

OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE'S MESSAGE OF DECEMBER 25, 2005

“Dear children! Also today, in my arms I bring you little Jesus, the King of Peace, to bless you with His peace. Little children, in a special way today I call you to be my carriers of peace in this peaceless world. God will bless you. Little children, do not forget that I am your mother. I bless you all with a special blessing, with little Jesus in my arms. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

I Bring You Little Jesus, the King of Peace

A. Mary Brings Peace.

1. “In my arms I bring you little Jesus, the King of Peace to bless you with Peace.”
 - a. To hold “little Jesus” means that Our Lady’s arms are extended. In the Bible, when the expression to extend one’s arm is spoke of referring to God or His holy servants, it means the Power of God is in operation. So, by her action, Our Lady is telling us that the Gift of Peace is really and effectively being given to all who are humble enough to accept her and the gift of her Son.
 - b. Our Lady expresses this same reality in her Magnificat: “He has shown the power of His arm (Latin: “in brachio extento”), He has routed the proud of heart.”
2. Pope John Paul II, in a memorable homily on January 1, 2000 at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome, said that with Mary and Jesus “we are beginning to write a new page of history.” January is named after Janus, the Roman god that has two faces: one that looks backward, the other forward.
 - a. Looking backward, he said, I am thinking of the prayer meeting for peace, which gathered representatives of the world’s main religions in Assisi in October, 1986. We prayed for peace and entrusted our prayer to the intercession of Our Lady, Queen of Peace. Heaven heard our prayer, and three years later Communism fell.
 - b. Looking forward, the Pope said that in the new millennium he entrusted the Church, the whole of humanity, the entire universe to Our Lady, Queen of Peace. He went on to say with great conviction that we can now look forward with great hope for the coming of a New Pentecost and the renewal of the Church, despite the dark cloud that hovers over the world.
3. Mary holding little Jesus is the icon Pope John Paul II wants us to keep continually in view as we pray incessantly for peace.
 - a. At Christmas we rejoice at the appearance of Jesus who is our Peace. One week later on the world day of peace, we rejoice in celebrating Mary, Mother of God and Queen of Peace. The Church thus joins Jesus and Mary, because together they comprise one mystery.
 - b. The Pope went on to tell us that our top priority for this new millennium is holiness and prayer: to contemplate the Face of Jesus continually in the school of Mary.

B. Jesus Is Our Peace.

1. The New Testament makes astonishing promises of peace.
 - a. “The peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.” (Phil 4:7)
 - b. “The God of Peace will be with you.” (Phil 4:9)
 - c. “I leave you My Peace, I give you My Peace, but not as the world.” (Jn 14:27)
2. God is Peace, because God is Love. Peace is another name for Love – the Love that unites the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in an absolute Communion. This is the source and model – an inexhaustible fountain – of all our prayers and efforts and yearnings for peace.
 - a. The Infant Jesus is the King of Peace, the Prince of Peace. His name is Peace, His gift is Peace, His mission is Peace.
 - b. In the Imitation of Christ, St. Thomas a Kempis says that everyone wants peace, but very few are willing to engage in the activity that makes for peace: prayer.
 - c. When Our Blessed Mother invited the Medjugorje visionaries to pray before the manger, she had to tell them: Christ is not going to be born in the manger but in your hearts.
3. I saw an interesting bumper sticker recently that read: “Be an organ donor this Christmas – give your heart to Jesus!” That sums up the whole point of Christmas.

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