



*Aim of the  
Queen of Peace Apostolate  
To make known the Message of  
Our Lady At Medjugorje.  
Our focus is on living the  
message, which is in harmony  
with the Church's Magisterium.*

# VIA AD PACEM

*(The Way To Peace)*

## LIVE THE MESSAGES

given at

## MEDJUGORJE

*Sponsored by The Queen of Peace Apostolate*

*P.O. Box 6, Canandaigua, NY 14424*

*Visit us on the web: [www.queenofpeaceapostolate.com](http://www.queenofpeaceapostolate.com)*

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*EDITOR: Lena Shipley*

*November-December 2008 No. 125*

*Our Lady's Message is -*

*Pray and fast.*

*Frequent Mass.*

*Monthly Confession.*

*Daily Rosary.*

*Love People.*

*Use Blessed Objects.*

*Price per issue \$1.25 - additional copies \$.50 each.*

### Message of November 25, 2008 PRAY FOR THIS TURBULENT WORLD WITHOUT HOPE

*"Dear children! Also today I call you, in this time of grace, to pray for little Jesus to be born in your heart. May He, who is peace itself, give peace to the entire world through you. Therefore, little children, pray without ceasing for this turbulent world without hope, so that you may become witnesses of peace for all. May hope begin to flow through your hearts as a river of grace. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

### Reflection on the Message of November 25, 2008

*"Behold a broken world, we pray,  
Where want and war increase,  
And grant us, Lord, in this our day,  
The ancient dream of peace;*

Who, in this day and age, cannot identify with the first stanza of this hymn? Most of us feel the weight of a broken world. We live in an age where few of us can distinguish between our needs and our wants. Wars rage around us – battles upon foreign soil, the threat of terrorism is ever present, disputes in our governments, disputes in our communities, our families and our hearts. Peace seems like an ancient dream

– far away – non existent. Yet, in this message, Our Lady reminds us again that we live in a time of grace

*"....In this time of grace I call you to pray for little Jesus to be born in your heart.....".*

Our Lady speaks these words to us at the onset of Advent. Advent has always been called the time of grace since the very beginning of Christian tradition. It is a time when we can readily identify with God's love as we prepare to receive the gift of that love – little Jesus. It is easy to forget that we are living in a time of great grace because we often look for God's love in all the wrong places. We often try to fashion God's will to ours. We want health, wealth and all of our hopes and dreams realized. This scenario looks more like a time of grace than sickness, loss of jobs, stock market impact on our investments. We want what we want! Is it any wonder that so few found the humble infant in a cave in Bethlehem?

Finding the infant in today's world also means to follow his star to an off the beaten track sort of place. Allowing little Jesus to be born in our hearts will call us to live lives of humility. It becomes very evident why our Lord tells us to become as little children (Mt. 18:3) and what is involved in it. It means taking a break from being God ourselves, to let God be God. Being childlike means to stop trying to run the world and one another's lives. This sheds light also on Saint

Paul's words that we must not be conformed to "this turbulent world without hope".

Any real growth in prayer, in communion with God, leads us into the desert, into the place of wild wide wastes, where we can get no bearings. We must come out from behind the security of our homemade identity, our self-appointed responsibilities, into the spaciousness of God's world, where we will gradually recognize true freedom and discover our true responsibilities. When prayer takes us to this 'place', then, and only then, will Our Lady's humble message make sense to us.

Our Lady shows us the way to peace. It is her Son and Our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace is not just the absence of war. It is not a commodity. Peace comes from Jesus. Those who have found Him have found everything! Those who have encountered God become carriers and witnesses of the peace of Christ. Only then can "hope begin to flow through your hearts as a river of grace". Peace is not just an "ancient dream" as the hymn above suggests. Rather, peace is a waking dream because God pitched his tent among us in the form of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Hope becomes, for the Christian, a strange thing because we hope for what we already possess. Our glory resides in the Christ whom we possess, and it is so great that it shines through our present life.

Mary knows this and her messages attempt to awaken us to the wonder that is ours!

### **Message of December 25, 2008**

*"Dear children! You are running, working, gathering – but without blessing. You are not praying! Today I call you to stop in front of the manger and to meditate on Jesus, Whom I give to you today also, to bless you and to help you to comprehend that, without Him, you have no future. Therefore, little children, surrender your lives into the hands of Jesus, for Him to lead you and protect you from every evil. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

### **Reflection on the Message of December 25, 2008**

"There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest. He asked himself, 'What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?' And he said, 'This is what I shall do: I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones. There I shall store all my grain and other goods and I shall say to myself, "now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!" But God said to him, "you fool, this night your life will be

demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for the one who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich in what matters to God." (Luke 12:16-21)

The rich fool must have spent most of his life running, working and gathering to have such an abundant harvest of stuff! All this abundance and his work still wasn't over. He had to work to build larger barns in which to store everything. Little did he know that his busy life was about to come to a screeching halt. God asked, to whom will his life's work belong?

What a timely message from Our Lady! For many of us, the days and weeks before Christmas are packed with 'running, working and gathering'. The women that I know, like me, have been frantically cleaning, shopping, wrapping, decorating, cooking and working outside the home. This message hit me hard! By Christmas Eve, I was worn to a frazzle! For days, I ran past my manger scene dozens of times a day as I worked to check off my many chores. One evening as I passed this spot that should have been my prayer tryst, I slowed down and knelt before the tiny ceramic figurines. The baby Jesus seemed to grab my attention: 'Hey, slow down...remember me...after all, it's my birthday...and I don't need all of this fanfare....I only need your heart!' I noticed how humble the setting within the manger scene. I noticed the excess in the setting of my surroundings. I cried....and asked forgiveness.

When our lives get out of balance like they often do during the Christmas Season, whom do we bless! Does our busyness give God glory? Are we a blessing to our family and friends when we are tired and preoccupied? It is so easy to fall into the snare set before us by the evil one. It is a sure thing when we substitute work for prayer!

Our Lady calls us to STOP! - in front of the manger where we are reminded of our nothingness – where simplicity and humility beckon to us. Stop before the Tabernacle to remember from whence comes our hope. Stop in the middle of a hectic day to meditate on Jesus who was given to us as the greatest gift of the Father's love. Stop after receiving Communion and remember who it is that lives in us. Stop and remember several times a day who it is who blesses us and frees us from the grasp of the evil one.

We, with all of our things born from endless work and nights of sleepless anxiety, have become the poorest of the poor. Let us pray for the grace to surrender our lives into the hands of Jesus and ask him to lead us and protect us so that we will become rich in spirit. Let the newly born Jesus bless our whole life and all our noble strivings.

This is the November-December 2008 newsletter, but soon enough we will be entering into the season of Lent, along with Divine Mercy Sunday, the week after Easter. Time to prepare for both.

**Amazing Secret of the Souls in Purgatory** is an excellent book to read during Lent. Every time we offer it, it is a sell-out and we have to re-order. One man, after reading it, bought seven more copies to send to each of his brothers and sisters, one of whom has since died. After reading it, you may want to do the same. This book answers many questions about the souls, including what happens to the souls. It is not often that a book touches the soul so deeply. Maria Simma, a woman in the mountains of Austria was graced with a special charism -- that of being visited by many souls in Purgatory. She shared some of their "secrets" -- such as "what are the sins that most lead to Purgatory" (a surprising answer) how we can best release the soul, etc. This is a comforting book for anyone, but especially for someone who knows of one who died by suicide. \$ 5.45

**Read Me or Rue It** is another best seller whenever we offer it. The author relates how we can and should help the Souls in Purgatory and how they in turn will obtain favors for us in their gratitude. \$ 2.50

**Daily Pilgrimage** gives short meditation and prayer for the souls in Purgatory, mentioning a specific one each day (e.g. the one nearest to Heaven, the most forsaken, etc.) It is easy; it is short; it is in accordance with the wishes of the Sacred Heart, and it is comforting to know we can help those who no longer can help themselves. \$ 1.25

In case the January-February issue is not out in time for Mercy Sunday, we mention now that offer:

**Divine Mercy bookmark** which is a beautiful laminated bookmark with the chaplet of Divine Mercy on the reverse side. \$ .90

To order, please send check or money order, **including shipping and handling to: Queen of Peace Apostolate, P.O. Box 6, Canandaigua, New York, 14424.**

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\$5.01 to \$10.00 = \$2.75 \$10.01 to \$15.00 = \$3.75 \$15.01 to \$25.00 = \$4.75  
\$25.01 and above = \$5.00

Please pray for vocations.

**Vocation Prayer**

*Divine Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant our young men and women true generosity in following your call, and bestow on them the grace of your Holy Spirit to persevere in overcoming all obstacles to their vocations. In this time of need, give the Church in this diocese and throughout the world many holy priests and fervent religious.*

**Join A Local Prayer Cenacle**

**Queen of Peace Night:** Third Wednesday of every month. All are invited. St. Dominic's Church, 6 Canandaigua St.

**Shortsville, NY.** 7:00 pm Rosary, 8:00 pm Mass followed by healing prayer. Celebrant for January is Fr. Tom Mull; for February is Fr. Don Curtis.

**Medjugorje Night:** Third Wednesday of every month, 7:00 p.m. Most Holy Rosary Church, **Syracuse, NY.**

**Marian Cenacle:** Every Wednesday Evening. St. Mary's Church, **Waterloo, NY.** All are welcome. 7:00 pm, Divine Mercy Chaplet, complete Rosary, Litany. Contact Darlene Duprey 315-539-9010.

**Marian Cenacle:** Every Saturday Morning, 11:00 am, St. Michael's Church (Chapel) **Newark, NY.**

**Marian Cenacle:** Every Thursday 1:00 pm, 394 Hickory Grove Road, **Horseheads, NY.** Contact Margaret Mary Colwell 607-739-8838.

**Marian Cenacle:** Every Saturday 9:15 am and every Sunday 8:30 am. Canandaigua VA Catholic Chapel, Bldg. 3, **Canandaigua, NY.** Contact Linda Johnson 315-536-3304.

**Marian Cenacle:** Second Wednesday of every month after the 9 am Mass. St. Patrick's Church, Maple Avenue, **Victor.** Rosary, Litany of Loretto, Divine Mercy Chaplet.

**Marian Cenacle:** Every Friday 11:15 am before the noon mass. St. Joseph's Church, **Weedsport, NY.**

**Marian Cenacle:** First Saturday of the month at 11:00 am. St. Michael's Church, Penn Yan. Rosary Litany of BMV. Contact Nancy Richardson 315-531-3339.

**First Saturday Prayer Group:** St. Mary's Church, **Canandaigua, NY.** First Saturday of each month after 8:00 am Mass. Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Litany. Contact Lynn Butler 585-289-3522.

**Prayer Group:** St. Mary's Church, **Canandaigua, NY.** Every Saturday morning after 8:00 am Mass. Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Litany.

**Prayer Group:** Every Tuesday 7:30 pm. 22 Valencia Drive, **Rochester, NY.** Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Litany of Loretto. Contact Antionette & Pierre Patamia 585-426-6970.

**Prayer Group:** Every Sunday afternoon, 3:00 pm, (home group) 1266 Pine Hill Lane, Farmington, NY. Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Litany. Contact Yolanda Merkel 585-742-3206.

**Prayer Group** every Monday 7:00 pm, St. Michael's Chapel, 210 Keuka Street, Penn Yan, NY.

**Prayer Group** Every Sunday Evening 4:00 pm., St. Cecilia's Church, Culver Rd., Rochester. Rosary Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Contact Dorothy Florack 585-865-2594.

**Subscriptions:**

*Via Ad Pacem* is a bi-monthly newsletter, giving the monthly messages of Our Lady from Medjugorje. To subscribe, send name, address and \$7.50 donation to Mrs. Anne Erdle, P.O. Box 6, Canandaigua, New York 14424.

Associate Membership: We invite you to become an Associate Member of the Queen of Peace Apostolate. Members receive *Via Ad Pacem* and share in Masses and works of the Apostolate. Send name, address and donation of \$10.00 a year to Mrs. Anne Erdle, P.O. Box 6, Canandaigua, New York 14424.

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