

## OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE'S MESSAGE OF MARCH 25, 2005

**“Dear Children! Today I call you to love. Little children, love each other with God’s love. At every moment, in joy and in sorrow, may love prevail and, in this way, love will begin to reign in your hearts. The risen Jesus will be with you and you will be His witnesses. I will rejoice with you and protect you with my motherly mantle. Especially, little children, I will watch your daily conversion with love. Thank you for having responded to my call.”**

### I Call You to Love

If you can see how this message is related to Holy Thursday and the Washing of the Feet, to Good Friday and Jesus pardoning His tormentors, to Easter Sunday and His constant greeting of Peace, you will know where Our Lady is coming from.

If you can understand how this call is related to Pentecost and the gathering of the Apostles in the Upper Room with Our Lady, you understand where she is going.

If you can appreciate how this message is related to Our Blessed Mother and prayer (every message of hers is about prayer), you will realize where she wants us to start in the living of this message.

#### **A. “I Want to Teach You How to Love.”** (3-18-05)

1. Be Loving. “Dear Children! I come to you as the mother who, above all, loves her children. My children, I desire to teach you to love also. I pray for this. I pray that you will recognize my Son in each of your neighbors. The way to my Son, who is true peace and love, passes through the love for all neighbors. My children, pray and fast for your heart to be open for this my intention.”
  - a. These gracious words to Mirjana given to her during the annual apparition on her birthday (March 18, 2005) tell us that Our Mother loves us dearly and she wants us to draw closer to her so that she can help us and show us how to love (“God sent me here to help you.”).
  - b. We can best respond to her intimations of love by:
    - 1) Joyfully and affectionately renewing our consecration to her;
    - 2) Surrendering ourselves completely to her – all that we are, all that we have, and all that we do;
    - 3) Giving her especially our heart so she can transform it;
    - 4) Promising her complete attention and docility to all that she asks;
    - 5) Listening to her every word with love (“I have come to earth to teach you how to listen with love.”).
2. With God’s Love.
  - a. God’s love is always spontaneous and takes the initiative first. This is eminently clear when He created us, because we did not exist – we were absolutely nothing. Thereafter everything has been a good, a gift, a grace, because as creatures we can only respond to a given. We cannot even respond to His love unless He first reveals His love to us..
  - b. God’s love is totally out-going – He does not think of Himself first, because there is no selfishness in Him. His love is pure gift-bestowing – He is not attracted to us because of some good in us, because He has everything. Rather He places the good in others so that they will be a source of good for others.
  - c. God’s love is total and sacrificial: He will do anything to draw us to Himself, even to the point of sacrificing His own Son – which means He loves us more than Himself!
  - d. God’s love is ever-forgiving, because He sympathizes with our weakness. He is infinitely patient, relentless, and ever so gentle: He does not demand perfection from us but meets us where we are to walk with us. He never crushes or oppresses, but only encourages us and praises us in our struggles, like a proud Father helping an infant to learn to walk.

3. As Jesus Loves.

- a. Our Blessed Mother did such a marvelous job in teaching Jesus to love and she wants to do the same with us. We should often ask Our Lord to help us respond to our Mother the way He did, to keep on saying yes in our prayer to whatever she asks, because she is trying to form us into true disciples of Jesus.
- b. And Jesus says:
  - 1) “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” (Jn 14:6)
  - 2) “I give you a NEW commandment: love one another.”
  - 3) “As I have loved you, so you should love one another.” (Jn 13:34)
  - 4) “This is how all will know that you are my disciples:  
If you have love for one another.” (Jn 13:35)
  - 5) “Whoever has My Commandments and observes them,  
Is the one who loves Me.” (Jn 14:21)

**B. “I Will Watch Over Your Daily Conversion with Love.”**

1. At Holy Mass. Mary teaches us to love primarily in prayer. It is in prayer that we are called to listen to her interior voice, to welcome the inspirations she gives us, to rejoice in the loving things she places in our heart, especially the good feelings and desires she gives us. All this happens above all in the greatest of prayers – the Holy Mass.
  - a. “I will be at the church door waiting for you” she once told the visionaries, and she tells us the same thing. She is always at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist – Pope John Paul II once said that her presence there is essential and necessary.
  - b. Before we enter the Church, she wants us to purify our hearts, to repent of our failings and to fill our hearts with holy desires. She “watches over” us during the introductory Rite of Reconciliation and during the opening prayer she wants us to pray from the heart in great earnestness and intensity.
  - c. During the Scripture readings, she will touch our heart in those places where Our Lord is speaking in a special way directly to us. She will teach us to reverence these gifts, to cherish them, and to place them in our hearts with great affection as with a treasure. Then she will help us to see clearly what Our Lord is asking of us in our daily life and will remind us: “Do whatever He tells you” while blessing us with the grace to put it into practice.
  - d. During the Offertory she will help us surrender ourselves completely in the offering of the gifts (“God only wants from you one thing: your surrender.”), to do this with consummate and pure love in the offering of the wine and to see in the adding of the water the uniting of our sacrifice with the Sacrifice of her Son.
  - e. In the Preface she will help us lift up our heart so that “the Father can fill it with His love” realized in the prayer for the Holy Spirit over the gifts. At the Consecration she will help us see first the Calvary scene with all the suffering implied and then to witness the real presence of the risen Lord, helping us to offer to the Father the beautiful Jesus as our reconciliation.
  - f. From there on in as we follow closely every word the celebrant speaks she will help prepare us to receive Jesus in Holy Communion from her hands with profound respect and loving desire. More and more she will help us enhance this loving union and communion and teach us how to make an appropriate Thanksgiving.
2. Living the Mass. During the day she will help us to forget ourselves, to do everything out of love, to reach out to others. She will point out when and where “there is no wine” and like Jesus “to love until it hurts.” All through the Easter season she will help us experience the progressive coming of the Holy Spirit more and more in our prayer and in our life like the waves of the ocean continually lapping against the shore. The Risen Jesus will be with us in the witness to His presence and we will be able to rejoice with Our Blessed Mother.