



# The PILGRIM

Vol. 16, No. 4

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

April 2005

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

## A PRAYER



**Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for Your gift You have given each one of us through Your Life, Passion, Death, and Resurrection.**

**You gave us the richness of Life, true Life in Your most Sacred Heart. Through the Sacraments You give us grace that without it, our soul would die. In the Most Holy Eucharist we have the finest food to nurture and convert us.**

**O Jesus, keep us always within Your Most Precious Heart. Never let us separate from You, for we would surely be lost in an abyss of darkness. May we walk daily in Your Joy and Your Word, Your Promises, and Your PEACE. AMEN**

(Kathleen prays from the heart for each issue.)

## POPE JOHN PAUL II DIES at 84

*Saturday, 2 April 2005:* "The Holy Father died this evening at 9:37 p.m. (2:37 p.m. EST) in his private apartment. All the procedures outlined in the Apostolic Constitution 'Universi Dominici Gregis' that was written by John Paul II on Feb. 22, 1996, have been put in motion."

"At 8 PM the celebration of Holy Mass for Divine Mercy Sunday began in the Holy Father's room. During the course of the Holy Mass, the Viaticum was administered to the Holy Father and, once again, the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick."

The pope died after suffering heart and kidney failure following two hospitalizations in as many months. Just a few hours earlier, the Vatican had said he was in "very serious" condition but responded to members of the papal household.

Cardinal Angelo Sodano, the Vatican number 2 official, immediately led a tearful crowd of 70,000

The *March* MESSAGE, from **GOSPA, Our Lady, Queen of Peace**, to an alleged visionary from **Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina**, is presented beginning on page 14 (centerfold page) followed by REFLECTION and PRESS BULLETIN.

people in *Saint Peter's Square* in prayers for the dead pope as **Rome** observed a moment of silence.

**John Paul II** was last seen in public on *Wednesday* when, looking gaunt and unable to speak, he briefly appeared at his window.

His health sharply deteriorated the next day after he suffered a urinary tract infection. The **Vatican** said the pope was suffering from septic shock, which involves both bacteria in the blood and a consequent over-relaxing of the blood vessels.

Medical experts put the chances of survival for an elderly person in **John Paul's** condition at no more than *20 percent*, and only when hospitalized in intensive care. As the very end drew near, the pontiff refused to be taken to a hospital and instead spent his final hours in the papal apartment in **Rome**.

**John Paul II We Love You!!!**

(edited from e-mail and Special Edition of VIS, No. 61)

## MAY 17-25(27) PILGRIMAGE to MEDJUGORJE NEEDS PILGRIM APPLICATIONS NOW!



**Father Fulgencio Gutierrez** has accepted our invitation to be **Spiritual Director** for a pilgrimage to **Medjugorje**. This is a very special pilgrimage organized to bring all being called to this beautiful place of prayer

and discovery of God's peace. Please join him NOW by filling out the reservation form on the back of the enclosed blue colored pilgrimage information sheet and sending us full payment. If you have any questions, call us immediately at (856) 768-9228. Ask for **Keith** or **Kathleen**. Final reservations are being made and we'd like to include you in them.

"*The PILGRIM*" for *April 2005* is dedicated to the repose of the soul of **Pope John Paul II** and "*Mary, Full of Joy.*" See page 3 for an "IN THIS ISSUE . . ." Table of Contents listing.

The *17-25 May 2005* pilgrimage is a “go” with a group of pilgrims from **Boston** including a priest. The **PFMC** pilgrims are scheduled to leave with other *206 Tours* pilgrims from **New York John F. Kennedy (JFK) Airport**. We had hoped to stay for *10 days* until *27 May 2005* and to make some special excursions to **Dubrovnik** and **Mostar**. Without at least *10 PFMC* pilgrims, the extension, excursions, and the participation of **Father Fulgencio**, may not be possible at the advertised prices.

If you would like to participate in this pilgrimage, for *8 or 10 days*, PLEASE complete the application or reservation form at the bottom of the back page of the blue information sheet enclosed. Call *(856) 768-9228* to let us know of your application. Send it with full payment by PRIORITY MAIL so that we can obtain your airline seat and confirm your pilgrimage.

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## ASCENSION, PENTECOST and TRINITY SUNDAY – MAY 2005

### Three feasts of great importance in the life of the Church.

The Ascension is usually described as marking the completion of Jesus’ ministry on earth as he returned to Heaven. But it is far more than that. It marks the exact moment when Jesus, Son of God, commissioned his disciples to begin the gigantic task of converting the whole world. As recorded in Saint Mark’s Gospel, Jesus said: *“Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned.”*

Saint Luke tells us that Pentecost occurred a short time after the Ascension, and marked the fulfillment of Jesus’ promise, at his Ascension, to send the Holy Spirit on the disciples.

[Publisher’s Note: Actually the nine days from Ascension Thursday (40 days after Easter) to Pentecost (50 days after Easter) was the first novena. It was prayed by the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Apostles, and disciples in the Upper Room waiting for the Holy Spirit to come as promised.]

The gift of the Holy Spirit electrified these fearful followers - who only weeks before had run away when Jesus was arrested, and were still hiding for fear

of those who had been responsible for their Lord’s death - and transformed them into men and women willing to lay down their lives for their faith, as many of them did.

The feast of Holy Trinity, though logically linked with the other two, was established much later. Although its existence was clearly stated in the New Testament, and early recognized as a doctrine of the faith, it was only when the Arian heresy - which denied Jesus was God - was spreading in the fourth century, that the church Fathers prepared an Office with canticles, responses, a preface, and hymns, to be recited at Mass. From these, the feast we now celebrate as Trinity Sunday gradually evolved.

Together, these great feasts mark the promise which Jesus gave to his disciples, and its fulfillment in the Church on earth. As recorded by Saint Matthew, the very last words Jesus said to his Apostles before going up to Heaven, were: *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of time.”*

(by Peter Westmore, Publisher of *AD2000*. Reprinted from *AD2000* Vol 16 No 5 (June 2003), p. 2)

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## PLEASE CONTINUE to PRAY for KATHLEEN

Although **Kathleen** is getting better every day. She still has pain in her back and left leg. Physical therapy is returning more and more use of **Kathleen’s** left leg. She still must use a walker or a wheel chair because of instability in the left leg. I try to keep the Internet information as up to date as possible. Please refer to the [Kathleen Back Problems](#) link on the left side at <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>.

Many are calling or sending e-mails to get details from **Kathleen** or the volunteers without reading what was printed in the *January* or *February* – *March* issues of *“The PILGRIM”* or updated at the above listed link. Please understand that we cannot give personal responses for **Kathleen** and she is still not up to answering all the mail and calls personally.

We thank everyone for their prayers and concerns and

The volunteer Board of Directors and Staff of the **PFMC** recognize and accept that the final authority regarding the alleged 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.

wish we could relate the details of **Kathleen's** care, status, and thanks to everyone personally.

(Keith)

## PFMC FUND RAISER

We wish to thank **Shelly** and friends for setting up a **Fund Raiser** for the **Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC)**. An information sheet has been distributed in their area around **Flushing, NY**.

This event will be a **LATIN DANCE** featuring **Disc Jockey (DJ) Luis Orlando**. It will be held from **8 to 12 PM, Saturday, 21 May 2005**, at **Knights of Columbus Club, 35-79 160<sup>th</sup> Street, (Northern Blvd at 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Flushing, NY**. Donation is **\$25 per person, \$45 per couple**. There will be an **Open Bar and Food Available**.

For more information call: **Olga (917) 723-1505, Shelly (718) 229-3867, Carmen (718) 224-5274, Edgar (718) 343-5311, or Mercedes (718) 423-3534**.

(from a letter signed Shelly and Friends, 3/30/05)

## VACANCY of the HOLY SEE

The **Vatican Web Site** has on **Saturday, 2 April 2005** already been updated to show the **Vacancy of the Holy or Apostolic See (Papal Interregnum)**. The period between the death or resignation of a Pope and the election of his successor, when the **See of Peter** is vacant, is called the **Interregnum**. This Latin term means between the reign (of one Pope and another). It is a period governed by papal law, which admits of no changes to Church governance, or to the spiritual or material patrimony of St. Peter, save the election of his successor

We know there will be hundreds of questions so we have printed "**Universi Dominici Gregis**" from [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/john\\_paul\\_ii/apost\\_constitutions/documents/hf\\_jp-ii\\_apc\\_22021996\\_universi-dominici-gregis\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/apost_constitutions/documents/hf_jp-ii_apc_22021996_universi-dominici-gregis_en.html) and will have it available at the **PFMC**. Those who use the **Internet** may want to visit the **Vatican Web Site** and follow the activities there.

The **Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN)** has dug into their archive programs and been running some of them in place of regular programming with a ticker tape at the bottom of the screen keeping us all up to date.

Please stay in prayer not only for the repose of the soul of **Pope John Paul II** but also for all of the Cardinal electors. Pray that these men will be guided by the Holy Spirit as they now face the awesome task

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of finding a suitable person to fill the shoes of the fisherman so ably filled by **Karol Wojtyla**.

God rest his soul!!

## PLEASE SUPPORT the PFMC EVENTS and PILGRIMAGES

Dear Friends in the Lord, we write this **April** note to express our sincere thanks for your outpouring of prayers during **Kathleen's** health problems.

We are still in need of your support to help us continue to succeed in fulfilling our goals and objectives as spelled out in **1989** when we were called to "**Bring pilgrims to my Son through Medjugorje**" and "**Bring pilgrims to me through Medjugorje.**"

The **PFMC** was established with many goals and objectives because we were guided by the **Holy Spirit** to be as inclusive as possible.

From the beginning we worked with **Healing Prayer** to expand the power of the **Sacrament of Confession, Penance, or Reconciliation** to all those in need of **Healing**.

We have learned from experience that the **Effects of Sin** linger on even after a good **Confession**.

The last words of the **Act of Contrition** have taken on new meaning for us and those who have approached us for **Healing Prayer**. Remember them: **“confess my sins, do penance, and amend my life, Amen.”**

Those who have professed their willingness to **“amend my life”** are progressing well with **Healing Prayer**. This is a key ingredient in the effort of **Healing Prayer**. Another key ingredient is **Intercessory Prayer**. Not only do we need the prayers of the **PFMC Intercessory Prayer Teams** but also those of friends and relatives.

We thank you again for making all this possible, and give to you our promise to work with zeal in the service of our **Roman Catholic Church**. We ask Our Lord to bless you abundantly, and to envelope you in His most Sacred Heart through His Mother’s most Immaculate Heart.

**(Kathleen and Keith for the PFMC Volunteer Staff)**

## **PRAYER to the HOLY SPIRIT for the GREAT JUBILEE (Pope John Paul II)**

Holy Spirit, most welcome guest of our hearts, reveal to us the profound meaning of the Great Jubilee and prepare our hearts to celebrate it with faith, in the hope which does not disappoint, in the love which seeks nothing in return.

Spirit of truth, you who search the depths of God, memory and prophecy in the Church, lead mankind to recognize in Jesus of Nazareth the Lord of glory, the Saviour of the world, the supreme fulfillment of history.

Creator Spirit, hidden builder of the Kingdom, by the power of your saints guide the Church to cross with courage the threshold of the new millennium and to carry to the coming generations the light of the Word who brings salvation.

Spirit of holiness, divine breath which moves the universe, come and renew the face of the earth. Awaken in Christians a desire for full unity, that they maybe for the world an effective sign and instrument

of intimate union with God and of the unity of the whole human race.

To you, Spirit of love, with the Almighty Father and Only-Begotten Son, be praise, honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

<http://www.catholic-church.org/grace/2000/HS-prayers.htm>

## **KNOW THAT I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS**

### **ASCENSION THURSDAY, 5/5/2005**

*Acts 1: 1-11, Ephesians 1: 17-23, Matthew 28: 16-20*



What does the Church celebrate on Ascension Day? We are being invited to have faith in an important aspect of the Risen Lord’s Paschal Mystery. The Saviour was present to his chosen disciples after the Resurrection, laying the foundations of the Church’s faith. That extraordinary presence was of limited duration, and soon gave way to another manner of presence – as the Saviour guides the Church through the blessings of his own Spirit. Today’s liturgy gathers three passages of the New Testament that give expression to the faith of the first Christians in this phase of the Paschal Mystery.

The concluding passage of Matthew’s gospel is deceptive in its brevity. It is in fact a masterly summary of the teaching of the whole gospel - as the Risen Lord himself sends his disciples on mission with words of encouragement. He gives expression to the fullness of the divine authority that ‘has been given to him’ by the Father. He sends them on a mission that is universal: ‘Make disciples of all the nations’. They are to teach them to ‘observe all his commandments’ – the New Law of his Sermon the Mount. They are to carry out their mission by preaching the Good News and by baptizing ‘in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit’. And, as he echoes the words of the covenant that was the foundation of Israel’s faith – ‘I am with you’ – he assures them that he is truly Emmanuel.

Luke’s account, in the opening passage of the Acts of the Apostles, is the work of a skilful teacher - concerned to help his readers understand the mystery of the Lord’s new manner of presence. Luke alone in the New Testament speaks of the Lord’s dealing with his disciples as lasting ‘forty days’ – a round number frequently used in the scriptures; though it may be linked with the fifty days between Passover and the Pentecost celebration of old Israel. It is made clear that this period is a time of preparation and

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anticipation – the disciples can look forward to ‘what the Father promised’; not many days hence they ‘will be baptized with the Holy Spirit’. Luke’s account is centered in Jerusalem. (In fact he has omitted any reference to the disciples’ withdrawal in discouragement to Galilee.) Though the divine plan that shaped the Old Testament is being fulfilled, a new era is beginning – shaped, not by false messianic hopes of ‘the restoration of the kingdom of Israel’, but by the Father’s mysterious authority. It is the era of the Church’s earthly pilgrimage. The Acts of the Apostles (like a second volume of Luke’s gospel) will present the Church as carrying out its mission through the blessings of the Holy Spirit – ‘You will be my witnesses to the ends of the earth’. Luke, the careful teacher, sketches a graphic word picture for his readers: the Lord is ‘lifted up’, and a ‘cloud’ (Old Testament sign of God’s presence) takes him from their sight. Perhaps the mystery of the Savior’s heavenly exaltation (see the early hymn of Philippians 2) has given rise to this kind of description in some circles. But Luke subtly modifies the crudeness of such a presentation. The two heavenly messengers make it clear that what is taking place is not an event of this world. Their advice to the disciples is not to stare into the sky, but to give themselves to the Church’s earthly mission until the Lord returns.

The reading from Ephesians is an eloquent testimony to the way in which the Church understood this mission, carried out under the authority of the Risen Christ, who has made himself ‘the head of the Church which is his body’.

(by John Thornhill, a Marist Father with an international reputation as a writer in theology.  
[www.emmaus.series.perthcatholic.org.au/html/ascension\\_a.html](http://www.emmaus.series.perthcatholic.org.au/html/ascension_a.html))

## IN THE ONE SPIRIT WE WERE ALL BAPTISED

**PENTECOST SUNDAY, 5/15/2005**

*Acts 2: 1-11; 1 Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13; John 20: 19-23*



The liturgies of the Easter season bring home to us the unity of the Savior’s Paschal Mystery. How frequently our New Testament readings have made mention of the Holy Spirit, looking forward to the coming of the Spirit as a final culmination.

Luke’s account of the coming of the Spirit upon the apostles associates this coming with the ‘day of

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Pentecost’, a Jewish festival celebrated fifty days after Passover – a harvest festival that later became a celebration of the giving of the Law to Moses. The basis of Luke’s vivid dramatization may well have been the fact that, on this popular festival, the apostles – still uncertain how to undertake the enormous mission they had been given – may have joined the pilgrims crowding Jerusalem, and for the first time found the courage to proclaim their faith in the Risen Lord. In the joy and success they found on this occasion, they recognized the ‘baptism with the Holy Spirit’ they had been promised. In the Acts of the Apostles Luke tells the story of the Church of the beginnings using a device in use at the time by writers of popular history – of taking important events in the history they are presenting, and dramatizing them in a way that brings out their far-reaching significance. Thus, in Luke’s account, what begins as an event on one room of the city – ‘a noise that filled the whole house’, ‘something that seemed like tongues of fire’, the apostles ‘speaking in foreign languages’ – suddenly involves the whole crowded city, as faith in the Risen Lord is preached ‘to devout men from every nation under heaven’. As Luke’s dramatization continues in the passage that follows our reading, Peter’s preaching leads to the baptizing of three thousand people – a number designed to bring out the momentous nature of what is taking place, and the universal mission that will flow from it, rather than giving a precise historical detail. As we know, Luke is writing a sequel to his gospel: the story of the Holy Spirit’s life-giving guidance of the early Church. In

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

**Camden, Harrisburg, Metuchen, Norwich, Pittsburgh, Rockville**

**Center, Scranton, Trenton and Wilmington Dioceses. Father Glenn**

**Hartman, is reviewing every issue of “The PILGRIM.”**

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

later ages, our instinct has been sound, in celebrating Pentecost as the birthday of the Church.

The other readings point to other dimensions of the workings of the Spirit in our lives. Our life in Christ is filled, from beginning to end, with God's generous gifts. And all of these gifts come from 'one and the same Spirit' – from our faith in Christ as our 'Lord and God' to the Individual contributions we are able to make to the life of our community.

In John's gospel, as we are reminded in today's reading, the Spirit is given on the evening of Resurrection Day itself. 'Peace be with you', Jesus repeats, and 'breathing on them' he says, 'Receive the Holy Spirit'. John's gospel reminds us that if the Spirit is responsible for the great things in which God is present in the life of the Church, the Spirit is also evident in our personal lives, in the true 'peace' and contentment that comes to those who give themselves generously to the Lord. In John's gospel, Jesus, at the Last Supper, associates the gift of the Spirit he promises with a peace that is his special gift: 'My own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give this is my gift to you' (Jn 14:27),

How varied are the gifts of the Spirit. In this era of change and renewal, let us become more aware of our dependence upon them.

[www.emmaus.series.perthcatholic.org.au/html/pentecost\\_a.html](http://www.emmaus.series.perthcatholic.org.au/html/pentecost_a.html) by John Thornhill SM

## PLEASE MARK YOUR 2005 CALENDARS for **PFMC** EVENTS

See **Conference Corner** on *page 27* as well as **Bulletin Notices** on *pages 26 and 27*. Most **PFMC** events will be preceded by their own **PFMC** information sheets with reservation forms.

### May 2005

*15 May – 25 (27) May 2005: Pilgrimage to Medjugorje, Bosnia-Hercegovina.*

*21 May 2005, Saturday, 8 to 12 PM: LATIN DANCE featuring Disc Jockey (DJ) Luis Orlando. at Knights of Columbus Club, 35-79 160<sup>th</sup> Street, (Northern Blvd at 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Flushing, NY.*

### June - July 2005

There will not be a *July* issue of "**The PILGRIM**" due to vacations for **PFMC** volunteers. The *June* messages will appear in a *July August* issue of "**The PILGRIM**" put out early in *August 2005*.

## August 2005

*7 August 2005:* The annual **PFMC Business Meeting** will take place after **Prayer** at **3 PM** in the midst of a **PFMC Pot Luck Picnic**.

## October 2005

*9 October – 14 October 2005: Pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo, Monte Sant' Angelo, and Lanciano, Italy with Father Glenn Hartman.*

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## GOD SENT HIS SON, THAT THROUGH HIM THE WORLD MIGHT BE SAVED

### TRINITY SUNDAY, 5/22/2005

*Exodus 34: 4-7, 8-9; 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13; John 3: 16-18*



In each of us there are personal depths, mysterious depths that others can know only if we choose to make them our friends. We should not be surprised, that in the boundless life of our God there is a mystery of overflowing life that is far beyond our complete comprehension. Yet – and here we are touching the very heart of our Christian faith, and its greatness – this mystery of personal life reaches out to us, and invites us into its friendship.

We humans share the mystery of our personhood with others by expressing who we are in our interaction with them. And so it has been with the divine self-disclosure, or revelation. From the first, the God of our faith tradition has reached out to humanity with an astounding generosity that was very different from what was expected from the remote and fearful gods the peoples of the world had set up for themselves: Yahweh was the champion of the oppressed, a God whose self-giving was expressed in a covenant relationship. Our reading from the Book of Exodus gives a moving expression to the deep lessons this covenant relationship brought to those who were open to a meeting with the God who had made them his own: 'a God of tenderness, and compassion, slow to anger, and rich in kindness and faithfulness'.

Great as these lessons were, however, they were only a prelude and foreshadowing of the interaction that would give an ultimate expression to the personal life of God -when 'the Word became flesh, and we saw the glory that he has as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth' (Jn 1:14). Today's reading from John's gospel reiterates this truth: 'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son'. Now the

mystery of God's generous love has its full expression. The love of the Son, as he gives himself 'that the world might be saved', is the expression of the love of the Father himself – expressed in this text in an echo of Abraham's anguish, when he was told, 'Take your son, your only son; you are to offer him as a burnt offering' (Gen 22:2). In this expression of divine compassion, the astounding superabundance of life in a Trinity of Persons finds expression; and gives us a sharing in its friendship, as 'the love of God is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us' (Rom 5:5). (Today's gospel reading is noteworthy for its reference to 'the world'. Usually, in John's gospel, 'the world' refers to humanity's project when it is alienated from God [cf. Jn 15:19]; and God's love towards the disciples of Jesus is what is stressed. In this text, however, 'the world' too is the object of God's saving love.)

Paul's benediction at the end of his second letter to the Corinthians is a remarkable summary of this sharing in the Trinitarian life. It is through 'Grace' – the absolutely unmerited generosity that has shaped all God's dealings from the beginning - that now finds an ultimate expression in all that 'the Lord Jesus Christ' has done. And what the Saviour has done is the revelation of 'the love of God (the Father)', a love that gathers us into a 'fellowship' that is united in the gifts of 'the Holy Spirit'. These words of the text and its reference to 'a holy kiss' probably echo the liturgies of Paul's communities. It is especially in a faith-filled liturgy that believers experience their sharing in the fellowship of the Trinitarian life.

[www.emmaus.series.perthcatholic.org.au/html/trinity\\_sunday\\_a.html](http://www.emmaus.series.perthcatholic.org.au/html/trinity_sunday_a.html) by John Thornhill SM)

## PILGRIMAGES for 2005

We have published information sheets with reservation forms to coordinate pilgrims for two pilgrimages to **Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina** and one to **San Giovanni Rotondo, Monte San Angelo, and Lanciano, Italy**.

Both pilgrimages to **Medjugorje** are using the services of **206 Tours** who have been organizing such pilgrimages since **1985**. **206 Tours** has set up a special web page for the **PFMC** at: <http://www.pilgrimages.com/pfmc/>.

**17 to 25(27) May 2005: PFMC** coordinated **Medjugorje** pilgrims will join pilgrims already signed up with **206 Tours**. The **PFMC Spiritual Director** will be **Father Fulgencio Gutierrez**. See enclosed blue information sheet with reservation form. The base price is **\$1499** plus **\$199** for travel /

airport taxes and **\$199** for the extension for two nights in **Medjugorje** to support excursions to places like **Mostar** and **Dubrovnik**. Add-on air fares from other cities to **JFK, NY** are available. Please visit: <http://www.pilgrimages.com/pfmc/starofthesea/> or <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith/2005/05PPM05.pdf> for additional information.

**1 to 7 August 2005: A PFMC** coordinated pilgrimage to **Lourdes** via **Frankfort, Toulouse, and Pau** is on hold awaiting the requestor for final arrangements. A **5 to 12 August 2005** pilgrimage to **Lourdes** is pre-planned by **206 Tours** and would be an option for those interested. This would still be good for those who cannot pilgrimage during the school year. Let us know if you wish to make such a pilgrimage.

**5 to 13 September 2005: PFMC** pilgrims may join a pilgrimage to **Medjugorje** coordinated by **Rafael Villongo**, (732) 441-0567 or (732) 441-1513. The **Spiritual Director** will be **Father Donald Calloway, MIC**. The base price is **\$1499** plus **\$160 - \$200** for travel / airport taxes. Add-on air fares from other cities to **Newark, NJ** are available. Please visit: <http://www.pilgrimages.com/fralloway> for more information. This pilgrimage had at least **40** pilgrims signed up at the end of **March 2005**.

**9 to 14 October 2005: San Giovanni Rotondo (Saint Pio of Pietrelcina), Monte San Angelo, and Lanciano, Italy**, with **Father Glenn Hartman, Saint John Neumann Parish** in **Sicklerville, NJ** as **Spiritual Director**. See enclosed gold information sheet with reservation forms. The Double Occupancy Package Price is **\$1899** with a Single Supplement of **\$200**. The Package price does not include: Medical / Traveler's Insurance the cost of which is age dependent; alcoholic beverages, lunch, snacks, laundry and / or dry cleaning, room service, tips, etc. which are individual preference; and transportation to **Newark International Airport (EWR)**. Add-on air fares from other cities to **EWR** are available. Ground transportation information and coordination is also available. Information sheets will be mailed to anyone who asks for them. Please visit: <http://www.pilgrimages.com/pfmc/frhartman> or <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith/2005/FrHartmanFlyer.PDF> for more information.

What would you like to do with regard to visiting **Medjugorje** or any other shrine or holy place recognized by the **Magisterium** of the **Roman Catholic Church** as a worthy place of pilgrimage?

Please let us know the times of the year you might want to go on pilgrimage and interim stopover points. We can go via a number of airports with moderate layovers in the airport. We have always preferred to

spend at least a day visiting holy places around the airport by arriving early and departing late.

If you would like us to set up a pilgrimage or a retreat cruise for your prayer group, parish, or school, with or without **PFMC** coordination, please call (856) 768-9228 for estimates on your ideas.

**(The Volunteer Staff at the PFMC)**

## MEL GIBSON'S SECRET MEETING with FATIMA VISIONARY

Actor Mel Gibson held a secret meeting with one of the famous visionaries of Fatima, Sister Lucia of Portugal.



Sisters Sophia and Lucia, Mel Gibson and wife.

Sister Lucia, now 98 years of age, is a cloistered nun who as a child saw and spoke with the Virgin Mary in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917.

Her visions and those of her two childhood friends, both since passed away, were both prophetic and apocalyptic. The Catholic Church accepted the visions as authentic.

Fatima-based Unity Publishing's Richard Salbato recently revealed in an online report that after the nuns asked for a private showing of Gibson's film "The Passion of the Christ," Gibson not only OK'd the viewing, but the actor flew to Coimbra, Portugal, to personally introduce the film to Lucia and her Sisters.

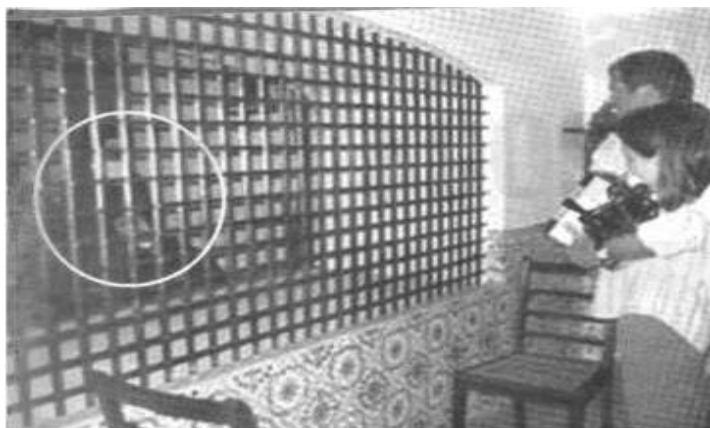
During Lent of 2004, the nuns at the convent in Coimbra, where Sister Lucia lives, wanted to see the film as a devotional aid in preparation for Good Friday and Easter.

Unable to leave the convent or meet face-to-face with outsiders because of the strict Carmelite rules governing cloistered sisters – and lacking the modern convenience of a DVD player – they sought to contact Mel Gibson's Icon Productions for help.

According to Unity, word was sent out from the Convent to make contact with Icon or Gibson to get a DVD for the convent.

Thanks to a girl in Porto, Portugal, Luciana Regadas, who knew a volunteer worker for Icon Productions and Mel Gibson, Lourdes Gutierrez, this contact was made. Gutierrez had been involved with the movie in a volunteer capacity, helping to put together two screenings in the Miami, Fla., area.

According to Unity, "Mel Gibson had come to Fatima in September of 2003 to ask Our Lady for help in the film and later Jim Caviezel (the actor who played Christ) came to show the film to religious institutions to get their opinions of the movie. He even went to the Convent in Coimbra to show the film but was refused because he insisted on going behind the cloister which is not permitted."



Gibson and wife meet Lucia.

Lourdes Gutierrez recalled that "Ninety-two e-mails back and forth later and many phone calls, a deal was set to show the film to the nuns. This was difficult because there were no DVDs yet and only 1 inch tapes, which require special cameras and large pull down screens.

"We even got approval for Mel Gibson to see Lucia in a private meeting, but because Mel Gibson might be attacked as using Lucia to promote his film, he, Mel Gibson, and not the convent, insisted that such a visit would be strictly secret.

"In the end only Father Condor, the convent and the Icon Production crew knew of the date of showing the film. We knew the month but that was all. It must

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have cost Mel Gibson ten to twenty thousand dollars to show this film to the convent because it took a full crew of camera men.

“Mel Gibson later came into Portugal to promote the Portuguese version of the film and then sneaked over to the Convent without anyone knowing and met with Sister Lucia. We were told not to print this or let anyone know unless the Convent or Mel Gibson gave permission for it. This did not come until after the film ran its course in the theaters and the DVD ran its campaign in the stores.”

Mel Gibson visited Lucia of Fatima at the Carmel convent last July. He was accompanied by his wife, Robin Moore, and Father Luis Condor.



Gibson Shakes Hands with Lucia.

According to the convent's Mother Superior Celina, the actor and his wife are wonderful and very humble people.

“He is very outspoken and a person easily to be liked, and he answered all of our questions about the movie. Some questions were asked by Sister Lucy, who attended the meeting which lasted for about an hour, was always very alert following the conversation,” she told Unity.

According to Unity, what the nuns or Lucia said about the movie is unknown and may never be known because statements by Lucia or, for that matter, any Carmelite nun anywhere in the world are always sent through the bishop or the Holy Father first.

Because of her power of influence, Lucia must be very careful what she says publicly since she is one of the possessors of the so-called “Third Secret of Fatima.”

As a child, Sister Lucia and her friends Jacinta and Francisco saw the Virgin Mary in a series of apparitions.

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While playing in a field outside the village of Fatima during World War I they saw a flash of light on top of a small evergreen tree. The light turned out to be the Virgin Mary, who asked that they come back on the 13th of each month for the next six months, at which times she would tell them who she was and what she wanted.

During the apparitions, the Virgin Mary made some prophecies, telling the children that if man did not stop offending God, a second great war would begin during the reign of Pope Pius XI. Twenty-two years later, World War II broke out in Europe.

The Virgin Mary also warned that Russia, unless converted, would wreak havoc upon the world. This was before the rise of the Soviet Union.

Mary also confided to the girls the so-called Third Secret. The Secret was to be read by the pope in office in 1960 and then publicized. As it turned out, Pope John XXIII was the pope at that time who read the secret and decided to not reveal its contents.

The contents of the Third Secret were shared with John XXIII's successors. In June 2000, Pope John Paul II released the Third Secret.

The message, as recounted by Lucia, warned of tribulation for the world and persecution of the Catholic Church, including the shooting of the pope.

Some Church officials believe that the shooting of John Paul II in 1982 was a fulfillment of the prophecy, while others believe it has yet to be fulfilled. Others wonder if the full details of the Third Secret have been revealed.

Asked in 1980 why the Secret had yet to be released, Pope John Paul II told a German audience:

“Because of the seriousness of its contents, in order not to encourage the worldwide power of Communism to carry out certain coups, my Predecessors in the Chair of Peter have diplomatically preferred to withhold its publication.

“On the other hand, it should be sufficient for all Christians to know this much: if there is a message in which it is said that the oceans will flood entire sections of the earth; that, from one moment to the other, millions of people will perish ... there is no longer any point in really wanting to publish this secret message.

“Many want to know merely out of curiosity, or because of their taste for sensationalism, but they forget that ‘to know’ implies for them a responsibility. It is dangerous to want to satisfy one's curiosity only, if one is convinced that we can do nothing against a catastrophe that has been predicted.”

At this point, the Holy Father took hold of his Rosary and said: "Here is the remedy against the evil! Pray, pray and ask for nothing else. Put everything in the hands of the Mother of God!"

John Paul II continued: "We must be prepared to undergo great trials in the not-too-distant future; trials that will require us to be ready to give up even our lives, and a total gift of self to Christ and for Christ.

"Through your prayers and mine, it is possible to alleviate this tribulation, but it is no longer possible to avert it, because it is only in this way that the Church can be effectively renewed. How many times, indeed, has the renewal of the Church been effected in blood? This time, again, it will not be otherwise.

"We must be strong, we must prepare ourselves, we must entrust ourselves to Christ and to His holy Mother, and we must be attentive, very attentive, to the prayer of the Rosary."

(Edited from NewsMax.com, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2005,  
[www.newsmax.com/archives/ic/2005/1/11/104058.shtml](http://www.newsmax.com/archives/ic/2005/1/11/104058.shtml)  
and Unity Publishing )

## MEL GIBSON BLASTS OSCARS, PLANS FATIMA MOVIE

Mel Gibson says he cut scenes from his soon-to-be-released blockbuster film, "Passion of the Christ," to tone down the violence that earned it an R rating and kept some people from seeing it.

Gibson said he received "truckloads of cards and letters" when the original film was released.

"What came up again and again was that a lot of people were turned away because of the brutality in the film and were afraid to watch," he told Raymond Arroyo on EWTN's "World Over Live" Friday night.

"So I thought if I softened it up a bit, I could have a wider audience. Essentially it's the same film, but what I've done is to excise some of the aspects of it," he explained. "The trick was to excise or imply some of the aspects of it that were pretty much in your face, without actually showing them."

Gibson said he edited the film by reducing its length by about five or six minutes.

Gibson said among the changes he made was the scene showing the crowning of Christ with the crown of thorns.

"You see it, but it's farther away," he said, adding that viewers no longer see the nails being driven into Christ's hands.

Despite the changes, Gibson said, "it still works." Gibson spoke about his recent visit to meet Sister Lucia, the Fatima visionary, as first revealed by NewsMax.com in January. [See previous article.]

Calling her "incredibly childlike," Gibson described her convent as "pretty austere and spartan."

Noting that he believes that the full contents of the famed Third Secret have not been revealed, he said, "I still don't think we got all it," but said he did not raise the subject with her.

"You can't go in there and say, 'So, what's the Third Secret?'" he explained. "But I still want to know."

Sister Lucia passed away last month, renewing interest in the subject of her visions of the Virgin Mary. London's Daily Mail reported this weekend that Gibson is considering a movie about Fatima.

Commenting on the recent Oscar awards ceremonies, where Hollywood turned its back on "The Passion," Gibson said that he made none of the usual Hollywood moves to promote his film.

"The whole notion of these awards ceremonies is ludicrous. ... It's really a marketing exercise."

The awards ceremonies, he added, are "a celebration of mediocrity."

"My film is not right wing or political, but they made it so," he said.

He noted that he was delighted that his film won the People's Choice award.

As for the Oscar, Gibson said: "I didn't expect one. I knew exactly what was going to happen. I didn't try to market the film. People are spending 15 or 20 million dollars to market their films. That's a lot of money for a little gold statue." Gibson also revealed that he will be going back to acting in a couple of upcoming films.

(Edited from NewsMax.com, Monday, March 7, 2005,  
[www.newsmax.com/archives/ic/2005/3/7/185117.shtml](http://www.newsmax.com/archives/ic/2005/3/7/185117.shtml))

## FREE WILL

My Lord, my Father and my King,  
Without a voice the flowers sing.  
Creator of the universe,  
Cry all the creatures of the earth.  
Yet man alone must wonder, "Why?"  
And by our choice God's way defy.

It is this choice to us You give,  
We choose to die, or choose to live,  
To live Your way brings peace of mind,  
The world's way; turmoil brings, we find.

Your law of Love's our destiny,  
It does not bind, it sets us free.

You want us free to turn to You,  
To show Your love in all we do.  
In fact that was Your new command,  
Not honoured when we act offhand.  
To love – is more than tolerate,  
It's more than simply not to hate.

I hate no one a man may say,  
And smile when he kneels down to pray.  
But does the Father also smile?  
Have we walked that extra mile?  
Can we humbly; truly say :-,  
All saw God's love in me today?

(Sent out by "Josie M" [tupac\\_4life@hotmail.com](mailto:tupac_4life@hotmail.com))



## POPE FACES DOWN EVIL WITH NEW BOOK

Pope John Paul II may be ailing, but he is not afraid to speak out.

Already the Pope's newest book – just released in Europe – is creating headlines around the world.

In his most candid writings yet, John Paul II's "Memory and Identity, Conversations Between Millenniums" tackles hot button issues such as abortion and same-sex marriage, and fearlessly makes the case for his Church's positions.

Written in a question-and-answer format, the book is said to be a must-read not only for Catholics, but also for Christians concerned about the direction Western society is heading.

Though just published, it is already soaring to the top of the world's best-seller lists. The global anticipation is reminiscent of the excitement generated by his first book, "Crossing the Threshold of Hope," which came out a decade ago and sold 20 million copies.

The new book is scheduled to be released in the U.S. next month..

"Memory and Identity" has already set off a heated controversy in Germany and among Jewish groups after it was revealed that the Pope compares abortion to the Nazi Holocaust. In Germany, for example, a leader of the country's Central Council of Jews called the comparison "unacceptable."

According to press reports, the Pope:

Recalls his near-death memories after the attempt on his life, and compares abortion to the Holocaust.

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Denounces gay marriages as part of "a new ideology of evil." He argues that same-sex marriages threaten society by undermining the traditional family. Takes another swing at gay marriages when he refers to "pressures" on the European Parliament to allow them. "It is legitimate and necessary to ask oneself if this is not perhaps part of a new ideology of evil, perhaps more insidious and hidden, which attempts to pit human rights against the family and against man," he writes. Calls abortion "legal extermination" comparable to attempts to wipe out Jews and other groups in the 20th century. The Pope openly talks about the Nazi attempt to exterminate Jews and the wholesale slaughter of political opponents by Communist regimes after World War II. Writes about Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca, who shot and nearly killed him in Saint Peter's Square on May 13, 1981. The Pope believes the gunman did not act alone, suggesting that the former Soviet Communist Bloc was probably behind the plot. The Pope says that the assassination attempt was not the gunman's initiative: "Someone else masterminded it and someone else commissioned it." Posits a connection between the assassination attempt and "the last convulsion" of the ideologies of the 20th century - a clear reference to the Communist bloc. Warns that new evils as bad the Nazis and Communism are rising, and claims that legally elected parliaments in formerly totalitarian countries are today allowing what he calls "new forms of evil" and new exterminations.

"There is still, however, a legal extermination of human beings who have been conceived but not yet born," he writes. "And this time we are talking about an extermination which has been allowed by nothing less than democratically elected parliaments where one normally hears appeals for the civil progress of society and all humanity," he writes.

### PLEASE RESPOND to THIS NOTICE and STAY ON the BULK MAILING LIST

We do need to hear from you in writing **at least once a year** in order to keep you on our mailing list. Bulk Mail is not required to be returned if the delivery address is incorrect. Please respond now for 2005.

In Christian charity we do not want delivery to incorrect addresses and wasting of God's precious resources. There is no "subscription" fee. We do ask for free will donations to support **"The PILGRIM"** and the operations of the **PFMC**.

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.

At a news conference introducing the Pope's new book, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the Vatican's top doctrinal official, explained the Pope's comparison of abortion and the Holocaust by noting that the Pope was warning that evil lurked everywhere, "even in liberal political systems."

"Memory and Identity" is based on the Pope's conversations with philosopher friends in 1993 and later with some of his aides. Marketing materials from Orion Books, the publisher of the English edition, say the book reflects on the most challenging issues and events of the Pope's turbulent times.

"Pope John Paul II reveals his personal thoughts in a truly historic document," Orion writes. "The world's greatest communicator offers a moving insight into his intellectual and spiritual journey and pastoral experience."

With the Pope in his twilight years, the publisher notes this book contains his last words for posterity, "an intellectual and spiritual testament in an attempt to seek the answer to defining problems that vex our lives."

An Associated Press (AP) story takes it a step further: The book, it says, looks at Western Civilization with the goal of identifying nothing less than the "roots of evil."

(by Phil Brennan, Friday, March 4, 2005, [www.newsmax.com/archives/articles/2005/3/3/164510.shtml](http://www.newsmax.com/archives/articles/2005/3/3/164510.shtml) with permission)

## IRAQ - DID YOU KNOW?

1. The garden of Eden was in Iraq.
2. Mesopotamia, which is now Iraq, was the cradle of civilization!
3. Noah built the ark in Iraq.
4. The Tower of Babel was in Iraq.
5. Abraham was from Ur, which is in Southern Iraq!
6. Isaac's wife Rebekah is from Nahor, now in Iraq.
7. Jacob met Rachel in Iraq.
8. Jonah preached in Nineveh - which is in Iraq.
9. Assyria, which is in Iraq, conquered the ten tribes of Israel.
10. Amos cried out in Iraq!
11. Babylon, which is in Iraq, destroyed Jerusalem.
12. Daniel was in the lion's den in Iraq!
13. The three Hebrew children were in the fire in Iraq (Jesus had been in Iraq also as the fourth person in the fiery furnace!)

14. Belshazzar, the King of Babylon saw the "writing on the wall" in Iraq.

15. Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, carried the Jews captive into Iraq.

16. Ezekiel preached in Iraq.

17. The wise men were from Iraq.

18. Peter preached in Iraq.

19. The "Empire of Man" described in Revelation is called Babylon, which was a city in Iraq!

And you have probably seen this one.

Israel is the nation most often mentioned in the Bible. But do you know which nation is second? It is Iraq! However, that is not the name that is used in the Bible. The names used in the Bible are Babylon, Land of Shinar, and Mesopotamia. The word Mesopotamia means between the two rivers, more exactly between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. The name Iraq, means country with deep roots. Indeed Iraq is a country with deep roots and is a very significant country in the Bible. No other nation, except Israel, has more history and prophecy associated it than Iraq.

And also...This is something to think about! Since America is typically represented by an eagle. Saddam should have read up on his Muslim passages...

The following verse is from the Koran, (the Islamic Bible) *Koran (9:11) - For it is written that a son of Arabia would awaken a fearsome Eagle. The wrath of the Eagle would be felt throughout the lands of Allah and lo, while some of the people trembled in despair still more rejoiced; for the wrath of the Eagle cleansed the lands of Allah; and there was peace.* (Note the verse number!) HMMMMMMMM?!

God Bless you all!

(from David Cantera, [david.cantera@iacnet.net](mailto:david.cantera@iacnet.net))

## ALMIGHTY and ETERNAL GOD

I thank You, O holy Lord, almighty Father, eternal God, Who have designed, not through any merits of mine, but out of the condescension of Your goodness, to satisfy me a sinner, Your unworthy servant, with the precious Body and Blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray that this holy Communion be not a condemnation to punishment for me, but a saving plea to forgiveness. May it be to me the armor of faith and the shield of a good will.

May it be the emptying out of my vices and the extinction of all lustful desires; an increase of charity and patience, of humility and obedience, and of all

virtues; a strong defense against the snares of all my enemies, visible and invisible; the perfect quieting of all my evil impulses of flesh and spirit, binding me firmly to You, the one true God; and a happy ending of my life.

I pray too that You will deign to bring me a sinner to that ineffable banquet, where You with Your Son and the Holy Spirit, are to Your saints true light, fulfillment of desires, eternal joy, unalloyed gladness, and perfect bliss. Through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(Saint Thomas Aquinas,  
[www.stleo.com/newpage5.htm](http://www.stleo.com/newpage5.htm))

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## ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS

**4/15/2005 to 4/17/2005, 5/13/2005 to  
5/15/2005, 6/10/2005 to 6/12/2005,  
10/7/2005 to 10/9/2005 Ecumenical Couples**

**Engaged Encounter** weekends are held at **Stella Maris Retreat House** in **Elberon, NJ**. To ensure availability of the weekend you choose, registration should take place at least 3 months in advance. Reservations are limited. The weekend begins on **Friday evening** at **7:30 PM** and concludes approximately **4 PM** on **Sunday**. The cost is \$350.00 per couple. The cost of the weekend includes meals and lodging. Please contact the **Office of Family Life / Respect Life** to register **(609) 406-7400** ext. **5573** or **5556**, Fax: **(609) 406-7403**. Payment in full is required at the time of registration. Contact: Peg Hensler, Email: [phensl@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:phensl@dioceseoftrenton.org).

<http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/department/events.asp?keyword=Engaged+Encounter&etype=&Timeframe=all&dosearch=true&x=52&y=9> )

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## NJ CATHOLIC YOUTH RALLY / FAMILY DAY - GREAT ADVENTURE, JACKSON, NJ

**5/15/2005 - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM**

A day for all **Catholic Youth** of **New Jersey**. It's a family day so bring everybody, we want to pack the place! Also, a great day to bring Altar Servers, Scouts, etc. *Special Ticket Price:* \$40 per person (youth and adult) \$14 with season pass/twicket/return trip ticket - Those with season passes to **Great Adventure** may meet at 6:30 PM at the *Garden of Eatin'* for Holy Mass.

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Both prices also include FREE picnic, parking, Safari, and return ticket good anytime during 2005 season.

More than just a day at **Great Adventure... A Great Adventure with Christ!**

Sponsored by the Diocese of Trenton Youth Ministry Office along with [similar offices in] 5 NJ dioceses. Tickets go on sale at the end of March.

Contact: Sister Donna D'Alia or Karen Zielinski, Phone: (609) 406-7410, Fax: (609) 406-7419, Email: [youth@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:youth@dioceseoftrenton.org)

[There are contact people in the other 5 dioceses in NJ. Among them are: Father Tom Barcelona – Camden, and Kevin Early - Metuchen.]

[http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/department/events\\_detail.asp?eventid=126](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/department/events_detail.asp?eventid=126) )

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## PFMC DISPLAYS and / or PRESENTATIONS



**K**athleen and Keith are available to participate in parish or 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 and her Son in this time of manifestation of Our Lord's mercy and graces are shared at no cost. Free will offerings are accepted. This is especially true for books, tapes, and religious articles, when they are made available in displays at the presentation sites. Recipients are asked to donate at or above the suggested value posted on each article on display. Displays may be set up without a presentation.

We are willing and have offered to set up displays in parishes for all the weekend Holy Masses. We'll come on Saturday afternoon in time (about 2 hours) to set up before the first vigil Holy Mass and stay through Sunday afternoon or evening until after the last Sunday Holy Mass (Volunteer staff pending).

Displays in parishes are particularly beneficial when good Catholic religious goods or book stores are not convenient to the parishioners. With Easter and other Holy Days coming up along with school events as well as First Communion, Confirmation, etc., consider religious gift shopping.

Ask your pastor if he would allow the **PFMC** to set up a display in the basement, school cafeteria, or gymnasium, or wherever we could have about 20 large tables with display material on them.

**(Keith and Kathleen Werner)**

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## **MESSAGE of 3/25/2005 via Maria Pavlovic Lunetti**

*Dear Children! Today I call you to love. Little children, love each other with God's love. At every moment, in joy and in sorrow, may love prevail and, in this way, love will begin to reign in your hearts. The risen Jesus will be with you and you will be His witnesses. I will rejoice with you and protect you with my motherly mantle. Especially, little children, I will watch your daily conversion with love. Thank you for having responded to my call.*

(The **PFMC** upholds the final decision of the **Magisterium** of the **Roman Catholic Church** led by the **Holy Father, Pope John Paul II**, as to the authenticity of messages to alleged visionaries from **Medjugorje**.)

## **REFLECTION on the MESSAGE of 3/25/2005**

### **OUR LADY IS INVITING US TO LOVE**

Gospa, our Mother with a heart full of love, begins her message with a call: "Dear children, today I call you to love." This is what is most necessary and most important that she has to say today, in this estranged world, in which people are more and more locked within themselves. Nobody has time for others. To each one is sufficient his own evil. In this world characterized by individualism and selfishness, Mary calls us to love. She knows it well, and each one of experiences it, that life without love is empty, despairing and meaningless. To be loved and able to love means to find meaning and joy for life. The life of the one who feels loved is filled with meaning. The one who loves fulfils his life to the fullness. The deep experience to know oneself loved and to love is related to all that we experience, and to the way in which we experience it. People of our time are often tired - not only physically, but are often tired of life. This tiredness is deeply related to the lack of love for others and to the lack of security, which comes from the love of the others towards us. People are sick because they do not love and because they do not make the experience of the love of God. The one who loves and who feels loved can be threatened neither by illness nor by health. Those, who feel loved, do not become proud because of success nor discouraged and despaired because of failure. Love is the only home in which human being can dwell. Without a home, human beings are foreigners everywhere. Happy the man who finds his home! We are born to feel protected and to offer protection. We are born to be loved and to love. Remember that you are loved, and your tiredness will disappear. The love with which you are loved is given unconditionally. It does not ask anything from you but to allow it to love you. This love does not wait to love you until you become better, but it loves you so that you can become better and grow until the fullness, towards which your heart aspires. People generally wait until you become such

as they want you to be, in order to love you. Our Heavenly Mother is not thus. She is full of grace, she is all in the love of God, and she tells us: "Dear children, if you knew how much I love you, you would cry of joy".

We can give to others only what we have. The same applies to love. Only the one who feels the love of God, and who knows that God loves him, can give this love to others. Often, when we have to show our love and give our love to others, we have the impression to have failed the exam. We are still far from mutual love, and it is the sign that we are also far from the love of God. The more we approach the love of God, the more easily will we be able to live and to give witness to others. This is the way of the prayer: to make the experience of what is most beautiful and to realize in our life what is most difficult.

The one who knows oneself loved wants to become similar to the one who loves him, and wants to answer to love. Blessed Mother Teresa used to say: "I know how much God loves me, and this is urging me towards the others, so that all can make the experience of it".

Let us pray for the power of love and for daily conversion, according to the prayer of John Henry Cardinal Newman: "Dear Jesus, help me to spread Your fragrance everywhere I go. Flood my soul with Your spirit and life. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that all my life may only be a radiance of Yours. Shine through me, and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel Your presence in my soul. The light, O Jesus, will be all from You; none of it will be mine; it will be You shining on others through me."

**Father Ljubo Kurtovic, Medjugorje, March 26,2005**

## **ANOTHER REFLECTION**

*"Dear children! Today I call you to love. Little children, love each other with God's love."* With the

first two sentences of Her message of March 25, 2005, Our Lady speaks to the heart of the Christian believer. These words seem so appropriate for Her message given this month on Good Friday.

As we begin another Easter Season, let us recall those sacred events that encompassed the passion, crucifixion and death of Jesus. Through a profound graciousness with much self-sacrificing love, Jesus offered Himself in the most complete way for the salvation of humanity. During these days may these thoughts ring in our ears. Let the love of Jesus shown through His sacrifice set the tone for who we are and who we hope to be. This process can begin by accepting Our Lady's "*call to love; and by loving each other with God's love.*"

*"At every moment, in joy and in sorrow, may love prevail and in this way, love will begin to reign in your hearts."* As one reads this third sentence of Our Lady's message of March 25, 2005, he or she can comprehend a reality that is already known: the fact that love is the essence of what the Christian faith is all about. However, the willingness to fully embrace the self-sacrificing, unconditional love of our Triune God becomes more than a challenge for most of us. Again, let us reflect upon these words of Our Lady in this particular sentence of Her message of March 25, 2005. In joy and during successful times of our life, it can be easy, "*to love.*" On the other hand, during the difficult times in sorrow and suffering it is much harder, "*to love.*" Again, we have been called by Our dear Blessed Mother to change. We need to seek out and accept the quiet, forgiving, merciful, and suffering love of Jesus revealed to us during His passion and crucifixion. We must offer ourselves to the Eternal Father as Jesus did during His Agony in the Garden. Also, we must reject the pride, arrogance, indifference and revenge that can fill our hearts when people are not as charitable and kind as they should be. At times, we must be quiet and filled with solitude as Jesus was before Caiaphas, Pilate, and Herod. We have been called to embrace our crosses courageously, being filled with love as Jesus was during His way of the cross. As one lives in this world, he or she will realize quickly that these are significant challenges; but this is the way that "*love will begin to reign in your hearts.*"

*"The risen Jesus will be with you and you will be His witnesses."* As Our Lady speaks these words to all of us who are Her little children, may we contemplate the immense beauty of Jesus' presence within our lives. Let us be willing to proclaim the message of Jesus being witnesses to His love by loving others in a most profound way. As we listen to many inspiring readings from the Acts of the Apostles

during the Easter Season, may we be filled with hope as the Apostles were. As we embark upon this journey of being Jesus' witnesses in our world crying out for the peace of our dear Lord, may we share the faith with others in a most fervent way. Be a present day apostle, being one with the zeal of the early Christians. In this way, we can begin to spread the faith with Our Lady's presence and protection as She proclaimed in the fifth sentence of the message of March 25, 2005. "*I will rejoice with you and protect you with my motherly mantle.*"

In this message of March 25, 2005 we have been called and challenged by Our Lady to love with God's love, while embracing that love. In this way, we can be witnesses of the risen Jesus. In the sixth sentence of this message, we are reminded of the importance of our personal daily conversion. "*Especially, little children, I will watch your daily conversion with love.*" Again, these words should flow to the center of our being. Let us embrace this daily conversion with much strength. We must never be satisfied with who we are. We need to continue to seek out that precious reality of becoming one with God. This can only happen when we acknowledge our weakness and our sin. May we be willing to change. We are never alone in this process. Our Lady is with us, showering us with Her motherly love like a soft spring rain. Our dear Blessed Mother continues to bring us to the Holy Spirit while preparing us for Her dear Son. May we be forever grateful for Her dear motherly love and concern.

I hope you had a beautiful Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Rejoice and be filled with hope by the special opportunity given to us to celebrate this Easter

## **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Spend some time with our **Eucharistic Lord** in the **Monstrance**, if only for 5 or 10 minutes. Please check out the **Directory of Eucharistic Adoration** maintained by **The Real Presence Association**: <http://www.therealpresence.org/chapels.htm>

Consider sending them a donation for the maintenance of this wonderful **Directory of Eucharistic Adoration**. They receive mail and donations at:

**The Real Presence Association, Inc.**

**7030 West 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Chicago, Illinois 60638.**

If you need a printout of specific location pages from the **Directory of Eucharistic Adoration** for your state or area, send us a note at the **PFMC** with a donation to cover printing and postage and we will print what you ask for and send it to you.

Season. Stay well and stay close to the Eternal Father, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and Our Lady. May we always be the devoted servants that God has called us to be.

Give my best to all of your families. You are constantly in my thoughts and prayers. May the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit come upon you and remain with you, forever and ever. Amen.

God's love and prayers always,

Father Ed

[HEdwardChalmers@aol.com](mailto:HEdwardChalmers@aol.com) March 31, 2005

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## PRESS BULLETIN 208, 3/26/2005

### SLAVES OF HABITS AND TRADITIONS

One morning, while working on my regular and daily occupations, I met a man whom I knew. I saw that he was nervous and I asked: "How are you?". He answered me: "I am really fed up with this snow and this ice!" I responded: "Why are you annoyed with the snow? We usually see so little of it in our region!", and he said: "How not to be annoyed? The newspapers did not arrive yet, and it is almost midday! I read the newspaper every morning, and this morning they did not arrive! How can the day start well?" Someone else told me that the day started badly because he was in hurry, and he did not manage to drink his coffee, without which he couldn't function very well.

This is our reality. The things of this world and the practices without which we cannot live determine our temper, the day and the time that is passing. We are unable to live without certain things, unimportant in themselves. We became slaves. And when we speak about slavery today, we should not think of prison cells, camps, jails and colonization of peoples and groups. Contemporary slavery, it is the slavery of the heart and the spirit. Our heart and our spirit are imprisoned. We live in our personal dungeons. We are tied by all kinds of attachments and bound by our own habits and traditions. We are slaves of reputation, work, false friendships, interests, money, insurance companies, banks, games of fortune, alcohol, drugs, the media. In a world, which does not cease announcing the personal freedom, we became modern slaves.

When Jesus announces to his contemporaries that he has come to make them free in Spirit and in Truth, they rebel by saying that, being sons of Abraham, they are nobody's slaves. (Cf: Jn 8,31-42) However, once again the thoughts of Jesus were not their thoughts. Jesus speaks about slavery to sin, of the

blind slavery to the law, which neglects the heart and the needs for the concrete person. Jesus advances towards the cross and death to make us free, to overcome sin, and to announce the time of the fullness of life.

Each one of us can recognize his own prison and dungeon. Very close to us, a voice announces freedom. The way of the freedom, which is not limited by systems or the world politics, is to leave sin and human chains. The poet sings: "You are created for flying, my soul!" True freedom does not consist in the absence of walls and bars. Freedom is lived in the heart. At our time, certain prisoners are more free than those who live in freedom. There is no freedom without God, because the free will is an inalienable gift that comes from God. Confessionals, in particular in Medjugorje, are today places of freedom, which give witness of the victory of the mercy of God over the sin of men. The words of the priest, "Your sins are forgiven, go in peace!", mean: "God renewed you in Spirit and in Truth, go and live free of any sin and any attachment!"

Father Mario Knezovic

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### COMMUNIONS and PRIESTS

During the month of February, 23,000 received Holy Communion and 649 priests from this country and abroad signed the register for celebrating Holy Mass in Medjugorje.

### THE 12TH INTERNATIONAL MEETING FOR LEADERS OF MEDJUGORJE PEACE CENTERS AND PRAYER, PILGRIM AND CHARITY GROUPS HAS ENDED



The 12th International Meeting for Leaders of Medjugorje Peace Centers and Prayer, Pilgrim and Charity groups took place in Medjugorje from March 6 to 10, 2005. About 120 participants came from about 15 countries. The theme of this encounter was: "The guide and the pilgrim".

This year's speakers were Hubert Liebherr from Germany and Kevin Lacey from Ireland. During the meeting, there was also one day of fasting and intense prayer led by Father Ljubo Kurtovic. About the role of the guide spoke also Father Jozo Zovko. Father Ivan Landeka gave the report about the humanitarian activities linked to Medjugorje. During the encounter, the documentary "The Lights of Medjugorje" was shown to the participants. Masses during the meeting were presided by Doctor Father Tomislav Pervan,

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Father Ljubo Kurtovic, Father Svetozar Kraljevic and Father Mario Knezovic who - in his function of Director of the Information Center "Mir" Medjugorje - was also the coordinator of the meeting. The concluding Mass was presided by Father Branko Rados, pastor of Medjugorje. The participants were especially praying for the health of our Holy Father, the Pope John Paul II, and they sent him a letter of encouragement signed by all. The participants made the following statement, which we publish entirely.



#### STATEMENT

Gathered together under the protection of the Queen of Peace in Medjugorje, united with Christ and the Church, we took part in the 12th International Meeting for Leaders of Medjugorje Peace Centers and Prayer, Pilgrim and Charity groups. As we are related to Medjugorje for a number of years now, as pilgrims and as leaders of pilgrimages, we were meditating on the theme, "The guide and the pilgrim".

Aware of the fact that Medjugorje is attracting pilgrims from all over the world, open to the Holy Spirit, we were listening to the conferences about the role of the guide - as extended hands of God and of Our Lady - on the way of conversion of so many. We were thinking of the words of Jesus: "You have not chosen me but I have chosen you". (John 15,16) To be a guide is a gift, but also a great responsibility, that can be carried out only in full collaboration with the Grace of God and in being attentive to Our Lady's messages. "Therefore, dear little children, listen and live what I tell you, because it is important for you when I shall not be with you any longer, that you remember my words and all that I told you." (Message of October 25, 1992) In this sense, we have decided to give a new attention to the role of the guide as a mediator, standing like a road sign on the pathway of God. In prayer, we received strength to continue tirelessly with the mission that we have inherited. We also exchanged experiences and opinions on how each leader and guide of payer groups should be personally evangelized in the Spirit, in freedom and in truth, in order to be able to play the role of mediator. "You need the Spirit of Truth to be able to convey the messages just the way they are, neither adding anything to them, nor taking anything whatsoever way from them, but just the way I said them." (Message of June 9, 1984.)

From this meeting, we invite all those who organize pilgrimages to Medjugorje to put at the center of their journey the Prayer- and Liturgical Program proposed by the Parish Medjugorje, and to explain to the

pilgrims the essential importance of the sacramental life of the Church, especially of Holy Mass and Confession.

We also prayed for the health of our Holy Father, the Pope John Paul II, beseeching God to give him strength, and asking Our Lady to intercede for him and for his service to Christ, to the Church and to all mankind.

**Medjugorje, March 10, 2005 The Participants**

### **SPIRITUAL MOVEMENT OF THE QUEEN OF PEACE IN THE WORLD - ADDRESS BOOK AND COORDINATION**

During the 12th International Meeting for Leaders of Medjugorje Peace Centers and Prayer, Pilgrim and Charity groups (March 6 to 10, 2005) we have presented to the participants the first rough copy of the Address Book, which is giving witness of the universality of the spiritual movement inspired by Our Lady's apparitions in Medjugorje. Thanks to the answers to the Questionnaire and the information published on diverse web sites, we have now 544 addresses of organizers of pilgrimages, Peace Centers and Prayer groups from all the continents. This is only the beginning, and we are asking your help in completing this address book. As for now, the address book is not destined for publication, because we are still working on it, but we hope that in the near future we will be able to publish it. Its intention is to help the faithful in their desire to join this prayer movement.

During the 12th International Meeting for Leaders of Medjugorje Peace Centers and Prayer, Pilgrim and Charity groups, we also underlined the need of the Shrine and of the pilgrims for the creation of coordination structures on national levels, whose role would be to facilitate the collaboration on the national level, the communication with the Local Church and with the Shrine in Medjugorje. In some countries, these structures are already existing and functioning: for Germany it is «Deutschsprachiges Informationszentrum für Medjugorje», Hubert Liebherr - [www.medjugorje-info.de](http://www.medjugorje-info.de), for Poland it is «Wspolnota Krolowej Pokoju przy kosciole ojcov Pijarow», Father Stanislaw Kania, Krakow, for Austria it is «Gebetsaktion» - <http://www.gebetsaktion.at>, for Ireland it is «National Medjugorje Council of Ireland», Paul Wallace. We kindly ask you to collaborate with them at the service of the spreading of Our Lady's message. We hope that, during the coming years, also in other countries, similar structures may come up at the service of

collaboration and evangelization on national levels. We kindly ask all Leaders of Medjugorje Peace Centers and Prayer, Pilgrim and Charity groups to fill in the questionnaire, which you will find on our Home page under: «The Shrine - Medjugorje in the Church - The Spiritual Movement of the Queen of Peace - Questionnaire: The Spiritual Movement of the Queen of Peace in the world» and send it to us to the Shrine of the Queen of Peace to Medjugorje by e-mail to [medj.lidija@medjugorje.hr](mailto:medj.lidija@medjugorje.hr) or by fax to +387 36 651 444.

## THE ANNUAL APPARITION OF OUR LADY TO MIRJANA DRAGICEVIC-SOLDO ON MARCH 18, 2005



The visionary Mirjana Dragicevic-Soldo had daily apparitions from June 24th 1981 to December 25th 1982. During the last daily apparition, Our Lady gave her the 10th secret, and told her that she would appear to her once a year, on the 18th of March. It has been this way through the years.

This year several thousand pilgrims gathered to pray the Rosary at the Cenacolo Community in Medjugorje. The apparition lasted from 14:09 to 14:14 and Our Lady gave the following message:

*“Dear children! I come to you as the mother who, above all, loves her children. My children, I desire to teach you to love also. I pray for this. I pray that you will recognize my Son in each of your neighbors. The way to my Son, who is true peace and love, passes through the love for all neighbors. My children, pray and fast for your heart to be open for this my intention.”*

## THE 10<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL MEETING for PRIESTS

This meeting will take place in **Medjugorje** from **July 4 to 9, 2005**. The theme is **“The Eucharist and Mary – Do whatever He tells you!”** (Jn 2:5)

[Note: The **Program and Speaker Information** is available on the **Internet** or in print from the **PFMC**. The full text of this notice was printed in **November 2004**.]

You may make reservations by e-mail: [seminar.marija@medjugorje.hr](mailto:seminar.marija@medjugorje.hr), or by FAX: +387-36-651-999 (for **Marija Dugandzic**).

[NOTE: The **PFMC** can make air and land arrangements for attendance at **Medjugorje** events.

*It is best to travel in groups of at least 3 or 4 due to cost of transport from either **Split** or **Dubrovnik, Croatia**. Call (856) 768-9228.]*

## ACTION “IN FAVOUR OF LIFE”



Radio “Mir” Medjugorje has started a humanitarian action called “Za zivot” (In Favour of Life). Cardinal Vinko Puljic, archbishop of Vrhbosna (Sarajevo), President of the Counsel for the Family of the Bishops’ Conference of Bosnia and Herzegovina, has encouraged this project saying that, however, people should not live from donations, but from their own work. “The responsibility of the society is to make it possible that people live from their work.” The Cardinal, who is coming from a numerous family, has encouraged in a special way the creation of an Association of numerous families. He said: “This is very much needed in our region. Together, we are stronger. The rights have to be fought for.” The initiative for this action is coming from the radio show on family issues “Oasis of Life”, broadcast for two and a half years now, and edited by Visnja Spajic. The action “In Favour of Life” is inviting faithful, citizens, businessmen, families and all those who can help, to sustain one concrete family with many children but not enough means for life.

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

## MORE MEDJUGORJE NEWS and INFORMATION

### Verastegui in Medjugorje



18.03.2005. – The Mexican television movie star Eduardo Verastegui came to the Shrine of the Queen of Peace in Medjugorje for the first time in March 2005. He heard about Medjugorje for the first time from his English teacher three years ago, when he moved from Mexico to Los Angeles. He had to learn English, because he has signed a contract for a movie to be made in the USA. His teacher is very devoted to Our Lady and to Medjugorje, and she spoke to him about apparitions, visionaries, messages, confessions and prayers in

Medjugorje. “This is how my conversion began. I started to go to the church daily, and among the Catholics, wherever I came, I heard only “Medjugorje, Medjugorje”...., says Eduardo.

As he arrived in Medjugorje, he noticed that people are really devoted to Our Lady, and that they are praying much, and he was very enthusiastic about it. It is stimulating him to be a better believer, a better Catholic. He also encountered the visionaries, Vicka Mijatovic and Marija Pavlovic-Lunetti.

The Mexican-American actor is staying in Medjugorje one week. He is going every day to the English Mass, to Adoration, he is climbing the Apparition Hill and Cross Mountain. These are his first impressions:

“I am delighted because of the simplicity and peace that I have found here. Medjugorje reminds me of true values in life: to know God, to love Him and to serve Him as much as we can. Yesterday, while I was climbing the Apparition Hill and meditating, I had the feeling that, during these days, I am growing in faith daily. I met so many beautiful people”.

As he moved to Los Angeles, he decided to produce movies also, and to make movies that will touch human hearts. His popularity is expected to grow in the USA also. He is saying that, with the help of God, he will come back to Medjugorje.

### **American-Korean “Queen of Peace Missionary”**



02.03.2005. – These days, Gregory Nam, president of the Association «Queen of Peace Missionary» (see: [www.qpmm.org](http://www.qpmm.org)), is on pilgrimage in Medjugorje with a group of American Koreans. The association was founded with the goal of spreading Our Lady’s message to the Koreans all over the world. The group is accompanied by Father Timothy Yun, member of the administration board, at present studying Liturgy in Rome.

The experience of prayer and of peace during a pilgrimage to Medjugorje awakened in Gregory Nam the desire to do whatever he can to make Medjugorje known to others. The Association «Queen of Peace Missionary» has been publishing for three years now a magazine in 11.000 copies (7.000 for the USA and 4.000 for Korea), organizes pilgrimages to Medjugorje and venues in the USA. Father Timothy Yun says that, several years after his priestly ordination, he discovered in Medjugorje his true priestly identity.

### **Rafo Dropulic took part in the “Prayer and Fasting Seminar”**



01.03.2005. –Rafo Drupulic, the first winner of the “Music Talents Story Super Nova TV Show”, took part in the Prayer and Fasting seminar in silence in the house of prayer “Domus Pacis” in Medjugorje, from February 20 to 26. He also was invited to give his personal witness on Radio “Mir” Medjugorje, where he spoke about his religious quest and his conversion. He said that he finally found Jesus, whom he was seeking for such a long time. Bojan Bole from Slovenia and Iva Devcic from Zagreb (Croatia) also spoke about their experiences. (Interview with Rafo: preparing)

### **Whole-Night Adoration in Medjugorje**



28.02.2005. – In the Year of the Eucharist declared by the Holy Father, there will be a whole-night adoration in the Parish Medjugorje on each 25<sup>th</sup> of the month, when Our Lady is giving her message. Numerous parishioners, as well as local and foreign pilgrims, have accepted this initiative with joy. During the night of February 25 to 26, many faithful came to the Adoration Chapel to thank the Lord in silent prayer for the gift of Salvation. During the summer time, when dozens of thousands of pilgrims flow daily to Medjugorje, these whole-night adoration will take place at the outside altar behind the church.

### **A New Prayer Initiative: “Co-Workers of the Queen of Peace”**

24.02.2005. – At the end of 2004, a prayer initiative was launched in Zadar under the title “Co-Workers of the Queen of Peace”. Those who are inspired by the calls of the BVM Queen of Peace, decide to spend every day half an hour in prayer. The initiative is a result of regular meetings of a prayer group, which are taking place in Zadar for many years now. As for now, there are 249 registered members, mostly from Croatia, but some “co-workers” are also from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Austria, Germany, Denmark, Italy, Malta, Serbia, Albania, Canada, USA, Argentina and Congo. The coordinator is Monsignor Eduard Pericic. (Contact: [eduard.pericic@zd.t-com.hr](mailto:eduard.pericic@zd.t-com.hr))

### **Passion songs in Medjugorje**

21.02.2005. – On Friday, February 18, after the evening Mass in the parish church, the vocal group “Navalia” from Navalja (Island Pag, Croatia)

presented a musical meditation, while singing traditional Passion songs from Navalja. Between these Lenten songs, Ivana Miletic was reading passages from Holy Scripture. Radio "Mir" Medjugorje broadcast live the whole program. These songs can be found on the CD "Dan Vicere" published by the group "Navalia". The members of the group are Jack Ricov, Zlatko Vidas, Ante Dabo, Anton Sanko, Tomislav Skunca, Sime Trcol i Aleksij Skunca.



(<http://www.medjugorje.hr/ulazakenstipe.htm>)

## IVAN SPEAKING SCHEDULE

Hi there dear prayer group,

*[Ana Shawl helped start the Internet International Prayer Group (IIPG) <http://www.iipg-queenofpeace.org> and is one of its moderators.]*

This is the rest of Ivan's speaking schedule and I think this is it for the year for him.

*[Posted at: <http://www.medjugorje.org/ivanse.htm>]*

There are a lot of you who sent in invitations from your pastor and he has all of these. If he didn't get back to you that means he'll probably be working on those for next year over this summer. Right now, he was still working on speaking in those parishes who sent him invitations and some had asked 2 or even three years ago so he'll get there.

One thing too is that the Blessed Mother I know has him going where she thinks he should go. Everything is up to her and she only does what God wants so please don't be disappointed if this year your parish is not included in this list ok. I know mine isn't but I'm praying that next year it will be.

God Bless you all, Love,

Ana

April 23, 2005, 6 PM - 9:00 PM: Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin High School, 13000 Auburn Rd., Chardon, Ohio 44024, Contact: Peggy Golden (440) 350-9217

April 24, 2005, 6 PM - 9:00 PM: Saint Columbkille Church, 6740 Broadview Rd., Parma, Ohio 44134, Contact: Peggy Golden (440) 350-9217

April 25, 2005, 6 PM - 9:00 PM: Liberty Place Conference Center, 313 W. Liberty St, Lancaster, PA, 17603 Contact: Mary McCafferty (717) 291-3221

*[There are only 500 seats available. This is a unique opportunity for those in Lancaster, PA to experience*

*the message via Ivan. Travelling from outside the Lancaster, PA vicinity is discouraged.]*

April 26, 2005, 6 PM - 9:00 PM: Prince of Peace Parish, 815 South 2nd Street, Steelton, PA 17113, Contact: Parish Office (717) 985-1330

April 30, 2005, 6 PM - 9:30 PM: Infant Jesus Church, 1121 Allds St, Nashua, NH 03060 Tel: (603) 882-2462 - Father Jerry Bertin

(by Ana Shawl [anabonana@comcast.net](mailto:anabonana@comcast.net) Tuesday, March 22, 2005)

## INTERESTING STORY ABOUT MOUNT KRIZEVAC

I am a lightweight history buff. In my informal research of Krizevac, forever a significant place on Earth for my husband and me as that is where we felt closest to Mother Mary and where she touched us to our core, I came across a most intriguing article on the mountain.

Seems as early as 1932, God began preparing Medjugorje for its future role:

"The first strange incident took place in 1932 involving Pope Pius XI. This pope was born Achille Ratti near Milano and, after his ordination as a priest, was an archivist at the Vatican Library. After World War I, he became the papal nuncio in Warsaw, Poland. He was also an enthusiastic mountain climber.

One night in February 1932, Pope Pius XI was asleep in his Vatican bedroom and dreamed that he was climbing a mountain. A mountain he had never seen before. He knew he wasn't in Italy--he had scaled nearly every peak in the Alps. When he reached the summit, he found Miriam (Mary) waiting patiently for him there. She was wearing a light gray dress with a long white veil.

"Achille," she told him, "I want you to build a cross on this site. Because this place will become very important in the future." Looking around in bewilderment, he mumbled, "Where am I?"

"Yugoslavia." And smiling gently, she added, "Remember this mountain, Achille."

And the pope suddenly woke up. That was a weird dream, he thought.

A few months later, Pope Pius XI received a petition from the Archbishop of Mostar in Yugoslavia (now Bosnia-Herzegovina--J.T.) The diocese wanted to erect a concrete cross on Mount Sipovac

commemorating the 1,900th anniversary of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

When the pope saw a photograph of the proposed site, he gasped out loud. It was the mountaintop he had seen in his dream. He signed the construction order immediately.”

Fascinating, isn't it?

(by [ppilgrim3@yahoo.com](mailto:ppilgrim3@yahoo.com) Friday, September 24, 2004)

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## **PRAYER to the HOLY SPIRIT (Saint Augustine)**

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit that my thoughts may all be holy;

Act in me O Holy Spirit that my works, too, may be holy;

Draw my heart O Holy Spirit that I love but what is holy;

Strengthen me O Holy Spirit to defend what is holy;

Guard me then O Holy Spirit that I always may be holy.

(<http://www.catholic-church.org/grace/2000/HS-prayers.htm>)

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## **ON the ORIGIN and MEANING of the ROSARY**

### **A Powerful Prayer, Says Archbishop Sorrentino**

VATICAN CITY, OCT. 12, 2004 (Zenit.org).- The rosary is an “intensely contemplative” and powerful prayer with a long history, says a Vatican aide.

“Personally, I have seen miracles with the rediscovery of this prayer,” said Archbishop Domenico Sorrentino, secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, in an interview on Vatican Radio.

He recalled encountering “people who have found in this prayer food for the soul and a reason for conversion.”

At last Wednesday’s general audience, John Paul II invited the faithful in this “month of the rosary” to make the Marian devotion “your daily prayer.”

The recitation of the rosary began “in a very modest way in the first centuries of the second millennium,” Archbishop Sorrentino said in his interview.

“At that time, the Psalms were recited in their liturgical organization, the Psalter with lauds and

vespers, but there were many who could not pray ... in Latin, and the Psalms then began to be replaced by the ‘Pater’ and ‘Ave’ prayers, which little by little were given a certain organization that varied according to circumstances,” the archbishop explained.

“Then, gradually, meditation of the mysteries was added,” he continued. “The prayer grew until it took on the typical form that we are used to reciting, and this occurred in particular with Saint Pius V, when he instituted the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, which was then linked to a special historical circumstance: the Christian victory over the Ottoman menace.”

“The Pope believed that this victory was due to the insistent prayer of Christians, through the intercession of the Mother of God,” Archbishop Sorrentino noted.

Since then, the rosary “has been recited by the Christian community following this scheme, until John Paul II, two years ago, with the Year of the Rosary,” altered this prayer, “focusing more on its Christological and biblical aspect, in particular, by adding the ‘mysteries of light,’” the archbishop said.

“If it is well understood,” it “is a prayer that says much,” he said. The rosary is intensely “contemplative. The repetition, which often from a distance might seem to be mechanical, in fact serves as a breath of the soul which, gazing on Jesus Christ, assumes a contemplative attitude through Mary’s eyes and heart.”

If understood from this perspective, one can appreciate how this Marian prayer “can really give tone to the Christian spirit, it can help a Christian in his daily living to remain well anchored in the mystery of our salvation, especially in Jesus Christ, who is the heart, the center of the life of a Christian,” the prelate said.

“Sadly, sometimes this prayer is recited in the least of its possibilities,” he said. “It would be good if the People of God became conscious of the potential of this prayer by following closely the suggestions made by the Pope.”

(from Mike Sepal, [mikesepal@webtv.net](mailto:mikesepal@webtv.net) quoting from Zenit.org)

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## **CHAPLET to the MOTHER of the MOST HOLY EUCHARIST**

Begin with:

**Sign of the Cross**

**Apostles Creed (on first large bead)**

## Hail Mary (on next three small beads)

On the large bead:

My God, I love you with my whole heart, I repent of ever having offended You, never permit me to offend You again, grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will. Amen

On large bead before each decade:

**Hail Mary / O Mother of the Most Holy Eucharist, help me to believe completely, help me to love completely, help me to live what I believe and love completely.**

On the ten small beads of each decade:

**O Mother help me!**

Conclude with:

### Memorare

**Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly to you O Virgin of virgins, my mother, To you I come; before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me.**

Amen.

**Dearest Mother, I Believe, that Jesus Christ, your Son is truly present in the Sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. I Believe, that He is the, only begotten Son of God, Who became Man to save me, a sinner. By partaking of this Most Holy Sacrament, I profess:**

**That I believe in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church and that Her teachings and sacraments were instituted by Christ.**

**That because this is truly His Precious Body and life giving Blood, to receive Him in the state of grace will bring healing to both my soul and body but knowingly receive Him in the state of mortal sin will bring me judgement and condemnation.**

**Dearest Virgin of Virgins, I declare these truths before You as my Witness, that You who are the great Mother of God. May you remember me before my Lord and Master, now and at the hour of my death. Amen.**

**O Mother of the Most Holy Eucharist, Pray for us. (repeat three times)**

<http://www.ainglkiss.com/prayers/cmm.htm>

## THERE IS ONLY ONE FLAW IN WOMEN

By the time the Lord made woman, he was into His sixth day of working overtime. An angel appeared and said, "Why are you spending so much time on this one?" And the Lord answered, "Have you seen My spec sheet on her? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic, have over 200 movable parts, all replaceable and able to run on diet coke and leftovers, have a lap that can hold four children at a time, have a kiss that can cure anything from a scraped knee to a broken heart – and she will do everything with only two hands."

The angel was astounded at the requirements. "Only two hands!? No way! And that's just on the standard model? That's too much work for one day. Wait until tomorrow to finish." But I can't," the Lord protested. "I am so close to finishing this creation that is so close to My own heart. She already heals herself when she is sick AND she can work 18 hour days."

The angel moved closer and touched the woman. "But you have made her so soft, Lord." She is soft," the Lord agreed, "but I have also made Her tough. You have no idea what she can endure or accomplish."

Will she be able to think?", asked the angel. The Lord replied, "Not only will she be able to think, she will be able to reason and negotiate."

The angel then noticed something, and reaching out, touched the woman's cheek. "Oops, it looks like you have a leak in this model. I told you that you were trying to put too much into this one. "That's not a leak," the Lord corrected, "that's a Tear!"

What's the tear for?" the angel asked. The Lord said,, "The tear is her way of expressing her joy, her sorrow, her pain, her disappointment, her love, her loneliness, her grief and her pride." The angel was impressed. "You are a genius, Lord. You thought of everything! Woman is truly amazing."

And she is!! Women have strengths that amaze men. They bear hardships and they carry burdens, but the hold happiness, love, and joy. They smile when they want to scream. They sing when they want to cry. They cry when they are happy and laugh when they are nervous. They fight for what they believe in. They stand up to injustice. They don't take "no" for an answer when they believe there is a better solution. They go without so their family can have, not that they always should. They go to the doctor with a frightened friend. They love unconditionally. They cry when their children excel and cheer when their

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friends get awards. They are happy when they hear about a birth or a wedding. Their hearts break when a friend dies. They grieve at the loss of a family member, yet they are strong when they think there is no strength left. They know that a hug and a kiss can help to heal a broken heart.”

Women come in all sizes, in all colors and shapes. They’ll drive, fly, walk, run or e-mail you to show how much they care about you. The heart of a woman is what makes the world keep turning! They bring joy and hope. They have compassion and ideals. They give moral support to their family and friends. Women have vital Things to say and everything to give. However if there’s one flaw in women, it is that they tend to forget their worth.

Pass this along to your women friends to remind them how amazing they are!

I also forwarded this to men to remind them how amazing women are and that God intended it to be that way. He was entitled to a few mistakes along the way I’m sure there were some rejects. Sorry if you happened to get one. Complain only to Him.

(Policemen Magazine. – 2004)

## **PRAYER to the HOLY SPIRIT (Pope Saint Pius X)**

Holy Spirit, divine Spirit of light and love. I consecrate to You my understanding, my heart and my will, my whole being for time and for eternity.

May my understanding be always submissive to Your heavenly inspirations and to the teachings of the Holy Catholic Church, of which You are the infallible Guide.

May my heart be ever inflamed with love of God and of my neighbor; may my will be ever conformed to the divine Will, and may my whole life be a faithful imitation of the life and virtues of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to whom with the Father and You, Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.

<http://www.catholic-church.org/grace/2000/HS-prayers.htm>

## **VOCATIONS DEPARTMENT**

If you need vocation information and you do not find it in your local parish or diocese, please call (856) 768-9228.

(Kathleen, Keith, and all the *PFMC* Volunteers)

## **LETTER of the HOLY FATHER JOHN PAUL II to PRIESTS for HOLY THURSDAY 2005**

*Dear Priests!*

1. In this Year of the Eucharist, I particularly welcome our annual spiritual encounter for Holy Thursday, the day when Christ’s love was manifested “to the end” (cf. Jn 13:1), the day of the Eucharist, the day of our priesthood.

My thoughts turn to you, dear priests, as I spend this time recuperating in hospital, a patient alongside other patients, uniting in the Eucharist my own sufferings with those of Christ. In this spirit I want to reflect with you on some aspects of our priestly spirituality.

I will take as my inspiration the words of Eucharistic consecration, which we say every day in persona Christi in order to make present on our altars the sacrifice made once and for all on Calvary. These words provide us with illuminating insights for priestly spirituality: if the whole Church draws life from the Eucharist, all the more then must the life of a priest be “shaped” by the Eucharist. So for us, the words of institution must be more than a formula of consecration: they must be a “formula of life”.

*A life of profound “gratitude”*

2. “Tibi gratias agens benedixit”. At every Mass we remember and relive the first sentiment expressed by Jesus as he broke the bread: that of thanksgiving. Gratitude is the disposition which lies at the root of the very word “Eucharist”. This expression of thanksgiving contains the whole Biblical spirituality of praise for the mirabilia Dei. God loves us, he goes before us in his Providence, he accompanies us with his continuous saving acts.

In the Eucharist Jesus thanks the Father with us and for us. How could this thanksgiving of Jesus fail to shape the life of a priest? He knows that he must

### **HOLY MASS TIMES**

If you ever think you will miss Holy Mass because you don’t know the times of Holy Mass or the locations of churches in the area that you are currently located, please call **1-410-676-6000**.

If you have access to the Internet and don’t already have it book marked, type in the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) in the white box near the top of your browser.

You can find maps to the churches in addition to the times of Holy Mass celebrations.

cultivate a constant sense of gratitude for the many gifts he has received in the course of his life: in particular, for the gift of faith, which it is his task to proclaim, and for the gift of the priesthood, which consecrates him totally to the service of the Kingdom of God. We have our crosses to bear - and we are certainly not the only ones! - but the gifts we have received are so great that we cannot fail to sing from the depths of our hearts our own Magnificat.

*A life that is "given"*

3. "Accipite et manducate. Accipite et bibite". Christ's self-giving, which has its origin in the Trinitarian life of the God who is Love, reaches its culmination in the sacrifice of the Cross, sacramentally anticipated in the Last Supper. It is impossible to repeat the words of consecration without feeling oneself caught up in this spiritual movement. In a certain sense, when he says the words: "take and eat", the priest must learn to apply them also to himself, and to speak them with truth and generosity. If he is able to offer himself as a gift, placing himself at the disposal of the community and at the service of anyone in need, his life takes on its true meaning.

This is exactly what Jesus expected of his apostles, as the Evangelist John emphasizes in his account of the washing of the feet. It is also what the People of God expect of a priest. If we think about it more fully, the priest's promise of obedience, which he made on the day of Ordination and is asked to renew at the Chrism Mass, is illuminated by this relationship with the Eucharist. Obeying out of love, sacrificing even a certain legitimate freedom when the authoritative discernment of the Bishop so requires, the priest lives out in his own flesh that "take and eat" with which Christ, in the Last Supper, gave himself to the Church.

*A life that is "saved" in order to save*

4. "Hoc est enim corpus meum quod pro vobis tradetur." The body and the blood of Christ are given for the salvation of man, of the whole man and of all men. This salvation is integral and at the same time universal, because no one, unless he freely chooses, is excluded from the saving power of Christ's blood: "qui pro vobis et pro multis effundetur". It is a sacrifice offered for "many", as the Biblical text says (Mk 14:24; Mt 26:28; cf. Is 53:11-12); this typical Semitic expression refers to the multitude who are saved by Christ, the one Redeemer, yet at the same time it implies the totality of human beings to whom salvation is offered: the Lord's blood is "shed for you and for all", as some translations legitimately make explicit. Christ's flesh is truly given "for the life of the world" (Jn 6:51; cf. 1 Jn 2:2).

Repeating Christ's venerable words in the recollected silence of the liturgical assembly, we priests become privileged heralds of this mystery of salvation. Yet unless we sense that we ourselves are saved, how can we be convincing heralds? We are the first to be touched inwardly by the grace which raises us from our frailty and makes us cry "Abba, Father" with the confidence of God's children (cf. Gal 4:6; Rom 8:15). This in turn commits us to advance along the path of perfection. Holiness, in fact, is the full expression of salvation. Only if our lives manifest the fact that we are saved do we become credible heralds of salvation. Moreover, a constant awareness of Christ's will to offer salvation to all cannot fail to inspire us with fresh missionary fervor, spurring each of us on to become "all things to all men, in order to save at least some of them" (1 Cor 9:22).

*A life that "remembers"*

5. "Hoc facite in meam commemorationem." These words of Jesus have been preserved for us not only by Luke (22:19) but also by Paul (1 Cor 11:24). We should keep in mind that they were spoken in the context of the Paschal meal, which for the Jews was indeed a "memorial" (in Hebrew, zikkarôn). On that occasion the Israelites relived the Exodus first and foremost, but also the other important events of their history: the call of Abraham, the sacrifice of Isaac, the Covenant of Sinai, the many acts of God in defense of his people. For Christians too, the Eucharist is a "memorial", but of a unique kind: it not only commemorates, but sacramentally makes present the death and resurrection of the Lord.

Jesus said: "Do this in memory of me". The Eucharist does not simply commemorate a fact; it commemorates Him! Through his daily repetition in persona Christi of the words of the "memorial", the priest is invited to develop a "spirituality of remembrance". At a time when rapid social and cultural changes are weakening the sense of tradition and leading the younger generation especially to risk losing touch with their roots, the priest is called to be, within the community entrusted to him, the man who faithfully remembers the entire mystery of Christ: prefigured in the Old Testament, fulfilled in the New, and understood ever more deeply, under the guidance of the Spirit, as Jesus explicitly promised: "He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you" (Jn 14:26).

*A "consecrated" life*

6. "Mysterium fidei!" Every time he proclaims these words after consecrating the bread and wine, the priest expresses his ever-renewed amazement at the extraordinary miracle worked at his hands. It is a miracle which only the eyes of faith can perceive. The



natural elements do not lose their external characteristics, since the “species” remain those of bread and wine; but their “substance”, through the power of Christ’s word and the action of the Holy Spirit, is changed into the substance of the body and blood of Christ. On the altar, then, Christ crucified and risen is “truly, really and substantially” present in the fullness of his humanity and divinity. What an eminently sacred reality! That is why the Church treats this mystery with such great reverence, and takes such care to ensure the observance of the liturgical norms intended to safeguard the sanctity of so great a sacrament.

We priests are the celebrants, but also the guardians of this most sacred mystery. It is our relationship to the Eucharist that most clearly challenges us to lead a “sacred” life. This must shine forth from our whole way of being, but above all from the way we celebrate. Let us sit at the school of the saints! The Year of the Eucharist invites us to rediscover those saints who were vigorous proponents of Eucharistic devotion (cf. *Mane Nobiscum Domine*, 31). Many beatified and canonized priests have given exemplary testimony in this regard, enkindling fervor among the faithful present at their celebrations of Mass. Many of them were known for their prolonged Eucharistic adoration. To place ourselves before Jesus in the Eucharist, to take advantage of our “moments of solitude” and to fill them with this Presence, is to enliven our consecration by our personal relationship with Christ, from whom our life derives its joy and its meaning.

#### *A life centered on Christ*

7. “*Mortem tuam annuntiamus, Domine, et tuam resurrectionem confitemur, donec venias.*” Every time we celebrate the Eucharist, the remembrance of Christ in his Paschal Mystery leads to the desire for a full and definitive encounter with Him. We live in expectation of his coming! In priestly spirituality, this expectation must be lived out through pastoral charity, which impels us to live in the midst of God’s People, so as to direct their path and to nourish their hope. This task requires from the priest an interior attitude similar to that of the Apostle Paul: “Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal” (Phil 3:13-14). The priest is someone who, despite the passing of years, continues to radiate youthfulness, spreading it almost “contagiously” among those he meets along the way. His secret lies in his “passion” for Christ. As Saint Paul said: “For me, to live is Christ” (Phil 1:21).

Particularly in the context of the new evangelization, the people have a right to turn to priests in the hope of

“seeing” Christ in them (cf. Jn 12:21). The young feel the need for this especially; Christ continues to call them, to make them his friends and to challenge some to give themselves completely for the sake of the Kingdom. Vocations will certainly not be lacking if our manner of life is truly priestly, if we become more holy, more joyful, more impassioned in the exercise of our ministry. A priest “won” by Christ (cf. Phil 3:12) more easily “wins” others, so that they too decide to set out on the same adventure.

#### *A “Eucharistic” life at the school of Mary*

8. The relationship between the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Eucharist is a very close one, as I pointed out in the Encyclical *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* (cf. Nos. 53-58). In its own sober liturgical language, every Eucharistic Prayer brings this out. Thus in the Roman Canon we say: “In union with the whole Church we honor Mary, the ever-virgin Mother of Jesus Christ our Lord and God”. In the other Eucharistic Prayers, honor leads to petition, as for example in Prayer II: “Make us worthy to share eternal life with Mary, the virgin Mother of God.”

In recent years, I have warmly recommended the contemplation of the face of Christ, especially in my Letters *Novo Millennio Ineunte* (cf. Nos. 23ff.) and in *Rosarium Virginis Mariae* (cf. Nos. 9ff.), and I have pointed to Mary as our great teacher. In the Encyclical on the Eucharist I then spoke of her as the “Woman of the Eucharist” (cf. No. 53). Who more than Mary can help us taste the greatness of the Eucharistic mystery? She more than anyone can teach us how to celebrate the sacred mysteries with due fervor and to commune with her Son, hidden in the Eucharist. I pray to her, then, for all of you, and I entrust to her especially the elderly, the sick, and those in difficulty. This Easter, in the Year of the Eucharist, I gladly repeat to each of you the gentle and consoling words of Jesus: “Behold your Mother” (Jn 19:27).

With these sentiments, I send you my heartfelt blessing, and I wish you the profound joy of Easter.

(JOHN PAUL II, *From Gemelli Hospital in Rome, on 13 March, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, in the year 2005, the twenty-seventh of my Pontificate.*  
[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/john\\_paul\\_ii/letters/2005/documents/hf\\_jp-ii\\_let\\_20050313\\_priests-holy-thursday\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/letters/2005/documents/hf_jp-ii_let_20050313_priests-holy-thursday_en.html))

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

The **PFMC** is not a church, store or travel agency but has aspects of all three. The **PFMC** operates

as a non-profit, with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status, religious association and ministry whose volunteers are lay persons professing a belief in Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, as the Only Begotten Son of God the Father, Creator of the Universe.

Most **PFMC** volunteers profess that faith through the apostolic and universal teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Those volunteers who are practicing Roman Catholics profess allegiance to the Magisterium of the Church founded upon the Rock (Kephias / Cephas or Petros depending on original or translation) of Simon bar Jonah and led by his apostolic successor **Pope John Paul II**.

The **PFMC** was established in the home of **Keith and Kathleen Werner** based on pilgrimages to **Medjugorje, Bosnia-Hercegovina**, and other holy places or shrines worthy of pilgrimage. Books, pamphlets, and religious articles brought back from pilgrimages were placed on display for others to view and acquire for themselves based on donations. Our displays and inventory bins are quite extensive.

The **PFMC** is directed and operated by volunteers who monitor the donations made for all activities. These activities include coordination of pilgrimages to holy places and shrines, retreats in local retreat centers or hotels, and days of recollection at the **PFMC** as well as the displays, library, and inventory management described in this article.

Operating for many years on a cash only basis, the **PFMC** now accepts **DISCOVER/PRIVATE ISSUE (NOVUS), MASTER CARD (CIRRUS) and VISA (PLUS)** for all transactions requiring donations to the **PFMC**. This includes for books and religious articles, pilgrimages, retreats, conferences, seminars, "**The PILGRIM**," or any of the various funds. We ask that those who use credit cards assist us with the costs associated with their use, about 3%.

The **PFMC** is NOT a store and does not sell anything. We strongly support the use of Catholic stores wherever they are convenient to our readers. For books, pamphlets, and religious articles, the **PFMC** operates like a church pamphlet or book rack where selections are made and donations offered based on value posted or received. Most of the other outlets are operating on a for profit basis. Your gifts from the **PFMC** may be a tax break for you.

The **PFMC** has items from inventory on display at **Epiphany House**. The inventory management volunteers, currently **Vince and Livia Nocella**, are always happy to find something for you.

We need volunteers to help us get the entire inventory available for production of order forms. We eventually want to take pictures and load up a shopping cart program so that Internet users can see

our Inventory on-line. If you have inventory or computer skills we would love to have your help.

If you wish to order, please determine what you want with as much description as possible. 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. If you have an order form, complete it, make out a check or complete the information for use of a credit card, i.e. card type, number, expiration date, and name on card, sign, and mail everything to the **PFMC** at the address shown on page 24.

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, Keith, and the PFMC Volunteer Staff**

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## **BULLETIN NOTICES for PFMC AREA EVENTS**

**W**ould you be so kind as to copy or cut out the following BULLETIN NOTICE and take it to your Pastor or Parish Bulletin Coordinator? Ask them to publish any portion of the notices to support **PFMC** events for which you have an interest.

Please help get the word out on **PFMC** activities, events, and pilgrimages.

Ask your pastor to allow information materials to be put out in church. Please do not put material in your church without obtaining permission from the pastor or his representative.

We are trying to network with other ministries in support of bringing people to Jesus either directly, through Mary, or through her spouse, the Holy Spirit.

Thanks in advance for acting on this special request for Bulletin Notice support.

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### **PFMC Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 17-25(27) May 2005**

A Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) coordinated Medjugorje pilgrimage group will join pilgrims already signed up with 206 Tours for 17-25 May 2005. The PFMC Spiritual Director will be Father Fulgencio Gutierrez. The base price is \$1499 plus \$199 for travel / airport taxes and \$199 for the extension for two nights in Medjugorje to support excursions from Medjugorje to places like Mostar and Dubrovnik. Add-on air fare from other airports to JFK, NY are available. Please visit: <http://www.pilgrimages.com/pfmc/starofthesea/> or <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith/2005/05PPM>

[05.pdf](#) or call (856) 768-9228 for additional information.

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**PFMC Fund Raiser**  
**21 May 2005**

Friends of the Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) are hosting a Latin Dance Fund Raiser featuring Disc Jockey (DJ) Luis Orlando. It will be held from 8 to 12 PM, Saturday, 21 May 2005, at Knights of Columbus Club, 35-79 160<sup>th</sup> Street, (Northern Blvd at 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Flushing, NY. Donation is \$25 per person, \$45 per couple. There will be an Open Bar and Food Available.

For more information call: Olga (917) 723-1505, Shelly (718) 229-3867, Carmen (718) 224-5274, Edgar (718) 343-5311, or Mercedes (718) 423-3534.

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**PFMC Pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo (Saint Pio of Pietrelcina)**  
**9 - 14 October 2005**

A Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) coordinated pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo (Saint Pio of Pietrelcina), Monte San Angelo, and Lanciano, Italy, with Father Glenn Hartman, Saint John Neumann Parish in Sicklerville, NJ as Spiritual Director. Double occupancy package price is \$1899 with a single supplement of \$200. Please visit: <http://www.pilgrimages.com/pfmc/frhartman> or <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith/2005/FrHartmanFlyer.PDF> or call (856) 768-9228 for more information.

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Thanks again for anything you can do to post notices in parish bulletins and with local prayer groups.

**(Kathleen as well as all the PFMC Volunteer Staff)**

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## CONFERENCE CORNER

We need conference or meeting notices no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month before the event. The earlier the better so we can make space for it.

**April 23, 2005 – Philadelphia Charismatic Rally, Hilton Hotel, King of Prussia, PA.** Contact: (610) 687-8835. Speakers: **Bishop Sam Jacobs, Linda Schubert.**

**May 13-15, 2005 – National Service Committee Cenacle of Prayer for America, James Knight International Center, Miami, FL.** Contact: [www.nsc-chariscenter.org](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org). Speakers: **Father Tom Forrest, Jim Murphy, Bob Canton, Maria Vadia, Aggie Neck, Deborah DeRosia.**

**The PILGRIM, Volume 16, Number 4 – April 2005**

**June 12-18, 2005 – Silent Healing Retreat, Mary Immaculate Center, Allentown, PA.** Contact: (610) 395-8376 or (610) 336-9150. Speakers: **Father Joseph K. Bill, V.C. M.A.**

**June 24-25, 2005 - 24th Medjugorje Anniversary Celebration - 2005, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 4600 Belle Terre Pkwy, Palm Coast, FL.** Contact: (386) 445-1564 / Fax: (386) 445-1552. Speakers: **Father John Corapi, SOLT.** <http://www.medjugorje.org/medconf.htm>.

**August 5-7, 2005 – Scranton Charismatic Conference, University of Scranton, Scranton, PA.** Contact: (570) 346-0922. Speakers: **Bob Canton, Aggie Neck, Peter Herbeck, Monsignor John Lewis, Linda Schubert, Father Richard Loch, and Bob Valiante.**

**September 2-4, 2005 - Fourth Annual Marian Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba.** Speakers: **Father Andrew Apostoli, Father Joseph Iannuzzi, Father Louis Guardiola, Dan Lynch, Al Barbarino, Roy Shoeman, Stan Rutherford.** Youth Conference on **Saturday.** Contact: (204) 268-2046; <http://www.marianconference.com>

**October 7-9, 2005 – Camden Charismatic Conference, Wildwood Convention Center, Wildwood, NJ.** Contact: (856) 589-7205. Speakers: **John Michael Talbot, Babsie Bleasdel, Father Michael Moses, and Bob Valiante, MC.**

**October 28-30, 2005 – Catholic Unity Conference, Hilton Hotel, King of Prussia, PA.** Contact: (610) 527-2906. Speakers: **Father Andrew Apostoli, Mother Nadine Brown, Ralph Martin, Josyp Terelya, Father Clement Machado, Jim Cowan** [www.inhissign.com](http://www.inhissign.com).

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(compiled from various sources by Keith)

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## GENNESARET RETREATS

**5/13/2005 to 5/15/2005**

**10/14/2005 to 10/16/2005**

Gennesaret Retreat is a weekend retreat offered free of charge for those who live with serious illness or are unable to attend a retreat due to disability. The retreats are held twice a year at a barrier free facility, **The Vincentian Renewal Center in Princeton, NJ.** The team members have both a spiritual and medical background. For more information and to register, call **Hilare Reinold (732) 566-7237.** Ends on **Sunday** with Holy Mass about **4 PM.** Contact: **Sister Mary Simon Robb.** Phone: (609) 406-7400 ext. 5594, Fax: (609) 406-7403, Email: [srobb@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:srobb@dioceseoftrenton.org)

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## CALENDARS:

In *April*, the Church celebrates the Memorial of *Saint Catherine of Siena (29)*, and Optional Memorials of *Anselm (21)*, *Adalbert (23)*, *George, Martyr (23)*, *Peter Chanel (28)*, *Louis Mary de Montfort (28)*, and *Pius V, Pope (30)*.

In *May*, the Church celebrates the Solemnities of *ASCENSION of the LORD (5)* and *PENTECOST (15)*, *TRINITY SUNDAY (22)*, *CORPUS CHRIST (BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST) (26/29)*, the Feasts of *Saints Philip and James (3)*, and *Matthias, Apostle (14)*, the Memorials of the *Visitation (31)* and *Saints Philip Neri (26)* and the Optional Memorials of *Saints Athanasius (2)*, *Nereus (12)*, *Achilleus (12)*, *Pancras (12)*, *Pope John I (18)*, *Bernardine of Siena (20)*, *Bede the Venerable (25)*, *Pope Gregory VII (25)*, *Mary Magdalene de Pazzi (25)*, and *Augustine of Canterbury (27)* and *Our Lady of Fatima (13)*, and *Blessed Damien Joseph De Vuester of Molokai (10)*. The Church calendar recognizes *Mother Day (8)*, *Armed Forces Day (21)*, and *Memorial Day (observed) (30)*.

## AROUND the PFMC AREA

Please review the announcements on *pages 3* through *7*, as well as the information sheets with reservation forms for the pilgrimages to *Medjugorje* and *San Giovanni Rotondo, Monte Sant' Angelo, and Lanciano, Italy*.

Please help get the word out on *PFMC* activities, events, and pilgrimages. Ask your pastor to post

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*Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC), A Religious Association, Inc.*

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bulletin notices and allow information sheets to be put out in church. Please do not put material in your church without obtaining permission from the pastor or his official and authorized representative.

## POPE JOHN PAUL II PRAYER INTENTIONS for APRIL

VATICAN CITY, APR 1, 2005 (VIS) - Pope John Paul's general prayer intention is: "That Christians may live their Sundays more truly as days of the Lord dedicated in a special way to God and their neighbor."

His mission intention is: "That every Christian community should have a burning zeal for holiness, so as to kindle many missionary vocations."

(JP2-PRAYER INTENTIONS/APRIL/... VIS 050401 (70)) [See *pages 1* and *3* on the death of Pope John Paul II and the current Papal Interregnum.]

## O MOST HOLY GOD

O most Holy God, I adore Thee, through the Adorable Sacrament of the Altar, and I offer Thee, through the holy hands of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, all the consecrated Hosts on our Altars as a sacrifice of expiation, reparation, and atonement for all the sacrileges, profanations, impieties, blasphemies, and crimes committed against Thee throughout the universe. AMEN.

<http://www.stleo.com/newpage5.htm>

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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!*"

