

## OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE'S MESSAGE OF NOVEMBER 25, 2008

**“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.”**

### Jesus Comes Knocking

#### **A. Pray for Your Heart to Open to Little Jesus.**

1. **Pope Benedict** at a prayer service in St. Peter's Basilica on the eve of the First Sunday of Advent read this passage from the Book of Revelation:  
“Look and listen. I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my call and opens the door, I will come in to him and have supper with him, and he with Me.”
2. **The Pope made these remarks:**
  - a. “At the beginning of every Advent a unique event occurs in the life of every Christian. Christ comes knocking at the door of our heart and says to us: ‘I would like to live in your heart just as I lived in the Heart of Mary 2000 years ago!’”
  - b. “Open your heart in prayer this Advent. Welcome Jesus with joy just like Mary. Bring Him into the parlor of your heart and converse with Him just the way Mary did.”
  - c. “Mary carried Jesus full of expectation for His birth. The one whom we expect colors greatly the way we act in preparation. So ‘put on the armor of light – Faith, Hope, Charity.’ (Rom. 13:13)”
3. **The Pope concluded:**  
“There you have the whole spirituality of Advent.”

#### **B. Jesus Comes Knocking.**

1. **A “Mary Welcome.”** On the First Sunday of Advent Jesus comes knocking. We unite with Mary and give Him a welcome full of joy and happiness just like Mary did at the Annunciation. In prayer Mary yearned for Him to come and save His people; God responded marvelously. Each day of Advent we should discover a new reason why we urgently need Him to come.
2. **In the Parlor of Your Heart.** Mary walked to Bethlehem with the loving presence of Jesus in her heart; little Jesus rested peacefully in the loving heart of Mary. She was united with her God and that was Peace. Walking in the presence of Jesus and Mary is to pray continually. It is the prayer of Faith and the prayer of silence.
3. **Conversing with Jesus.** Within this silence, we are able to hear the continual knock of Jesus as He speaks to us in the daily Scriptures. He both reveals something to us and asks something of us each day. And Mary repeats: “Do whatever He tells you.” (John 2:5) As we respond, Jesus grows within us.

#### **C. Give Peace (Jesus) to the Entire World.**

1. **Darkness and Light** seem to be in a struggle for supremacy as the days are covered by darkness more and more during Advent – symbolic of this world and people's lives. We can bring light to others by our positive attitude and encouraging words. Through this armor of Hope, Jesus reaches out to touch others.
2. **Cold and Warmth** is another characteristic of the season. Loneliness and hardship and selfishness freeze the heart. Little acts of kindness, a smile, a helping hand all

come from the fire Jesus has lit in our hearts – the fire of Charity.

3. **Noise and Silence** come also at this time of the year with all the hype connected with sales and shopping. The world seems totally distracted and very oblivious to the One Who is coming. We can light up this world with our Faith in the presence of Jesus within by nurturing silence and prayer. Mary's whole life at this time was turned inward to attend to the presence of Jesus. The Peace of Jesus is found above all in our careful preparation for Holy Communion.

-Rev. Robert Hughes, S.M.