

OUR LADY OF MEDUJORGE'S MESSAGE OF JANUARY 25, 2004

“Dear Children! Also today I call you to pray. Pray, little children, in a special way for all those who have not come to know God's love. Pray that their hearts may open and draw closer to my heart and the Heart of my Son, Jesus, so that we can transform them into people of peace and love. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Pray for Those Who Do Not Know God's Love

A. Pray in a Special Way.

1. Pray. When Our Blessed Mother asks us to pray, she is returning to the central focus of all her messages. In a sense, she has only one message and that is to pray, because:
 - a. All of our graces come through prayer. God is full of love and compassion for all His children on earth and He is so eager to help and assist us. Prayer is the fundamental sign of openness to God on our part. It is an acknowledgment that of ourselves we are nothing and that by ourselves we are unable to solve our problems and so we humbly open our hearts to accept the blessing of His powerful Mercy.
 - b. Prayer unites us with God and brings heaven to earth. Our Blessed Mother has said that one of the mysteries taking place today is that heaven, with all the angels and saints and peace of God, is invading the earth. God, Who does not seek to punish us, looks upon our prayer as a sign of good will and conversion with the message that we are eager to cooperate with Him and His designs for the betterment of humanity. Prayer is an invitation to God to bring His powerful action into this troubled world of ours.
 - c. In and through prayer, we come to know God's Will and Plan for the salvation of the world today and the specific role that He has assigned to each one of us for its accomplishment. Our Blessed Mother knows exactly what God's Will is for each one of us, and that is why she begs us to pray in union with her so that she can lead us in prayer and thereby enlighten us about God's Will for us, which is our peace.
2. In a Special Way. By inserting this little phrase into her message, Our Blessed Mother seems to want to underscore the seriousness, importance, and urgency of her request. She wants to stir us from our complacency and to get us completely focused, to awake from our sleepiness and be totally one with her in mind and heart, to place ourselves in her heart and be enkindled by the flame of intense concern and love for all her children with which she is so constantly consumed. How do we do this?
 - a. Pray with Jesus. Our Blessed Mother wants us to augment the grace of Christmas that we have just received. “I bless you all with my Son Jesus in my arms and I carry Him, who is the King of Peace, to you, that He grant you His peace.” (12-25-03) God has been born in our hearts anew. She says: “God is with you; do not be afraid. He is the victory that covers over every defeat.” So a sense of confidence should open the doors once closed by hatred, violence and egoism. The Little Prince of Peace comes; our prayer lets His light and love shine on this dark world.
 - b. Invoke His Mercy. This is the Age of Mercy. Jesus told St. Faustina that He would do anything for the person who has complete confidence in Him. St. Faustina took Him on His Word, and, invoking His infinite Mercy, prevented souls from going to hell. With the same confidence, we ask that He reveal His love to all the souls who do not know His Love, especially those who are farthest away from Him. God grants His graces to us according to our confident expectations.
 - c. Pray with Mary. The peace of the world has been entrusted to Our Lady, Queen of Peace. The Pope has said: the Son cannot refuse His Mother. She comes as Queen of Peace, but as Ivan said, also as Mother of Mercy. With complete confidence we should continually invoke her all-powerful help.

B. For Those Who Do Not Know God's Love.

1. Everyone Seeks Love. Our Holy Father the Pope said that it is in the very nature of every human being to be loved and to be loving. Healthy families nurture this basic desire in their children and as children grow up strengthened by the love their parents give them they become empowered to offer their love to others. But many in this world have not known this parental love. As Mother Teresa put it, the worst affliction in the world is not being wanted, not being loved. Our Blessed Mother has said that prayer is an exercise in love and that prayer ignites a chain reaction throughout the world that cannot be stopped if we pray continually.
2. Sharing God's Primary Concern. God's fundamental option is for the poor, because His greatest desire is that every one in this world come to know His individual love and concern for each and be saved. Like a loving parent, His greatest concern is for them who need His help the most. When we pray for those who do not know God's love, we are sharing in God's most intimate concern.
 - a. Jesus began His public ministry in Nazareth by quoting from the prophet Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring the Good News to the poor. He has sent me to announce release to the captives, the recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim a year of jubilee for which everyone is awaiting." (Luke 4:17)
 - b. St. Therese of Lisieux indicated that everyone should stand by the Cross on Calvary until they hear Jesus saying "I thirst." Then they will be inflamed with zeal to pray and sacrifice for those far away from God.
 - c. Our Blessed Mother has said that, if we cultivate the practice of always remaining in her heart and staying close to her desires and interests, she will take us deep down to the center of her heart and reveal to us the cause of her sorrow: her deep concern for her children who are farthest away from her and God.

C. Some Ways to Live This Message.

1. At Holy Communion, ask Our Lord to illuminate the minds and hearts of those who do not know Him with the revelation of His Goodness, His Love, and His Mercy.
2. When saying the Chaplet of Mercy each day at 3:00 p.m., add to the intention concern for all those who do not know God and who do not know His Love.
3. At the beginning of each rosary and each mystery of the rosary, invoke God's blessing and Our Lady's special assistance for those who are far away from God.
4. Periodically through the day place the whole world in the Merciful Hearts of Jesus and Mary.
5. Ask for a personal increase in the appreciation of God's Goodness, Love, and Mercy, so that this appreciation and love might shine through all that we do.
6. When we pray, speak to Jesus in a more personal and heartfelt way, so that when we have the opportunity to share our faith we might speak about Jesus with more enthusiasm.
7. Meditate for one minute each morning on the source of Jesus' greatest pain: the souls that will not live with Him forever for whom He suffered so much.
8. Pray during the day: "Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you – save souls – the souls who do not know your love."
9. Offer up a specific work during the day for this intention.
10. Make a specific little sacrifice each day for this intention.