

- a) Discuss this idea with your pastor; seek his advice, permission and support.
- b) Try to find support and help from other interested people.
- c) Arrange for pulpit and bulletin explanations and announcements; make mimeographed explanations available at the door or send them to the homes via the school children, with the support of the faculty.
- d) Publicize each Eucharistic Adoration that is going to be held, inviting others to come.

e) Make it easy for individuals to sign up for particular hours for adoration if you are having any kind of a perpetual or partial adoration.

f) Obtain capable and reliable speakers if a homily or meditation is on your program.

This “little aid” has been written to show you that a **Holy Hour** is not so difficult. Further explanations can be had by writing to:

Franciscan Friars of Marytown
Eucharistic Adoration Department
8000 - 39th Ave
Kenosha, WI 53140

(#109-72)

AIDS to MAKING a HOLY HOUR.

The first suggestion is: divide the Holy Hour into four 15-minute periods. It is essential to take sufficient time to really visualize the purpose in each period. Do not proceed till you have made that particular purpose clear and definite.

The second suggestion is: for that first 15 minute period dedicate it to a realization of who is present in the Holy Eucharist. Of course you know the answer to that, but think of it until there is in your soul a response of wonder (“is it possible?” “How can that be?” and yet “it is true”) and admiration (how wonderful: Jesus is really, truly present here!).

Think of the marvel of this great reality: Christ, the God-Man, is truly present in his divinity as well as his humanity, body and soul. Even: substantially present—the substance of the bread and wine changed into the body and blood of Christ.

Try to realize also how different this presence of Christ is from the presence of God in the whole world, or in us by grace, or in the Church, or in the words of the Holy Scriptures. This is a unique substance, substantially special and different from his presence anywhere else. It is the mystery of his total presence in the great mystery of his love: the incarnation now transubstantiated. This is not just the presence of God but the presence of God as the God-Man via the substance of bread and wine changed into the Body and Blood of Christ.

Consider who He is as God the Creator; God-Man: our Redeemer, Savior-Brother, Lord and King.

Push your thoughts to search out the meaning of these truths and let your soul rest in the wonder of his loving presence here—for you. Be quiet and listen, too, because God wants to speak to your heart.

If perhaps words of admiration and wonder do not come to you, use the words of some familiar prayers and songs of adoration and praise that you can usually find in any missalette available in most churches. For example: “Down in Adoration Falling,” “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name,” the “Holy, Holy, Holy” of the Mass, “Now Praise We All Our God,” or any Benediction hymn. However, rely on yourself—do not move too quickly to these texts.

These words should be read slowly, with great, deep understanding and always in relation to Christ present before you in the tabernacle: you directing your praise to him who is truly present there! Do not hurry, thinking that you have to finish all or any of these hymns and prayers. Remember that Christ himself said, “Do not prattle on . . . in sheer multiplication of words . . .” (Mt. 6, 8). Make sure that they express the thoughts and desires in your own heart.

A suggestion for the second 15 minutes: devote the time to thoughts and prayers of thanksgiving to God as you grasp the wonder of who is present Really: God is with us! The Emmanuel of Christmas.

Momentarily give some fresh thought to the fact: God is with us in this special, most remarkable way. Now let words of thanksgiving rise up in your soul, or just simply give thanks to God for his presence here in such a remarkable way. Thank God for the great Sacrament of the Priesthood and for vocations by which he perpetuates his presence in the Holy Eucharist.

In a parallel situation think of our Blessed Mother's joy when she realized that Christ, the great Messiah, was present within her, conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. Make her words of the Magnificat your

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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.

own as you realize that Jesus is equally present here. There hidden in a human body; here hidden under the form of bread. Or with Simeon break out in that beautiful exclamation of delight and contentment when he realized whom he was holding in his arms: "Now, Lord, you may dismiss your servant in peace . . ." or read the words of the joy of Zachary when he could again speak to proclaim the wonder of the presence of the one who would prepare the way of the Lord. Or use the text of Ps. 148.

You might also take some time to recall and thank God for other special blessings and wonders of God: your family, vocation, gift life, opportunity to be in his Presence, special friends, etc. Thank him for his love for you, for his unfailing help in trials and difficulties. Do you really believe that? Think about it till you can really say that in sincerity and heartfelt conviction: that God does love you!

A suggestion for the next 15 minutes: Dedicate this to petition. First of all, ask Jesus here present in the Holy Eucharist for the grace that is dearest to him, the grace he wants most for you: the great blessing of redemption and eternal salvation. Just think, for some time what that means . . . for you, for each member of your family, your friends, people of your neighborhood and parish, for all mankind. Think of how marvelous that would be if all would be so blessed: to be in heaven for all eternity! Pray for that! Beg for it: the fulfillment of Christ's greatest intention, the fulfillment of his greatest hope and desire and the main reason for his coming, for which he is preset here. "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you." For this he was in agony.

Pray for conversions. Pray for particular people, those who are away from the Church and the Sacraments. Pray for the sick and lonely, the discouraged, our youth, the unborn, our country, its leaders. Pray for our Holy Father, and for all priests and religious that they may be so influenced by grace that they will be effective instruments doing the work of God. Pray for vocations to complete the work of Christ. Pray for the grace to know the will of God always in your own life. Pray for peace, God's peace in the hearts of all.

Dedicate the last 15 minutes of the Holy Hour to atonement. Why atonement? A look into one's own conscience and the conscience of the world gives the answer. A mere glance at headlines and you see insults, blasphemies, defiance thrown by man into the face of God. These will make you shudder unless your heart is cold and uncaring. The injuries of man to man when Christ commanded: "Love one another." The ignoring and deliberate pushing aside (for

sophisticated, selfish reasons) God's commandments of respect for life. Think of the sins of injustice that cry to heaven for vengeance, the sins of the modern Sodom and Gomorrah that defy the wrath of God. There are also the slurs and insults against the virginity and Immaculate Conception of our Blessed Mother. There is much need for atonement for the sins of disregard, of refusal to recognize and obey the Holy Father, Christ's own spokesman and Vicar on earth. Think and you will know many, many more reasons for atonement and for begging God's pardon and mercy.

You might wish to express your thoughts of sorrow for all these evils ("sins" expresses it more accurately) by any traditional act of contrition or in the liturgical words of the "Lord, have mercy," the "Lamb of God" or the hymn "O Lord, I am not worthy." In the Litany of the Sacred Heart and the Litany of the Holy Name we find powerful and inspirational motives for praying for pardon and mercy in a great spirit of atonement. The Litany of our Blessed Mother is very appropriate, asking her under all her titles of honor and power to "pray for all of us." The Litany of the Saints and the Prayer to Saint Michael could be expressive of the hopes in your heart.

A slow, thoughtful saying of the Rosary would be very helpful during any phase of a Holy Hour. With our Blessed Mother and with Christ present there before you in the Holy Eucharist, recall and consider those events in his life. Ponder all those things in your heart as you ask our Blessed Mother to pray for us.

(Franciscan Friars of Marytown)

OTHER SUGGESTIONS for HOLY HOURS

Holy Hours can also be made at home, either alone or with one's family. Unite yourself with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in the nearest tabernacle or in all the tabernacles of the world. Keep in mind that perspective of being in the presence of our Lord in the Holy Eucharist—perhaps even in some Communist country. Pray for the special problems or topics described above or others you are concerned about. You will find much motivation and inspiration for prayer. Feel free to break from any of these suggestions, ("structures") though at times you will find them helpful. Perhaps even your own inability or reluctance to pray can be a reason for prayer.

The aged, sick and handicapped are urged to make such a Holy Hour of prayer right there in their bed,

chair, or home or hospital or wherever. They should unite their sufferings with Jesus crucified and with him atone for the sins of the world. So much suffering could be converted into blessings by such prayer.

(Franciscan Friars of Marytown)

A PRAYER of a HUMBLE HEART

Father of Our Lord Jesus, Help us to grow in "Littleness". The world is filled with anger. Everyone wants their own way instead of Your Way. Help us Lord to want only Your way

.Dearest Father, Give us the grace to See Jesus in Everyone, and Be Jesus to Everyone.

Lord, the battle lines have been drawn, and the grey areas seem to be less and less than ever before in history. We are either with You or against You in these times. Give us the Grace to be always with You.

Even we Christians fight with each other, unaware of our own spiritual pride as we break the Precious Body of Christ in ways that only grieve the Spirit. There is only one way in which His Body should ever be broken, and that is in the One Bread, One Body that truly unites us all.

Dearest and Sweetest Jesus, You promised the Holy Spirit, The Paraclete would come, and stay with us always and teach us everything. Thank You Lord for Your faithfulness. You have taught everything, but we pray now for grace that we may learn everything, for that we have not done.

We can't seem to make it Lord, and on our own we never will. We don't understand how blind we can be sometimes to things. You ask us to Love each other as You Loved us. Do we do this? Even those who claim to love you... do we do this? Forgive us Lord our terrible arrogance in not seeing that You pour Yourself out on everyone! You are not stingy with Your Spirit Praise You and Bless You Lord !!!

We see this in healing in every area of life from physical to emotional. Christians are healed by turning to You regardless of denomination. What believer does not know Your works in the world?

Father, it is obvious that You are lavish with Your Spirit, and it is obvious that we are not lavish with Your Spirit, but very often selective. No more Lord . . . no more. We will try harder to Love . . . no Father, not even that will we do . . . perhaps we must finally

learn that we can do nothing! It is You in us that can do everything!

You, living IN US, WITH US, THROUGH US can do all things. You are Lord, You are God. Your grace is a free gift. All You ask is that we receive it and happily cooperate in Love. Help us Father in these times to open now our hearts. Help us see how You love the world, and imitate that Love.

Dearest Jesus - with every communion let our hearts burn to know that You are in us! O' God what greater healing could ever come than that!!! See the light that emits from the heart of every person that receives as they return to their seats. It is there, filling the whole church with light! Why do so many not see it Lord? We pray that we may see it and our world be healed.

With each time we open the scriptures let our hearts be refreshed and let our ears be opened to hear Your Voice talking to us and encouraging and consoling us and teaching us. O Jesus, even Your Name is Sweet on the lips and the ears. Stay with Us Lord, mighty God and Loving Healer. We Love You Always.

Our Father, Who Art in Heaven, Hallowed Be Thy Name - Thy Kingdom come. Lord, Thy Will be done at every moment! Here on earth just as it is done by the Saints and Angels of heaven! Give us today Father our daily bread. Thank You Lord! And Forgive us as we forgive others - Do not allow Lord that we should be tempted, but rather - deliver us Lord from all evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, The Power and the Glory now and forever! For the sake of Jesus' sorrowful passion, have Mercy on us Father, and on the whole world.

Amen

HOPE for TOMORROW

There's hope for tomorrow, even when things look dim; there's hope for tomorrow when you put your trust in Him.

Though darkness surrounds you, He's always there, with arms that will hold you in His loving care.

Just when you thought you had lost everything, He's right there beside you with comfort to bring.

And you'll know assurance, He'll ever depart, for He's dwelling inside you, right there in your heart.

(Connie J. Kirby, Hope for Tomorrow)

MESSAGE of 5/25/2002 via Maria Pavlovic Lunetti

Dear Children! Today I call you to put prayer in the first place in your life. Pray and may prayer, little children, be a joy for you. I am with you and intercede for all of you, and you, little children, be joyful carriers of my messages. May your life with me be joy. Thank you for having responded to my call.

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

REFLECTION on the MESSAGE of 5/25/02

MAY YOUR LIFE WITH ME BE JOY

Mary, our heavenly Mother, walks with us and accompanies us by her motherly words and messages, through her apparitions, for almost 21 years now. She accompanies our paths through the liturgical time of the Church and through the time in which we live. As Mother of the Church, the travelling Church, she walks with her children. Like ancient Israel, the Church is on its way out of Egyptian slavery – the slavery to devil. It crosses the Red Sea and the desert of trials and sufferings to enter into the Promised Land. Mary, our Mother, was a believer – a traveller; she was progressing on her journey of faith. She was progressing because she knew how to keep all the words and memories in her heart, as a treasure of her life. St. Luke, the Evangelist, writes about this: *“But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.”* (Lk 2:51b) Mary, our Mother, our leading star and our precursor, draws today from these souvenirs and from these treasures. In his Encyclical *“Redemptoris Mater”*, the Holy Father wrote: *“Strengthened by the presence of Christ (cf. Mt. 28:20), the Church journeys through time towards the consummation of the ages and goes to meet the Lord who comes. But on this journey... she proceeds along the path already trodden by the Virgin Mary, who ‘advanced in her pilgrimage of faith, and loyally persevered in her union with her Son unto the cross’.”* (Redemptoris Mater 2.4) Like all of us, Mary herself had to reflect on what happened around her, what she had to face. *“But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.”* (Lk 2:19), and she discovered their meaning only at the Resurrection. To us, like to Mary, the effort of reflecting is not spared, of treasuring and of meditating on the Word of God addressed to us through the Holy Scripture and through people, through events and all that happens in us and around us.

As we did not know that she would appear, we do not know how long she is going to appear, how long she will continue to address her motherly calls to us. Many think that these apparitions have lasted too long. The visionaries usually answer: *“For us, it is not long”*. It cannot be long, when you are in the presence of a loving person, the one you love. It is difficult indeed to be with someone you do not love, as it is difficult to do a work we do not love. In 1985, the visionaries asked Our Lady: *“Why are you with us for such a long time?”* She answered with a question: *“Are you bored?”* Since then, they never asked this question any more. Her motherly love for her children gives her the strength to speak for such a long time and to repeat with such a perseverance almost the same words as St. Paul to the Philippians: *“My brothers, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you.”* (Phil 3:1)

It is much safer and easier to live and to grow in faith in Her presence, she who talks to us and comes to us today. Our Mother comes today, God loves us through her today, not yesterday or tomorrow. Today, I can be closer to God through the Virgin Mary, as I can go away from Him. If I do not grow every day in faith, I will step back, and the coming back to God will become much more difficult.

“Today I call you to put prayer in the first place in your life.” There are signs, which show me that God and prayer are not at the first place in my life: difficulties to take time for prayer, distractions, a thousand reasons and excuses (which I find so easily) to postpone the meeting with God in prayer... Prayer is a source of joy and a way to joy, repeats Our Lady today also. On this path, we are not alone. With Her, Loved by God, we can and we have to be joyful on our journey of faith towards the final moment, when we shall comprehend fully the sufferings, the seeking, the crosses and the joys of our life.

As a prayer says: *“Mary, people will forget what you said and what you did, but they will never forget how they felt because of you. There are no considerations*

or doubts that can wipe away the experience of the presence of God.”

Mary, our Mother, I implore you: may your words find a place in the hearts of all those who receive you as their Mother, so that you may lead us to Jesus, the Saviour.

(Father Ljubo Kurtović, OFM, Medjugorje May 26, 2002)

PRESS BULLETIN 174, 5/26/2002

THE EYES of MEDJUGORJE

We know well the famous proverb, which states that the eyes are the mirror of the soul. It is really true: The eyes reflect our inner reality. Almost without any effort, we can read in the eyes the reality of life of each person. In the eyes of a brother or of a sister, we can see if we are accepted, loved, noticed... The look cannot hide lies; the eyes always give the contours of truth.

To see the eyes of the pilgrims in Medjugorje is a special experience. To look at someone eye-to-eye is a great mystery, accessible to everyone. It seems to me that the faithful in Medjugorje have a special brilliance in their eyes. In this shrine, after the encounter with God, eyes become a sparkling reflect of the interior. They become signs of hope, of warmth, of faith... And although people mostly arrive here with a cheerless look, tired of life, oppressed and with a negative image of themselves, everything changes here. A believer changes here; and not only the believer, but also any person that opens the heart, the eyes and the soul. Under the shelter of the Queen of Peace, the pilgrim lifts up his eyes towards the source of light, towards heaven, which is the source of the most excellent radiance. Climbing the Medjugorje hills, reciting the rosary, seeking the way to the peak, they lift themselves up into the heights and change. It is difficult to remain indifferent here.

In this shrine, for 21 years now, pilgrims meet God face-to-face, eye-to-eye. It happens in a special way in the confessional. Here, they leave their past, reject the old man and put on the new man. In the confessional, they leave darkness and enter into the space of light, which is visible in every eye. This is why it is so fitting to call Medjugorje, “the confessional of the world”.

This is how it has gone in Medjugorje for 21 years now. Medjugorje walks forward with its fruits and its witnesses. The springtime of life that Our Lady is

talking about in the message of April 25th, can be felt here more than anywhere else. This is why we can say that – in Medjugorje – there is only one season: springtime. God always plants new seeds here, which bring fruit a hundredfold. And the eyes of the faithful, with their brilliance, seem to watch over the nights of Medjugorje and chase away darkness and despair. May these eyes and the spiritual spring of Medjugorje continue to rouse us towards the fullness of life, to which Our Lady calls us. And something else: See you eye to eye on June 25, the day when our Mother is with us in a very special way.

Father Mario Knezovic

NUMBER of COMMUNIONS and NUMBER of CONCELEBRANTS

During the month of April, 90,000 received Holy Communion and 2,004 priests from this country and abroad concelebrated Holy Mass in Medjugorje.

A PARISH PILGRIMAGE to OLOVO

The traditional parish pilgrimage to Our Lady of Olovo in Central Bosnia, the oldest Marian shrine in Europe, took place also this year on May 1st, in honour of the beginning of May devotions. Parishioners of Medjugorje, who usually receive pilgrims from all over the world, became pilgrims in their turn, and joined several hundreds of others.

The solemn Eucharistic celebration, concelebrated by 63 priests, was presided by his Eminence, Cardinal Vinko Puljic, Archbishop of Vrhbosna (Sarajevo).

IVO POGORELIC CAME to MEDJUGORJE

Among the pilgrims of Medjugorje, there are often those who have professionally reached a planetary success. On May 1st, 2002, Ivo Pogorelic, a world famous Croatian pianist, came to pray in Medjugorje. Together with his friends, he went to pray the way of the Cross on Krizevac, and then visited the Community “Cennacolo” and “Mother’s Village”. He told a Croatian weekly paper about his experience in Medjugorje:

“The way towards the cross on Cross Mountain is long and arduous, but when you are up there, you understand that these were only physical obstacles that you have to overcome to achieve inner balance and peace. This is my second visit to Medjugorje. This time, it was similar and nevertheless different. Both times, independently of the number of people

who surrounded me, I was completely alone, lost in my own thoughts. Although the way to the Apparition Hill is easier and shorter, again you are within a crowd and nevertheless – alone with yourself...”

THE FIRST OFFICIAL CROATIAN STUDENTS’ PILGRIMAGE

On May 4th and 5th, 2002, 150 students from the University of Zagreb came for the first official organized students’ pilgrimage from Croatia to Medjugorje on the level of the University. The pilgrimage was accompanied by Father Miljanko Steko, a Herzegovinian Franciscan, spiritual father of the seminarians from Herzegovina studying in Zagreb.

This is what the students told about the significance of this pilgrimage:

“The idea was born in the hearts of the students themselves, who expressed a desire to have, among other programs, a program of spiritual renewal, spiritual development. We thought about a Marian Shrine, why not Medjugorje? We found marvelous encouragement from the Students’ Board of the University of Zagreb, and the crown of all is in fact the support of Zagreb Franciscans, without whom we certainly would not have succeeded in having such a rich spiritual program. In Zagreb and in Croatia in general, Medjugorje increasingly attracts, especially young people... They want to draw strength from Our Lady’s source of spirituality, which is present here. This kind of pilgrimages will surely become a tradition among Croatian students...”

They went to pray on the Apparition Hill, the Cross Mountain, visited the “Cennacolo” community and participated in the evening prayer program in the church.

FIRST COMMUNION in MEDJUGORJE

In the parish of Medjugorje, First Communion is traditionally given on the first Sunday in May. This year, on May 5th, 2002, sixty-six girls and boys received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. The day before, they made their First Holy Confession. Their parents and catechists accompanied children on their way of preparation with the Eucharistic Jesus. Holy Mass was presided by Father Drago Vujevic. On this day, a very special atmosphere reigned in the whole parish, because children carry within themselves a breeze of life and of joy. Many local and foreign pilgrims joined the children and their parents in this celebration.

A BISHOP from KENYA on PRIVATE VISIT to MEDJUGORJE

From May 6 to 10, 2002, Msgr. Silas S. Njiru, Bishop of Meru (Kenya), came for a private visit to Medjugorje. We shall write about his impressions in the next issue of the Bulletin.

AMBASSADORS in MEDJUGORJE

H. E. Mr. Li Shuyuan, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China in Bosnia and Herzegovina, visited Medjugorje on April 23rd, 2002. He was received by the Pastor, Father Branko Rados, who took him around the Shrine. Mr. Shuyuan also visited “Mother’s Village” and the “Community of the Cennacolo”, and expressed his satisfaction about what he had seen and experienced.

Through the organization of the ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia-Herzegovina and invited by the Tourist Office of Medjugorje-Bijakovici, eighteen Ambassadors accredited in Bosnia and Herzegovina visited Medjugorje on May 11, 2002. The Ambassadors visited the Shrine, and Father Branko Rados, pastor of Medjugorje spoke to them about the events.

In the name of the Tourist Office of Medjugorje-Bijakovici welcomed them Mr. Zeljko Vasilj, Director. He spoke to them about some difficulties that meet the pilgrims, linked to the system of visas. He asked their help in resolving this question, so important for the pilgrims.

SEMINARS in “DOMUS PACIS”

In the month of April, a “Prayer and Fasting” seminar for pilgrims from Lithuania and from Ukraine was held in the house of prayer “Domus Pacis”.

There was also a time of recollection for parents, tutors and children with difficulties in their development.

The Herzegovinian Franciscan School sisters continue to gather once a month young girls on the theme “Seek Peace and Pursue it”.

Contact for “Prayer and Fasting” seminars: Father Ljubo Kurtovic, Zupni ured Medjugorje, Gospin trg 1, 88266 Medjugorje, Bosnia and Herzegovina. (Fax: 00 387 36 651 444)

THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL MEETING for PRIESTS

The 7th International Meeting for Priests, "PRIEST AT THE SERVICE OF HEALING AND DELIVERANCE", takes place in Medjugorje from July 1st (morning) to July 6th (noon) 2002. Many priests who do not have access to Internet may not have been informed about the existence of such an international meeting in Medjugorje. Therefore, we kindly ask all Organizers of pilgrimages, Prayer Groups and Centers for Peace to diffuse this information as largely as possible by all means at your disposition, so that as many priests as possible may participate. We also kindly ask you, as much as it is possible, to materially help priests who wish to come, but who do not have the necessary funds for such a journey. Thank you, and may the Lord and Our Lady, Queen of Peace, bless all your efforts in spreading Gospa's message of peace.

You may make reservations (as soon as possible) by e-mail: lidiya.paris@medjugorje.hr, in the Information Booth personally, by phone/fax: +387-36-651-988 or by e-mail: informacije@medjugorje.hr.

In place of financial payment, we ask the priests to kindly celebrate five Mass intentions. The ACCOMMODATION for all the priests IS A GIFT FROM THE PARISHIONERS, WHO WILL RECEIVE THEM IN THEIR HOMES.

To bring with you: An alb and stole, a Bible, a small radio and headphones with an FM frequency (for simultaneous translation

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH PRAYER MEETING - MLADIFEST 13

The 13th International Youth Prayer Meeting - MLADIFEST 13 – on the theme, "WITH MARY WITNESS PEACE AND JOY", will take place from July 31st to August 6th, 2002.

More about it: see www.medjugorje.hr under International meetings, MLADIFEST 13.

SPREADING of INFORMATION from the SHRINE and COPYRIGHT

As we have already underlined on several occasions, the Shrine of the Queen of Peace in Medjugorje and the Information Centre "Mir" Medjugorje are the only official voice and source of authentic information from Medjugorje.

We appeal to all of you to spread the information from the Shrine, and we encourage all the friends of Medjugorje to use the materials they find on this web page. When you use these materials, (texts, photos and others) it is *obligatory* to mention the source, i.e. © Information Centre "Mir" Medjugorje, www.medjugorje.hr. We kindly ask you to do so.

We thank you for all that you are doing to spread Our Lady's message of peace!

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

VOCATIONS - 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 Joseph Szolack,
szolack@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>

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 located, call 1-800-MASS-TIMES or 1-800-627-7846.

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.

A VOCATION PRAYER

Father, we, the baptized, realize our call to serve. With our hearts you continue to love your people. Help us to know how. Call forth from among us priests, deacons, Sisters, Brothers, and lay ministers to heal the brokenhearted, dry the tears of those who mourn, give hope to those who despair and proclaim your steadfast love. We ask this in Jesus' name.

AMEN

STUDY: TODAY'S YOUNGER PRIESTS ARE LIKE OLDER PRIESTS OF 1970s

A new sociological study of U.S. Catholic priests has found that the views of younger priests in 2001 on many church issues were similar to those held by older priests in 1970.

It also found that priests as a whole were happier in 2001 than in 1970, that fewer were thinking of leaving the priesthood, and that fewer thought they would marry if celibacy became optional.

On the other hand, it found that priests in 2001 were more concerned about overwork and unrealistic demands of lay people—a function possibly of the fact that the Catholic population increased more than 30 percent during that time while “the total number of non-retired priests declined 30 percent to 35 percent between 1970 and 2001.”

With fewer new ordinations and the average age of ordination increasing, the average age of the priests surveyed increased from 47 in 1970 to 60 in 2001.

The results of the new survey were summarized in a 30 page report, “Changing Commitments and Attitudes of Catholic Priests, 1970-2001,” by Catholic University of America sociologist Dean R. Hoge and doctoral student Jacqueline E. Wenger. It was released to Catholic News Service Feb. 25.

Commissioned by the National Federation of Priests' Councils and funded by the Duke University Divinity School's Pulpit and Pew Research Study on Pastoral Leadership, the study was based on responses to a mail survey by 858 diocesan and 421 religious-order priests. The 2001 survey repeated many questions that had been asked in three earlier studies, in 1970, 1985 and 1993.

“The institutionally ‘progressive’ attitudes of (priests ordained in) the late 1960s and 1970s disappeared from later ordination classes, whose priestly attitudes

were again similar to those prevailing before the (Second Vatican) Council,” said the report.

In 1970, for example, half the priests ages 35 and under thought the idea of a priest as a “man set apart” was a barrier to realizing true Christian community but only 14 percent of over-65 priests considered it a barrier. In 2001, only 15 percent of the priests 35 and under held that view, a smaller percentage than any group of priests over 35.

Today's younger priests “have a higher theology of ordination” than older priests, the report said.

“They believe, more than older priests, that priests are ontologically different after ordination,” it said. “They are less prepared than older priests to invite resigned priests, married or not, back to active ministry. They are less in favor of making celibacy optional for diocesan priests. And they are less in favor of empowering lay ministers as parish leaders.”

In 1970 each of those statements would have reflected the views of the country's older priests, not its younger ones.

(Catholic Star Herald – March 1, 2002)

CONGRATULATIONS to ALL the NEW PRIESTS – MAY THEIR EXAMPLE FOSTER MORE VOCATIONS

The volunteer staff at the PFMC is pleased to offer CONGRATULATIONS to all the newly ordained priests worldwide. Many of the volunteer staff knew many of the men before they entered the local seminaries. We are proud that these many accepted the challenge of discerning their vocations and then following through on God's call to the priesthood.

This is especially significant in these days of Crisis in the Church with regard to the sins of some small percentage of priests. We are all tempted to sin and priests encounter a special kind of temptation because of their special calling to the priesthood. The Devil, Satan, The Evil One, was so brazen that he tempted Jesus three times. Praised be Jesus and Mary, the spouse of the Holy Spirit for protecting the priests from the attacks and temptations of the Devil.

Pray for all the priests especially those who have just been ordained. Pray that they will be protected and shield in their formative years. May their example foster the much needed vocations to the priesthood.

(The Volunteer Staff at the PFMC)

AN INTERVIEW WITH ST.JAMES' NEW PASTOR, FATHER BRANKO RADOS, OFM, Part 2 of 2

Q: When did you come to the parish of Saint James and where were you assigned before coming here?

This is my fourth year in this parish. I came in the summer of 1998. Before that, I was a parish priest in Siroki Brijeg. My special mission was to work with young people and to coordinate the youth apostolate in the province. Many priests come to help us here in Medjugorje from other parishes and I did the same. From time to time I came to help with confessions and with preaching. During my studies, I used to follow the events of Medjugorje like all the other students so when I came here it was something I'd know, although we can never really say that we know Medjugorje.

Q: When you came here were your duties the same as in Siroki Brijeg?

I was the assistant of the pastor. I taught catechism classes, cared for the parishioners, I continued for two years to coordinate the youth apostolate for the province and I was participating with the prayer group.

Q: As pastor, what are some of your duties?

(Laughter) That's difficult to say. I cannot say that it is too much. My duty is to be responsible, in charge of, and with the help of the friars and brothers who work with me to coordinate the service, the work, so that all function well. Medjugorje is a place where many people come. According to statistics we can say that about a million come here each year and there are so many things we must think of. Unfortunately, we live in a state, which is not yet functioning well.

We had the war and the destruction of the former Yugoslavia and many problems have stricken our people. So I have to worry about, like, for example, medical care for the pilgrims, their physical and material needs, plus keeping order, along with the police of the village. Many come asking for a priest to talk to. We cannot always take care of everyone but we are here to do as much as we can. Things do not depend on luck here.

God is leading us. I am firmly convinced of this.

When I look at our human strength, our human capacity, I know we would not be able to do it without the help of God, and I'm sure it will continue. I'm sure God has a plan for us, like in today's gospel

when Jesus was calling His disciples. What is asked of us is to say: Here I am, Lord.

Just like Mary, she didn't know what was coming. When I came to Medjugorje, I didn't know what to expect. As a pastor and one of the priests of the parish, I don't know what to expect tomorrow. There are so many things we cannot foresee but we are sure about the grace and will of God.

Q: Are you not young to be a pastor? In the United States most pastor are older. Perhaps it is not the same here.

Maybe you should ask that same question of my predecessor because we are of the same generation. I will tell you a joke, a true story: Recently a very famous singer from Croatia came here. He used to visit many of our Catholic, Croatian missions in Europe and in America. Most of the time he met elderly Franciscans. Now he wanted to meet me. I presented myself to him as the pastor of Medjugorje and he said, "Excuse me"? I said, "Maybe you are disappointed but that's who I am."

Maybe I'm too young for this duty. I have been here, however, for four years now. I know a little bit about the pilgrims and they know me a little bit. During the elections this year I was also chosen in the government of the province and the provincial government decided that at this moment I was the appropriate person. I have thought about others who are older who could have become the parish pastor but the choice fell on me and here I am.

We told Father Branko that we hadn't asked that last question, because we thought he was too young. We went on to say we were bringing a married couples' pilgrimage this summer, that we almost always bring only married couples to Medjugorje.

Father responded, "If you bring couples, their children will follow."

He told us, We have no propaganda here, no commercials to bring people. It happens here like in the first Church, through personnel word, through personal witness. Medjugorje lives in the world. Our Lady has entered into many families and this is a most precious thing. Many people have learned how to pray and what is more important, they continue to pray. This is the strength that you cannot find in the world. This is the fire that Our Lord has begun here and we have to blow into it to make it stronger.

When we thanked Father for the interview, he responded, "Thank you for all you are doing for Medjugorje. Thank you for not being afraid of prayer.

In prayer, one discovers who he is and this is sometimes the most difficult, to recognize who we are. This is also the greatness of a holy confession. When we recognize this, it is the beginning of conversion.

(mir_peace_shalom, An interview by Larry and Mary Sue Eck - Translator : Lidija Paris- Medjugorje)

FAITH in the INCARNATION - PERPETUAL ADORATION

When we pray before the Blessed Sacrament, we believe that the One to whom we are speaking is not only God but also God become man. Absolutely speaking, a person need not even have faith to accept the existence of God. The philosophers of ancient Greece, like Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, accepted the existence of God. For that matter the Jews of the Old Testament from Abraham until the last of the prophets also recognized the existence of God. Moreover the Chosen people of the Old Law not only knew there was a God because their native reason could conclude, as the Book of Wisdom tells them, seeing the beauties of nature they could conclude to the existence of a creator who produced His beauty in the world in which we live.

But once God took on human flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary, the most significant event in human history took place. The God who had always been on earth by His almighty, sustaining presence, began to be present as man. The child in Mary's womb had flesh and blood like His Mother. He received a soul which animated His body. He was born at Bethlehem and, as a child, had to be nursed at His Mother's breasts. As Saint Luke tells us, He grew in age and wisdom and in the grace of God. He slept and ate and talked and became tired like the rest of us.

When He spoke to His fellow Nazarenes in their town synagogue, His listeners were dumbfounded with anger at the alleged claim that He was indeed the one predicted by Isaiah, whom the prophet had foretold would be the Emmanuel, that is, God with us.

During His whole public ministry, Christ's most difficult teaching to accept by His contemporaries was that He, though man, was the living God. When some Jews in their livid anger at what they thought were His mad pretensions picked up stones to kill Him; when He asked them, "Why do you want to kill me, is it because of the good works I have done among you?" They retorted, "It is not because of the good works you have done, but because you, though a man,

make yourself equal to God." The Greek word in Saint John's Gospel for "equal" is *isos*. As we know from what we call the isosceles triangle, *isos* in Greek means mathematical identity. The Jews were scandalized at what they considered the blasphemy of a mere man claiming to be mathematically equal to God.

During His Passion, Christ was charged with a variety of crimes. But the peak of those crimes was Christ's claim to being not only the Messiah but also the Messiah whom the ancient prophets foretold would be the God who became man.

All the foregoing was necessary to bring out what is the first reason why prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is so powerful with God. It is so powerful because it is animated by faith in the divinity of Christ. It is impossible to exaggerate how crucially important this is. I really believe that many, if not most, Catholics do not fully realize that Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament is God become man. It is faith in the humanity of Christ. It is faith in Mary having given her divine Son a share in her own flesh and blood. It is faith in Jesus Christ not only as a historical memory, but faith in a present, geographic, local presence in Our midst no less than He was present to His disciples at the Last Supper or present to them after His resurrection when He told them to see and touch His risen body and even ate in their presence.

All of this is the first reason why prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is able to move Omnipotence to work signs and wonders that only believers have a right to expect from Jesus Christ.

(by Father John A. Hardon, S.J., Pray Unceasingly:
Perpetual Adoration as a Necessary Antidote to
Abortion)

THE SCAPULAR of OUR LADY of MOUNT CARMEL

Also known as the Brown Scapular, this is the best-known, most celebrated, and most widespread of the small scapulars. It is spoken of as "the Scapular", and the "feast of the Scapular" is that of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on 16 July. It is probably the oldest scapular and served as the prototype of the others.

According to a pious tradition the Blessed Virgin appeared to Saint Simon Stock at Cambridge, England, on Sunday, 16 July, 1251. In answer to his appeal for help for his oppressed order, she appeared

to him with a scapular in her hand and said: "Take, beloved son this scapular of thy order as a badge of my confraternity and for thee and all Carmelites a special sign of grace; whoever dies in this garment, will not suffer everlasting fire. It is the sign of salvation, a safeguard in dangers, a pledge of peace and of the covenant". This tradition, however, appears in such a precise form for the first time in 1642, when the words of the Blessed Virgin were given in a circular of Saint Simon Stock which he is said to have dictated to his companion secretary, and confessor, Peter Swanyngton.

Although it has now been sufficiently shown that this testimony cannot be supported by historical documents, still its general content remains a reliable pious tradition. In other words, it is credible that Saint Simon Stock was assured in a supernatural manner of the special protection of the Blessed Virgin for his whole order and for all who should wear the Carmelite habit. The Blessed Virgin also promised him to grant special aid, especially in the hour of death, to those who in holy fidelity wore this habit in her honor throughout life, so that they should be preserved from hell. And, even though there is here no direct reference to the members of the scapular confraternity, indirectly the promise is extended to all who from devotion to the Mother of God should wear her habit or badge, like true Christians, until death, and be thus as it were affiliated to the Carmelite Order.

Heretofore no authenticated testimony has been discovered proving that the small scapular was known from the second half of the thirteenth century and was given to the members of the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. On the contrary there are many reasons for the view that the small scapular, as we now know it and in the form it has certainly had since the sixteenth century, is of much later origin. Zimmerman (Mon. hist. Carmelit.) and Saltet give very reasonable grounds for this view.

In any case, the scapular was very widespread in European countries at the end of the sixteenth century, as is evident from "La cronica Carmelitana" of the Carmelite Joseph Falcone (Piacenza, 1595). In 1600 appeared at Palermo the "Giardino Carmelitano" of the Carmelite Egidio Leoindelicato da Sciacca (the approval is dated 1592). Towards the end the author gives after the formulas of benediction for the Fratelli and Sorelle della Compagnia della Madonna del Carmine (who receive the complete habit of the order) the formula for the blessing of the scapular for the Devoti della Compagnia Carmelitana (pp. 239 sqq.).

This is the earliest form of benediction for the small scapular with which we are acquainted. It is also noteworthy that the formula for the sisters contains no reference to the scapular, while in that for the brothers there is a special blessing for the scapular.

Nevertheless, even should we admit that the small scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel originated even as late as the beginning of the sixteenth century, yet the above promise, which is designated the first privilege of the Carmelite Scapular, remains unimpaired. For this privilege declares nothing else than that all those who out of true veneration and love for the Blessed Virgin constantly wear the scapular in a spirit of fidelity and confiding faith. After they have been placed by the Church itself with this habit or badge under the special protection of the Mother of God, they shall enjoy this special protection in the matter and crisis which most concerns them for time and eternity.

Whoever, therefore, even though he be now a sinner, wears the badge of the Mother of God throughout life as her faithful servant, not presumptuously relying on the scapular as on a miraculous amulet, but trustfully confiding in the power and goodness of Mary, may securely hope that Mary will through her powerful and motherly intercession procure for him all the necessary graces for true conversion and for perseverance in good. Such is the meaning and importance of the first privilege of the Carmelite Scapular, which is wont to be expressed in the words: "whoever wears the scapular until death, will be preserved from hell".

The second privilege of the scapular otherwise known as the Sabbatine privilege, may be briefly defined as meaning that Mary's motherly assistance for her servants in the Scapular Confraternity will continue after death, and will find effect especially on Saturday (the day consecrated to her honor), provided that the members fulfill faithfully the not easy conditions necessary for obtaining this privilege (see SABBATINE PRIVILEGE).

As regards the external form of the scapular, it should consist of two segments of brown woolen cloth; black, however, is also admissible. This scapular usually bears on one side the image of our Lady of Mount Carmel, but neither this nor any other image is prescribed. The authentic list of indulgences privileges, and indults of the Scapular Confraternity of Mount Carmel was last approved on 4 July, 1908, by the Congregation of Indulgences. It is noteworthy that this summary says nothing of the above-mentioned first privilege; what it says of the

Sabbatine privilege is explained in the article on that subject. Concerning the often miraculous protection which Mary on account of this her badge has granted to pious members of the Scapular Confraternity in great perils of soul and body, there exist many records and reliable reports (some of recent times), to which it is impossible to refuse credence. Like the rosary, this scapular has become the badge of the devout Catholic and the true servant of Mary.

(from <http://www.mount-carmel.com/wsn1255.html>)

SAINT SIMON STOCK

Born in the County of Kent, England, about 1165; died in the Carmelite monastery at Bordeaux, France, 16 May, 1265. On account of his English birth he is also called Simon Anglus. It is said that when twelve years old he began to live as a hermit in the hollow trunk of an oak, and later to have become an itinerant preacher until he entered the Carmelite Order which had just come to England. According to the same tradition he went as a Carmelite to Rome, and from there to Mt. Carmel, where he spent several years. All that is historically certain is that in 1247 he was elected the sixth general of the Carmelites, as successor to Alan, at the first chapter held at Aylesford, England. Notwithstanding his great age he showed remarkable energy as general and did much for the benefit of the order, so that he is justly regarded as the most celebrated of its generals. During his occupancy of the office the order became widely spread in southern and western Europe, especially in England; above all, he was able to found houses in the university cities of that era, as in 1248 at Cambridge, in 1253 at Oxford, in 1260 at Paris and Bologna. This action was of the greatest importance both for the growth of the institution and for the training of its younger members. Simon was also able to gain at least the temporary approbation of Innocent IV for the altered rule of the order which had been adapted to European conditions. Nevertheless the order was greatly oppressed, and it was still struggling everywhere to secure admission, either to obtain the consent of the secular clergy, or the toleration of other orders. In these difficulties, as Guilelmus de Sanvico (shortly after 1291) relates, the monks prayed to their patroness the Blessed Virgin. "And the Virgin Mary revealed to their prior that they were to apply fearlessly to Pope Innocent, for they would receive from him an effective remedy for these difficulties". The prior followed the counsel of the Virgin, and the order received a Bull or letter of protection from

Innocent IV against these molestations. It is an historical fact that Innocent IV issued this papal letter for the Carmelites under date of 13 January 1252, at Perugia

Later Carmelite writers give more details of such a vision and revelation. Johannes Grossi wrote his "Viridarium" about 1430, and he relates that the Mother of God appeared to Simon Stock with the scapular of the order in her hand. This scapular she gave him with the words: "Hoc erit tibi et cunctis Carmelitis privilegium, in hoc habitu moriens salvabitur" (This shall be the privilege for you and for all the Carmelites, that anyone dying in this habit shall be saved). On account of this great privilege many distinguished Englishmen, such as King Edward II, Henry, Duke of Lancaster, and many others of the nobility secretly work (clam portaverunt) the Carmelite scapular under their clothing and died with it on. In Grossi's narrative, however, the scapular of the order must be taken to mean the habit of the Carmelites and not as the small Carmelite scapular. As was the custom in medieval times among the other orders, the Carmelites gave their habit or at least their scapular to their benefactors and friends of high rank, that these might have a share in the privilege apparently connected with their habit or scapular by the Blessed Virgin. It is possible that the Carmelites themselves at that period wore their scapular at night in a smaller form just as they did at a later date and at the present time: namely, in about the form of the scapular for the present third order. If this is so they could give laymen their scapular in this form. At a later date, probably not until the sixteenth century, instead of the scapular of the order the small scapular was given as a token of the scapular brotherhood.

Today the brotherhood regards this as its chief privilege, and one it owes to Saint Simon Stock, that anyone who dies wearing the scapular is not eternally lost. In this way the chief privilege and entire history of the little Carmelite scapular is connected with the name of Saint Simon Stock.

There is no difficulty in granting that Grossi's narrative, related above, and the Carmelite tradition are worthy of belief, even though they have not the full value of historical proof (see SCAPULAR). That Simon himself was distinguished by special veneration of and love for the Virgin is shown by the antiphonies "Flos Carmeli" and "Ave Stella Matutina", which he wrote, and which have been adopted in the breviary of the Calced Carmelites.

Besides these antiphonies other works have been incorrectly attributed to him. The first biographical

accounts of Simon belong to the year 1430, but these are not entirely reliable. However, he was not at this time publicly venerated as a saint; it was not until 1435 that his feast was put in the choral books of the monastery at Bordeaux. It was introduced before 1458 into Ireland and, probably at the same time, into England; by a decree of the General Chapter of 1564 its celebration was commanded for the entire order.

(by **JOSEPH HILGERS** Transcribed by **Michael C. Tinkler** from **The Catholic Encyclopedia, Volume XIII, Copyright © 1912 by Robert Appleton Company**
Online Edition Copyright © 1999 by Kevin Knight,
from <http://www.mount-carmel.com/wsn1255.html>)

MAGNIFICAT of ACCEPTANCE

My soul trembles in the presence of the loving Creator and my spirit prepares itself to walk hand in hand with the God who saves Israel because I have been accepted by God as a simple helpmate.

Yes, forever in the life of humankind people will sing of this loving encounter; through remembering this moment, the faithful will know all things are possible in God.

Holy is the place within me where God lives. God's tender fingers reach out from age to age to touch the softened inner spaces of those who open their souls in hope.

I have experienced the creative power of God's embracing arms and I know the cleansing fire of unconditional love.

I am freed from all earthly authority and know my bonding to the Author of all earthly things.

I am filled with the news of good things; my favor with God, faithful trust in the gentle shadow of the Most High, the mystery of my son, Jesus, the gift of companionship with my beloved kinswoman, Elizabeth, who believes as I believe. The place in my heart that I had filled with thoughts of fear and inadequacy has been emptied and I am quiet within.

God comes to save Israel, our holy family, remembering that we are the ones who remember, according to the kinship we have known... remembering that we are the ones who remember and that where God and people trust each other there is home.

(by **Ann Johnson**)

PILGRIMS of FAITH MARIAN CENTER (PFMC)

We are not a church, store or travel agency. We operate as a ministry whose volunteers are mostly lay persons professing a belief in Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, through the Roman Catholic Church. We profess allegiance to the Magisterium of that Church led by Pope John Paul II.

We operate on donations for all our activities.

In the area of 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 08043-4896.

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. 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**)

DONATIONS by CHARGE CARD ACCEPTED

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 and for "The PILGRIM" or the building debt retirement fund.

BLESSED OIL

Bottles of oil blessed at Holy Mass in Saint James, Medjugorje and then carried to Vicka's house to be present in the room during an alleged apparition are available from the PFMC. Volunteers transfer the oil to small bottles for you or members of your prayer group to use as a sacramental.

Read the articles in the November and December 1994 issues as well as the Bible readings for the Holy Week Chrism Mass about Blessed Oil and Holy Oil of Gladness. If you no longer have these articles or never received them, you may request copies from the PPMC.

Oil from Medjugorje is a **sacramental** and should be handled as such. It is NOT the same as the oils blessed by the Bishop for official church ceremonies or during administration of the sacraments by a priest. People being signed with oil as a sacramental should not be misled into thinking that use of a sacramental by the laity in any way replaces blessing by a priest, whose Holy Hands are consecrated by the Bishop in the sacrament of Holy Orders.

We request a \$5 donation per small bottle. This covers \$3 for the bottle, packaging and special handling plus \$2 mailing or postage expense.

BULLETIN NOTICES for PPMC 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?

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.

While you're there speak to your pastor about participating in the Priest's Retreat with Father Robert DeGrandis, S.S.J., 10-12 September 2002.

Tell him you will work to gain sponsorship for him to go. More details in future issues of "The PILGRIM."

(Kathleen, Keith and all the PPMC Volunteers)

TUESDAY 10 AM to 11:30 AM "DAUGHTERS of RUTH" WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP at PPMC

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PPMC), A Religious Association, Inc. and Irene Atwell will host a women's support group "Daughters of Ruth" every Tuesday, 10 to 11 AM in the Upper Room at

The PILGRIM

Epiphany House. Prayer will follow this hour of group therapy and counseling. The number to call is (856) 665-0959.

WEDNESDAY 7 PM to 9 PM TEACHING by DEAN PULCINI

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PPMC), A Religious Association, Inc. hosts teaching by Dean Pulcini, Wednesday, 7 to 9 PM in the Upper Room at Epiphany House. Done for Spring of 2002. Starting in September-October 2002 with teachings on Liturgy. Call (856) 768-9228 if you need directions.

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 (PPMC), 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. Programs will not be live during late June and early July time frame.

SEPTEMBER 2002 RETREAT for PRIEST and DEACONS with FATHER ROBERT DeGRANDIS, S.S.J.

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PPMC) 2002 RETREAT for PRIESTS and DEACONS with Father Robert DeGrandis, S.S.J. will be at the Holiday Inn, Cherry Hill, NJ from Tuesday, 10 September 2002, through Thursday, 12 September 2002. For an information sheet with reservation form visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith> or call (856) 768-9228.

OCTOBER 2002 RETREAT with FATHER JOHN HAMPSCH, CMF

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PPMC) 2002 RETREAT with Father John Hampsch, CMF (2002 RFJH) will be at the Hilton Hotel, Cherry Hill, NJ

from Friday, 18 October 2002, through Sunday, 20 October 2002. This weekend will be immediately following the Camden Diocese Charismatic Conference in Wildwood, NJ and will concentrate on Spiritual Warfare.

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

NOVEMBER 1 to 14, 2002 PILGRIMAGE to the SHRINES of ITALY

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) is coordinating a pilgrimage to the Shrines of Italy from November 1st through November 14th, 2002. Package price is \$2599 from Newark, NJ.

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 (2002 RC) will be at the Hilton Hotel, Cherry Hill, NJ.

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).

The dates are Friday through Sunday, March 14th, 15th, and 16th, 2003, with a 3-Day Extension (3DX) on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, March 17th, 18th, and 19th, 2003. 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 “HEARTS AFLAME,” “S’ELAH,” “The FATHER’S LOVE,” “VOYAGE,” and Devin Riley have been invited.

Father Robert DeGrandis and his sister Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol will share the seminars and workshops of the 3DX on “Healing of Memories - Inner Healing.”

Rooms may be booked at the \$92 rate for both the 2003 RC and 3DX as well as up to 7 days before or after the events. This rate and availability of additional rooms expires on 2/19/2003.

The regular room rate is currently \$129 per room per night and will probably go up by March of 2003.

For Hotel reservations please call NOW: 1-800-HILTONS or locally 856-665-6666.

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

Kathleen as well as all the PFMC Volunteer Staff

SIXTH ANNUAL GOOD NEWS INTERNATIONAL NJ CATHOLIC TENT REVIVAL

As reported in the May 23, 2002, issue of “The Monitor” Newspaper of the Diocese of Trenton, Bill Wegner of Good News International, has announced that their sixth Annual Catholic Tent Revival will take place June 23, 24, and 25 starting at 6:30 PM each night on the grounds of Saint Veronica Church, Howell, NJ.

Scheduled to appear this year are: Jeff Cavins, hos of EWTN’s Life of the Rock TV show and former Pentecostal minister; Jim Murphy, internationally known speaker and teacher, who, in an efforts to bring attention to the evangelization efforts of the Church, carried a cross from Florida to Calilifornia in 1992; Dawn Kinsman, singer and songwriter from South Dakota, a nationally know recording artist who has performed at World Youth Day; and Father Bill Halbing, pastor of Saint Antoninus Church, Newark, NJ, a dynamic Bible teacher known throughout the world for making Holy Scripture come alive with relevance to today’s culture.

Bishop John Smith of the Trenton Diocese will celebrate the closing liturgy June 25.

The music ministry will again be provided by Refuge, from the Cathedral of Saint Francis, Diocese of Metuchen.

For more information, call Bill Wegner of Good News International at 732 364-6158 or 800 430-0586.

(The Monitor, May 23, 2002, page 22)

CALENDARS:

In *June* the Church celebrates the Solemnities of **CORPUS CHRISTI (1)**, **SACRED HEART (6)**, **BIRTH of SAINT JOHN the BAPTIST (24)** and **SAINTS PETER and PAUL (29)**, the Memorials of *Saints Justin (1)*, *Charles Lwanga and Companions (3)*, *Boniface (5)*, *Norbert (6)*, *Barnabas, Apostle (11)*, *Anthony of Padua (13)*, *Romuald (19)*, *Aloysius Gonzaga (21)*, *Paulinus of Nola (22)*, *John Fisher and Thomas More (22)*, *Cyril of Alexandria (27)*, *Irenaeus (28)*, and *The Immaculate Heart of Mary (7)*. Church calendars recognize **Father's Day (16)**.

In *July* the Church celebrates the Feasts of *Saints Thomas, Apostle (3)* and *James, Apostle (25)* and the Memorials of *Saints Junipero Serra (1)*, *Elizabeth of Portugal (4)*, *Anthony Mary Zaccaria (5)*, *Maria Goretti (6)*, *Benedict, Abbot (11)*, *Henry (13)*, *Bonaventure (15)*, *Lawrence of Brindisi (21)*, *Mary Magdalene (22)*, *Bridget of Sweden (23)*, *Joachim and Ann (26)*, *Martha (29)*, *Peter Chrysologus (30)* and *Ignatius of Loyola (31)* as well as **Our Lady of Mount Carmel (16)**. The Church calendar recognizes **Independence Day (4)**.

AROUND the PFMC AREA

Please review the announcements on pages 1 through 6 and the Bulletin Notices on pages 22 and 23. We need everyone to help publish information with prayer groups and in your Parish Bulletin.

For additional information, call the PFMC at (856) 768-9228. Please leave your area code with your phone number so that we may return your call. You may FAX your questions to (856)-768-9428.

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

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

**PRIORITY DATED
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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!"



DAUGHTERS of RUTH - WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesdays, 10 AM to 11:30 AM, PFMC Upper Room. Call Irene Atwell, (856) 665 0959.

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 is 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:

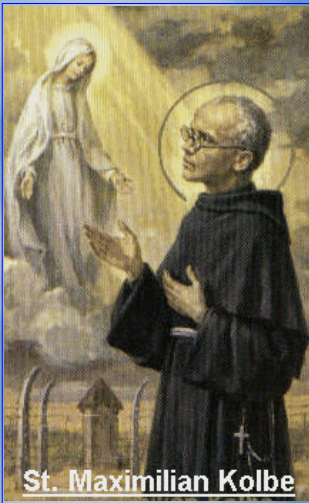
<http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>

Send us interesting web sites and e-mails:

PFMCkmw@comcast.net

keith.m.werner@lmco.com





"Putting it on the Line" A Live call-in Catholic Talk Show 610-527-2906

Mon-Fri --- 5:00P-6:00P --- WTMR 800 AM --- in the Delaware Valley

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E-mail inquires and comments to:
Dom Lettieri, praise@inhissign.com





Join

As We Travel To Franciscan University of Steubenville

Catholic Charismatic Conference

June 14-16, 2002

This year's Catholic Charismatic Conference features
nationally-know priests in the healing ministry

Father Robert DeGrandis

Father Richard McAlear

Father Ed McDonough

Father Michael Scanlon

During the conference **Father Richard Ho Lung**, founder of the Missionaries of the Poor, will receive the University's highest honor, The Poverello Medal, given to those who exemplify the Franciscan spirit of charity.

A group of Jamaican singers will accompany Father Ho Lung and perform in concert.

Price of \$335 (regular registration / double occupancy)	<u>Departure:</u> Friday, 6/14/02 7:30am (promptly!)
<u>OR</u>	
\$640 (married couple registration)	St. Mary Magdalen Parish 2400 N. Providence Road Media, PA (Delaware County) (Parking on Premises)
<u>Includes:</u> Registration for Conference Hotel Room at the Holiday Inn Food (6 meals - cafeteria style) Bus (air conditioned with lavatory)	<u>Return:</u> Sunday evening 6/16/02

Late Registration Fee - A \$15 fee will be charged for registrations received after 5/24/02.

Please Note: This charge is passed on to us by Franciscan University.

Cancellation Policy - No refunds will be made after 5/10/02
unless a replacement can be found to take your place.

A \$50.00 deposit per person is required to hold your space.
Final balance is due no later than 5/20/02.

VISA, Mastercard and Discover Cards Accepted
Call for information: 610-527-2906