



*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)*

*SPIRITUAL ADVISOR: Fr. Paul Bonacci*

*EDITOR: Lena Shipley*

*January-February 2008 No. 120*

*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.*

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

*"Dear children! With the time of Lent, you are approaching a time of grace. Your heart is like ploughed soil and it is ready to receive the fruit which will grow into what is good. You, little children, are free to choose good or evil. Therefore, I call you to pray and fast. Plant joy and the fruit of joy will grow in your hearts for your good, and others will see it and receive it through your life. Renounce sin and choose eternal life. I am with you and intercede for you before my Son. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

This message could be called Our Lady's 'warm-up' message. Mary entices us to prepare our hearts for the Season of Lent which is fast approaching. Lent is our spiritual training camp-a time to flex our spiritual muscles. Our Lady speaks these words to us on the day the Church celebrates the conversion of St. Paul – the model 'par excellence' of conversion. Talk about a drastic and dramatic turn about!

Lent is a wonderful time of grace. The purpose of Lent is, above all else, a preparation to rejoice in God's love. I don't really think we can fully grasp what eternal benefits these 40 days, year after year, actually reaped for us and the whole world. I do

believe that when we come before the judgment seat of Jesus at the moment of our death, we will know in an instant the Lenten opportunities that we rose to or shirked from. Indeed, Lent is a time of grace – a time of God's love welling up like a fountain for all to drink freely. No wonder we hear of the wonderful life-giving water offered to the woman at the well during this time. She (and we) would never thirst again when we drink of the water Jesus offers. And the man born blind who was give back his sight so he (and we) can behold our salvation. Lent is a golden opportunity to be all that we can be.

The metaphor of soil and seed is such good imagery for growth in the spiritual life. Our Lady says our hearts are "like ploughed soil and it is ready to receive the fruit..." Our Lady knows this because it is She who has tilled that soil! She, like a good mother, has made our hearts ready to "receive the fruit which will grow into what is good". Even though Our Mother has been with us so long - has guided, instructed, formed us into pliable clay in the potter's hand; we are still free to choose good or evil. Again, she calls us to pray and fast. Pray and fast BECAUSE you are free to choose... Do we seriously reflect on the responsibility, the danger, the consequences that go along with our freedom to choose? It is a sobering thought!

We have spread before us choices that lead either to 'life or death'. With our Lady as our guide, we will choose life. If we follow her lead, we will "plant joy" and experience the "fruit of joy" in our hearts. Our Lady reminds us, too, that our lives make a huge statement. The tone of our lives speak louder than what we say. Do our lives resonate with the fruits of the Spirit? Do we exude anxiety and negativity in our interactions with others? Our Lady says, "others will see it and receive it through your life"! What power we have been given with the gift of our free choice! We will either transform the world with peace or impact it with negative energy.

Our Lady suggests what we should do with our gift of choice. "Renounce sin and choose eternal life". Renunciation and fasting is not a burden; but liberation. They are only burdens to those who take it up unwillingly. Love makes it light and happy. Let us try to pull ourselves together spiritually and during this time of grace offer the Lord a prayer for each other – not for ourselves, not for our own health, salvation or well-being; but for our sisters and brothers, for those who are dear to our hearts: offer the Lord a prayer for them today, as the Gospel teaches us. Pray for them, that their way may be blessed, that the Lord may keep them and come to meet them – then all of us will ascend toward the Lord, as if holding on to that prayer. This is the main thing – the rest will follow – but this is essential to our lives. Responding to Our Lady's call in this way will ensure that the fruit of our lives "will grow into what is good" and we will be able to participate in the celebration of Easter with renewed heart and joyful soul.

## Reflection on Message of February 25, 2008

*"Dear children! In this time of grace, I call you anew to prayer and renunciation. May your day be interwoven with little ardent prayers for all those who have not come to know God's love. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

With this message, Lent is well underway. We are beginning the third week of this Season of Grace – a good benchmark for assessment. When you first read this message, it is hoped that you took a few moments to reflect on your Lenten resolve. Did you begin this time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving strong? Or, did Ash Wednesday come upon you all too fast and you were not yet focused? Whatever....it's ok! Today is a new day. Begin "anew". Consider each new day a time to begin "anew"!

Do not be discouraged! Think small. Remember the mustard seed that reaps big results. The point is that God gives us another chance to become better people,

to start to change. We are asked to become better in all areas of our lives. Our Lady provides us with the means that will help us in our fight – prayer and renunciation. We can all do little things. Few of us can do big things for the Lord. Weave "little ardent prayers" throughout the day. We can all perform the 'little' activities that comprise our days with a 'big' heart. We can pray with our hearts throughout our day despite the busyness. Intersperse little acts of kindness throughout the business of the day. Offer smiles, hugs, helping hands often. Most especially, take time to go off even for ten minutes, to a quiet place to pray for "those who have not come to know God's love".

If your Lenten resolve has waned by now, jump start it TODAY!

Perhaps this meditation on the Twelfth Station – Jesus Dies On The Cross – written through the heart of His Mother- will help to get you into the spirit of Holy Week.

'My children, the pain of death is a cruel one; but for a Mother who loses her child, the cruelest wound pierces her heart! How can a Mother explain the stab of death as Her child breathes His last – hanging from a cross, covered with wounds, agonizing and dying of pure, unmitigated pain. My beloved, His death was like a color I had never seen, a melancholic song I had never heard before and would never hear again. It's last note struck as His breath expired. The sword was thrust into my heart as I prayed with Him in silence, His last prayers on earth in his mortal body. From the cross, He thirsted for you. He thirsted for the day you would abhor sin to the point of crucifying your flesh for the life of your immortal soul. He thirsted for the day you would love Him completely. From the cross, He forgave all of your sins. With His final prayers to the Father: "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me", He takes us to the deepest region of the mystery of suffering. "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit". Through this prayer, He showed us that the way of the cross yields the richest fruit – union with the Father. My children, He showed us that love triumphs in the end. My crucified Son, with a sword in my heart, I unite with you. As you give over your Spirit to the Father, I give my life, my broken heart, my continued YES to the Father's Holy Will. For you, it is finished. For me, just begun – as I mother your church on earth.

***Prayer Response: O Mother of crucified love, give us the grace to comprehend, even in our limited understanding, the mystery of our redemption, the magnitude of the love of our creator - immolated and offered as a holocaust for His creatures! Give us the grace, dear Mother, to commit our lives into the Father's hands. Help us to say, with you and Jesus, YES to the Father's will. Jesus crowned His life with His holy death. Help us to offer, upon our death, the crown of our lives as we strive to live them as Jesus taught us. O my crucified Savior, forgive us for we know not what we do. Amen***

The aim of the Queen of Peace Apostolate is to make known the Message of Our Lady at Medjugorje. To further meet this goal and to expand our efforts to the global community, we have recently launched a website, [www.queenofpeaceapostolate.com](http://www.queenofpeaceapostolate.com).

This website includes a history of Medjugorje, information about the visionaries, the messages from 1984 to present organized by year, commentaries on the messages from 2004 - present, books available thru the Queen of Peace, online videos, pertinent articles and links and more. We appreciate your patronage of the printed Via Ad Pacem thru the years and sincerely hope that you will continue to support the efforts of The Queen of Peace Apostolate through your associate membership. At the present time we are asking subscribers of this printed newsletter to let us know if they have access to the internet and if there is a continued need for the printed edition. We will also make the printed edition that you are accustomed to available in PDF format as a download that you can print and distribute. We are trying to minimize our printing costs while still providing the information that you are accustomed to. **We need to hear from our subscribers in order to make a decision regarding the future of the printed version of the Via Ad Pacem newsletter.**

***Please give us your input via any of the following:***

U.S. Mail - Queen of Peace Apostolate, P.O. Box 6, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Email - [contact@queenofpeaceapostolate.com](mailto:contact@queenofpeaceapostolate.com)

Phone - 315-539-9010

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**The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion Booklet** The Divine Mercy novena has gained popularity since Sister Faustina was declared a saint. This booklet contains the prayers of the powerful novena, which begins on Good Friday and ends on Mercy Sunday, the Sunday after Easter. The booklet includes prayers, a picture of the Divine image, etc. The booklet explains how to recite the chaplet, a powerful prayer, using regular rosary beads. The Lord promised Sr. (now Saint) Faustina extraordinary graces to those who would recite it. "Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death ... Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. ... I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those who trust My Mercy. Encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given you ... when they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just Judge but as the Merciful Savior. ...Through the chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will." \$8.75

**St. Louis De Montfort's Devotion to Mary** (a simplified version by Rev. Msgr. Vincent M. Walsh), who says: "(H)aving read almost all the books on Mary and having spoken with the holiest and most learned people of our day, I have never discovered a devotion like the one I will reveal to you. No other devotion requires more sacrifices, empties the soul more completely or keeps it so faithful to God." The book also explains applying true devotion when receiving Holy Communion. \$ 8.00

**The Passion of Christ and His Mother** by Prof. Courtenay Bartholomew includes chosen parts of the written account of the mystics, who were privileged to be shown in visions a "play back" of the Passion as it occurred 2000 years ago which are recorded in this book and are quite vividly descriptive of the event. This book explains why the Passion was necessary and puts everything in historical perspective beginning from the creation of the angels, the fall of Satan, and God's promise in Genesis 3:15: "I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed; he will strike your head and you will strike his heel." \$ 8.95

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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. there will be no Queen of Peace Mass in March because it falls during Holy Week. The celebrant for April will be Fr. William Coffas.

**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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