OUR LADY OF MEDUJORGE'S MESSAGE OF NOVEMBER 25, 2003

"Dear children! I call you that this time be for you an even greater incentive to prayer. In this time, little children, pray that Jesus be born in all hearts, especially in those who do not know him. Be love, joy and peace in this peaceless world. I am with you and intercede before God for each of you. Thank you for having responded to my call."

Pray That Jesus Be Born in All Hearts

We come once again to that momentous time of the year, when our loving and merciful Father offers us the gift of His Peace wrapped up in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Our Blessed Mother is the Queen of Peace who tells us that this Peace will come to us in and through her, if we let her carry us on that mysterious journey to Bethlehem. She will lead us to that Peace, when our daily communion of life, love and joy with her deepens by the day.

So we are invited in this Advent season to place ourselves in the Heart of Mary each day through the renewal of our consecration, and to walk with her in a spirit of silence, recollection and prayer. But more than that, she invites us to share in the mystery of her maternal love by becoming instruments of Peace:

- 1. <u>Be Humble</u>. "Understand that you are nothing, really capable of nothing." (2-86) Little children know nothing (therefore, are teachable) and can do nothing, so they attach themselves to mother and depend on her for everything.
- 2. <u>Surrender</u>. "I want you to surrender your heart (completely) to me, so that I may take you on the way that leads to light. I will be with you on this way of the discovery of God's love and mercy, so as a Mother, I ask you to permit me to do this." (3-18-99)
- 3. <u>Share</u>. "Allow God's light and love to enter into your heart (in prayer) that you may feel and experience true light and love, which only God can give. Be carriers of God's light and love." (12-25-99)

A. <u>Be Love</u>. (Embody the love received in prayer and shine with this light.)

- 1. St. Therese of the Child Jesus is a good example: "My mission is to love to be the Heart of the Mystical Body and to do every little thing out of love." Little acts of kindness and small sacrifices she said are little straws placed in the manger for a resting place for Little Jesus.
- 2. Mother Teresa is another good example. She said: "Holiness is responding to the people God places in our lives each day."
- 3. Possess this love by asking for the Holy Spirit of Love at the beginning of each Mass, Rosary, and period of prayer.
- 4. At Holy Communion each day, ask that Jesus be born in your heart and in the hearts of all men and women, especially in the hearts of those who do not know Him.
- 5. "Bear with one another charitably...and say only the good things that will build up the Body of Christ." (Ephesians) Therefore, avoid criticism, gossip, sharp comments, arguments, and malicious talk.
- 6. Bless everyone you meet with a special blessing: conversion, prayer, joy, encouragement, patience, etc.
- 7. Perform little sacrifices for others, especially for those sitting in darkness.
- 8. Reach out to the stranger.
- 9. Perform an act of kindness for someone you are not close to.
- 10. Send a Christmas card to an old friend or a distant relative.
- 11. Try to be more aware of other people's needs, foresee them and provide for them.
- 12. Show appreciation for little things, first of all to God for all His wonderful gifts. This helps us to be thankful for many of the good qualities in others which we often take for granted.

13. Live love by thinking of Jesus/Mary more often. Jesus once said: "When you think of Me, you show that you love me." This will help us to be a source of blessing to others.

B. <u>Be Joy</u>.

- 1. First of all, realize in your person and countenance the joy of being so greatly loved by the Father the joy of being alive, the joy of receiving His gifts, especially the continual giving of His Son, etc.
- 2. Be joyous because we carry Jesus enthroned in our hearts the Source of all our blessings.
- 3. Consider that the first three fruits of the Holy Spirit are love, joy and peace, and Our Blessed Mother said prayer is love, prayer is joy, prayer is peace.
- 4. Our Blessed Mother said: "I hope my being with you is a joy for you."
- 5. Greet everyone with a smile.
- 6. Cheer up the sorrowing with consoling and kind words.
- 7. Always look for the brighter side of things.
- 8. Turn all negatives to positives. As St. Paul says, when someone strikes out at you, return it with a blessing.
- 9. Resolve always to think only positive things, to say only positive things, to do only positive things.
- 10. Find out what makes someone happy and try to comply.
- 11. St. Philip Neri is the patron of happy souls. He had a tremendous sense of humor and always tried to say things that would cheer up people.
- 12. Pray the prayer of St. Augustine: "Let the just rejoice, for their Justifier is born. Let the sick and infirm rejoice, for their Savior is born. Let captives rejoice, for their Master is born. Let free people rejoice, for their Liberator is born. Let all Christians rejoice, for Jesus is born."
- 13. For some the greatest joy is to find a listening ear and a sympathetic heart.

C. <u>Be Peace</u>.

- Pray the Prayer of St. Francis: "Lord, make me an instrument of Your Peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light and where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life."
- 2. Our Blessed Mother said: "Prayer is the only path to peace."
- 3. Seek the Sacrament of Reconciliation each week.
- 4. Place God and His Will in the First Place at the beginning of each day.
- 5. Place Little Jesus, the Prince of Peace, at the center of one's life.
- 6. Reconcile with, pray for, ask God to bless "enemies."
- 7. Promote unity everywhere and at all costs.
- 8. Foster dialogue and communication to iron out differences.
- 9. Forgive readily, beginning with yourself.
- 10. Cultivate a profound respect for each person.
- 11. Endeavor to bring out the best in each person.
- 12. Imitate Pope John Paul II who tries so hard to bring good news to everyone.
- 13. Do not be afraid to say: "I am sorry." Start by asking forgiveness of Jesus as soon as you become conscious of a failing.