

OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE'S MESSAGE OF DECEMBER 25, 2007

“Dear children! With great joy I bring you the King of Peace for Him to bless you with His blessing. Adore Him and give time to the Creator for whom your heart yearns. Do not forget that you are passers-by on this earth and that things can give you small joys, while through my Son, eternal life is given to you. That is why I am with you, to lead you towards what your heart yearns for. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

ANNUAL APPARITION TO JAKOV ON DECEMBER 25, 2007

“Dear children! Today in a special way I call you to become open to God and for each of your hearts today to become a place of Jesus’ birth. Little children, through all this time that God permits me to be with you, I desire to lead you to the joy of your life. Little children, the only true joy of your life is God. Therefore, dear children, do not seek joy in things of this earth but open your hearts and accept God. Little children, everything passes, only God remains in your heart. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

How To Live This Message Of Joy

A. Grow In The Realization That The King Of Peace Is Born.

1. St. Bernard in his homily on the Nativity says: “Stop! Don’t you dare touch one thing in the Nativity scene, because great mysteries are revealed to us!”
 - a. He invites us to enter into the silence of Mary. In that silence we will come to realize that the celebration of Christmas begins in heaven. We will begin to hear the whole heavenly chorus proclaiming “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.”
 - b. The heavenly chorus sees what we do not see. They see the magnificence of God in all his greatness, His majesty, His holiness, His beauty. They see Him leaping up from His throne of glory to descend to earth. They see Him bypassing the Seraphim and Cherubim – all the choirs of angels – and coming to the lowliest and the most needy, man. But men do not welcome Him – “there is no room in the inn.”
 - c. But He comes anyhow in the most amazing way: in the form of a gentle, non-threatening infant to break down the barriers of resistance and win over the hearts that are closed. The God whom the whole universe cannot contain lowers Himself to be born in a manger. The angels are aghast that humans are so closed to God’s magnanimous gesture of love and mercy that they cannot contain themselves, so they burst into songs of praise of God’s stupendous mercy.
2. St. Augustine, who realizes all this taking place in the Nativity scene, says that

Mary and Joseph are modeling the only proper response: awesome silence. When we enter into that same silence ourselves, we become touched and realize just how much God loves us.

3. Spend a few minutes in silent prayer before the Nativity scene and you will be caught up in the first grace of Christmas which is to realize that in the manger God is knocking at the door of our heart.

B. “Adore Him And Give Time To The Creator For Whom Your Heart Yearns.”

1. In the Song of Songs, Jesus is presented as a gazelle skipping over the mountains in His eagerness to be with His Bride, Mary, who represents each one of us. Mary is seen longing for Jesus to come as she looks expectantly out the window of her home and then runs to open the door.
2. This image is priceless, because it captures the one important quality that Jesus looks for at Christmas, at Holy Mass, and in our every prayer: our desire to be with Him. When we have this desire within it means that love is born in us. This desire contains the seeds of everything that Jesus means to us. It is the key to Christmas.
 - a. Jesus, you are the sole object of all my desires because you embody everything I am looking for. You are my joy and my happiness. You are the source of all my blessings.
 - b. Jesus, I really enjoy being with you, because you take care of my every need. You light up my life and save me from my own darkness: discouragement, temptations to despair, dejectedness. When I am with you everything seems to go well. You are so gentle and understanding and you are always eager to make me happy. You give me everything I ask for.
 - c. Jesus, I find in you a perfect Friend. I have such confidence in You that I am ready to tell you everything that is in my heart. There is nothing that I keep from you. And I enjoy telling you all the little things that happen to me during the day, because you are so attentive to my every word. And I will of course return the favor because you said once that you will speak to everyone who is eager to listen to you.
3. St. Therese of the Child Jesus would get up every morning and say to Jesus: “Draw me.” “Draw me” are some of the opening words of the Song of Songs and it was Therese’s way of saying that she always wanted to be in the state of desiring Jesus so as to be in constant union with Him. If we get in the practice of saying “draw me” we will make Jesus very happy because the door of our heart will always be open to Him.

C. “I Am With You To Lead You To What Your Heart Yearns For.”

1. Our Blessed Mother is here to help us. Every day she is ready to teach us how “to

become open to God” more and more. She says that first of all she has to hear our “‘Yes’ for peace and our decision for God. Then a new possibility for peace is opened and this century will be for you a time of peace and well-being.” (12-25-99)

2. Once we give to her our “yes”, then she says: “I want you to say: I want to put God in the first place in my life.” In this way, little children, each of you will become holy. Good will come to dwell in the heart of each person.” (12-25-97) This does not happen automatically. We have to keep renewing this day in and day out. We have to report to our Blessed Mother daily, telling her of our successes and our failures, and listen closely to her suggestions and guidance.
3. Finally, to realize all this, she says we have to “pray, pray, pray, because without prayer you do not have joy or peace or a future. Yearn for peace and seek it, for God is true peace.” (12-25-98) When we keep on praying in earnest, Jesus will see that we truly desire Him more and more and then He will reveal Himself, as St. Teresa of Avila says, and we will discover the joy of being with Jesus. “Adore Him in your hearts, choose Him and you will have joy in Him. He will bless you with His blessing of peace.” (12-25-96)

D. How To Live This Message.

1. Invite Our Blessed Mother into every prayer to lead you. Ask her especially to help you prepare to receive Jesus in Holy Communion.
2. St. Francis de Sales: “At Holy Communion give Jesus the best welcome you can muster; then you will be able to celebrate Christmas every day of your life.”
3. Get up every morning and place God in the first place. Ask for the Holy Spirit that this might take place. Beg that Jesus be born in your heart anew daily.

-Rev. Robert Hughes, S.M.