

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

“Dear children! Also today I call you to put into practice and to live my messages that I am giving you. Decide for holiness, little children, and think of heaven. Only in this way, will you have peace in your heart that no one will be able to destroy. Peace is a gift, which God gives you in prayer. Little children, seek and work with all your strength for peace to win in your hearts and in the world. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

My Messages are the Seed of Holiness

A. Put Them Into Practice.

1. **Faith.** By Faith we enter God's world and see Him as the source of all our blessings. An entire openness of heart causes us to desire Him above all else and to surrender our life and possessions into His hands, depending on Him for everything in a childlike manner.
 - a. We have to get into the habit of rising in the morning in union with Our Blessed Mother and doing everything with her throughout the day.
 - b. She will remind us to turn immediately to Our Father in heaven and open our hearts to Him like flowers that naturally open to the sun.
 - c. Our Father has arranged the whole day for our benefit so we surrender to Him and ask for the Holy Spirit that all will be done according to His Will.
 - d. We joyfully salute Jesus who has been anxiously awaiting our waking and we join hands with Him promising to listen to Him through the day.
 - e. We acknowledge our Guardian Angel and ask for his continued assistance.
 - f. From there on our heart is fixed on meeting Jesus in the Holy Eucharist as we build up a desire to receive Him and entertain His living presence.

2. **Prayer.** To Pray is to stand before the Face of Jesus (or the Father), to speak to Him directly from the heart, to reveal all that is in our heart, and to embrace lovingly all that He says to us.
 - a. We pick up Our Lady again on the way to the Church door as she helps us acknowledge our failings in sorrow, ask for the grace of the Holy Spirit, and search for the grace/blessing we need most.
 - b. As we move inside, she helps us make an act of faith in the living presence of Jesus with reverence and joy.
 - c. She moves us to see Jesus alive speaking to us in the readings and helps us discern and latch on to the word or phrase meant especially for us.
 - d. At the Offertory she reminds us how necessary it is to make Jesus' oblation our own by offering up our joys and sorrows, pains and difficulties, challenges and trials, indeed our very selves, with and in Jesus as gift to the Father.
 - e. As we move through the Eucharistic Prayer she helps us join the angels and saints in praising, adoring and thanking God at the mystical re-presentation of the Sufferings, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, our Risen Lord.
 - f. As St. Therese suggests, we ask Our Lady to prepare our heart properly to receive Jesus and to illuminate it with the greatest faith, trust and love.
 - g. At Holy Communion we see the luminous and smiling Face of Jesus and adore Him with joy, receiving Him eagerly from the hands of Our Blessed Mother and promising to take good care of Him by joyfully entertaining Him.
 - h. In our Thanksgiving, we periodically beg Jesus to stay with us to teach us and guide us (as St. Teresa and Padre Pio did) lest we wander from Him and get lost in our work of the day.
 - i. Our Lady is there throughout our prayer gently making suggestions through the inspirations she gives us.
 - j. Holy Mass is our Great Prayer and the Great Sacrifice and as we leave Church Our Lady invites us to live the Mass throughout the day: “By living Holy Mass each day, you will feel the need for holiness and you will grow in holiness.” (1-25-98)

3. **Conversion.** Conversion is a change of heart according to some specific felt need coming from a renewed appreciation of God's love for us. The sign of conversion is greater love and generosity.
 - a. Our daily little conversions cause us to move forward on the way of holiness. But first we must desire holiness. Our Lord told St. Gertrude that He would make great saints of those who daily repeated the desire for holiness. "Your desires and your goodwill suffice for all."
 - b. Such repeated desires help us more and more to decide firmly for conversion and holiness. These daily desires and decisions Our Lady said are to be made with her. "Decide with me for conversion and holiness...walk with me toward holiness." (3-25-01) (6-25-96)
 - c. Love gives us the power and grace to convert daily and move forward on the way of holiness. So Our Lady advises us: "Without love you cannot grow in holiness nor good deeds. Therefore, pray without ceasing that God reveals His love for you." (11-25-95) Being so touched by God's love, with grace we are able to respond with love.
 - d. Thanksgiving is another way to dispose us to convert and grow in holiness, because we come to appreciate God's goodness and love for us. "I invite you to give thanks to God for all the gifts you have discovered in the course of your life...even the least gift. Then you can grow continuously on the way of holiness." (9-25-89)
 - e. All of our graces come to us through prayer and it is praying continuously that will help us embrace the Holy Spirit in all our actions. "God gave you the gift of holiness; pray that you may more and more comprehend it. If you do not pray, you are not close to me nor to the Holy Spirit who leads you along the path of holiness." (9-25-88) (7-25-94) The Holy Spirit is the spirit of holiness that we receive in Baptism.
4. **Penance.** Fasting, little sacrifices, small penances are signs of good will on our part which help us to detach ourselves from this world and attach ourselves to God.
 - a. Our Lady says that our attachments comprise the single obstacle keeping us from conversion and holiness. By verbally renouncing them each day will help us to realize the renouncement in deed.
 - b. Our Lady advises us to start with little things because by and by they give us more power over the big things.
 - c. For motivation Our Lady invites us to "think of heaven," because when we think of heaven as our goal in life, everything falls into proper perspective. "Do not forget that life is a passing flower." (8-25-01)
 - d. The Angel of Fatima counseled the children to make everything in their life a sacrifice by offering every action to God.
 - e. When the children asked the Angel of Fatima what he meant by a penance, he suggested that they could use some of their free time to pray more.
 - f. Our Lady stated that everyone is obliged to fast in some fashion. Giving up a certain amount of food or drink on Wednesdays for the purpose of desiring the coming of the Holy Spirit, giving up something we like on Thursday to receive the grace of hungering for the Holy Eucharist, and fasting on Friday to honor the Sacred Passion of Our Lord – such are the suggestions of Our Blessed Mother.
5. **Peace.** Peace is the fruit and gift of prayer by which we are reconciled and united with God and His Will. By praying continually we are walking in His presence and continually experiencing His help and protection. "Glorify God (by striving) for the Name of God to be holy in your hearts and in your life. When you are in the holiness of God, He is with you and gives you peace and joy, which comes only from God through prayer." (5-25-97)

B. Live My Messages.

When our daily efforts to put the Messages into practice become a habit, we are living the messages.