

OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE'S MESSAGE OF NOVEMBER 25, 2006

“Dear children! Also today I call you to pray, pray, pray. Little children, when you pray you are close to God and He gives you the desire for eternity. This is a time when you can speak more about God and do more for God. Therefore, little children, do not resist but permit Him to lead you, to change you and to enter into your life. Do not forget that you are travellers on the way toward eternity. Therefore, little children, permit God to lead you as a shepherd leads his flock. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

During Advent: PRAY, PRAY, PRAY

A. A Wake Up Call.

1. Recent statements by Our Lady are enough to jar anyone from sleep. Padre Pio said once that we will eventually wake up “but it will be too late!” So in recent months Our Lady has used rather strong language to help us come to our senses. Consider the following:
 - a. “I call you to complete conversion.” (September 25, 2006)
 - b. “God is giving you a great opportunity to live in peace.” (October 25, 2006)
 - c. “God is sending me to warn you....
Your time is short.... (Our Lady to
Do not shut your eyes before the truth.... Mirjana
Do not permit delusions to rule over you.... on
I desire to lead you to peace...to my Son....” November 2, 2006)
 - d. “This is a time when you can speak more about God....” (November 25, 2006)
2. The Fundamental option offered to us by our Good God through Our Lady seems to be: “Work with all your strength for peace to win” (May 25, 2006) NOW or suffer the consequences. Working with all our strength for peace to win means to drop everything and go all out yearning for peace through a constant prayer of the heart.
3. In Short, the answer is PRAYER – “the only path to peace” – and especially the Rosary.

B. Advice from Pope John Paul II.

1. Pray with Confidence. “We must learn not to be afraid, we must rediscover a spirit of hope and a spirit of trust.
 - a. “Hope is not empty optimism springing from a naïve confidence that the future will necessarily be better than the past.
 - b. “Hope and trust are the premise of responsible activity and are nurtured in that inner sanctuary of conscience where “man is alone with God” and he thus perceives that he is not alone amid the enigmas of existence, for he is surrounded by the love of the Creator!”
2. Pray with Love.
 - a. “Prayer can progress as a genuine dialogue of love, to the point of rendering the person wholly possessed by the divine Beloved, resting filially within the Father’s heart.”
 - b. “Our Christian communities must become genuine “schools” of prayer, where the meeting with Christ is expressed not just in imploring help, but also in thanksgiving, praise, adoration, contemplation, listening, and ardent devotion, until the heart truly “falls in love.”

C. Food for the Journey. (Pope John Paul II)

1. “In the humble signs of bread and wine changed into His Body and Blood, Christ walks beside us as our strength and food for the journey, and He enables us to become witnesses of hope.”
2. “In the Eucharist we have Jesus, we have His redemptive sacrifice, His Resurrection, we have the gift of the Holy Spirit, we have adoration, obedience, and love of the Father.”

D. How to Spend Advent.

1. Pope Benedict XVI says that at the beginning of every Advent Christ comes knocking on your door – He wants to spend Advent in your Heart just as He spent the First Advent in the Heart of Mary. Let Him in. Welcome Him with joy. Embrace Him in love.
2. Our Lady in her November 2, 2006 message to Mirjana says:
“Give me your heart so that I may put my Son in it and make of you my apostles – apostles of peace and love.”
3. Ask for the gift of always praying in union with Our Blessed Mother. She wants us to begin our prayer in union with her, she asks that we permit her to lead us during prayer, and she wants us to wait for her Motherly Blessing at the end of prayer.
4. Walk in union with Our Lady every day of Advent. She who is the Queen of Peace will foster a deep union with Jesus so as to make Him our heaven on earth. “In this way only will you have peace in your hearts a peace that no one will be able to destroy.” (May 25, 2006)
5. Pope John Paul II: “The world today needs to see your love for Christ. As Paul VI once said: ‘Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers....’ The ideals, the values, the convictions that are the basis of your dedication to Christ must be translated into the language of daily life.”

Rev. Robert E. Hughes, S.M.