

## INSPIRED WORD

July 20, 2016

### SHARING

Janice speaking: I just got back home from a pilgrimage to Medjugorje. Maybe some of you do not know about that place - it is a little village in Yugoslavia; and it used to be under the Communist regime. The Blessed Mary started appearing there to six visionaries on June 24, 1981. One of the priests there gave a homily and he said that the apparitions in Medjugorje are actually an extension of Blessed Mary's appearances in Fatima. She appeared in Fatima in 1917 to three children. But in Medjugorje Blessed Mary appears everyday to six visionaries. She promised them that she would appear to them everyday until they each have received ten secrets from her. The ten secrets are to be revealed to the world ten days before they actually happen. Four of the six visionaries have already received the ten secrets, but two of them have not received all of them. So these two visionaries still receive daily apparitions from Blessed Mary. We arrived in Medjugorje on June 1<sup>st</sup>, and the next day we were with one of the visionaries during the time of Blessed Mary's apparition. The flyer that is being passed around here tonight is the message that Blessed Mary had given to that visionary on that day. The message is this: **"As the Mother of the Church, as your mother, I am smiling as I look at you – how you are coming to me, how you are gathering around me, how you are seeking me. My coming among you is proof of how much Heaven loves you. They indicate to you the way to eternal life, to salvation. My apostles, you who strive to have a pure heart and to have my Son in it, are on the good way. You who are seeking my Son are seeking the good way. He left many signs of His love; He left hope. It is easy to find Him if you are ready for sacrifice and penance – if you have patience, mercy, and love for your neighbors. Many of my children do not see and do not hear because they do not want to do it. They do not accept my words and my works, yet through me, my Son calls everyone. His Spirit illuminates all of my children in the light of the Heavenly Father, in the unity of Heaven and Earth, in mutual love; in mutual love because love invokes love and makes works more important than words. Therefore, my apostles, pray for your Church, love it and do works of love. No matter how betrayed or wounded, it is here because it comes from the Heavenly Father. Pray for your shepherds so that in them you may see the greatness of the love of my Son. Thank you."** These messages which Blessed Mary gives to the visionaries are for each and every one of us throughout the whole world – not just for the visionaries. The priest told all of us that what we need to do is pray over this message because it is meant for all of us. We need to ask Blessed Mary to show us what we need to do. Most of the time Blessed Mary is asking us to pray - to pray for others. For the visionaries who have already received their ten secrets, Blessed Mary appears to some of them on the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. But when we were in Medjugorje, she appeared the next day, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and there were thousands of people already there. Many, many people throughout the world go to Medjugorje continuously. Blessed Mary is appearing in so many different areas in Medjugorje, on this particular day she appeared to the visionary over the Blue Cross (which is at the bottom of Apparition Hill). The visionary was handing out a picture of the Apparition Hill at which our Blessed Mary has appeared. As I had said earlier, Medjugorje was under Communist control, and when the Communists heard about Blessed Mary's apparitions, they closed down that little church that the people had been using, and then imprisoned the bishop and the local priest from there. Every time that Blessed Mary appeared to the visionaries in one area, the Communists tried to block off that area so that it

couldn't be used anymore. So that is why Blessed Mary has appeared in so many different areas in Medjugorje; she has even appeared at the St. James Church which is now a newer and bigger building. Before Blessed Mary's apparition is anticipated, the visionary and the people pray the Rosary, and usually before the Rosary is completed, Blessed Mary appears to the visionary. When Blessed Mary's apparition is due to happen, everything is so still and all the people are so very quiet – and that is incredible for thousands of people being there. The visionary is kneeling down, along with two priests who are kneeling down next to her. There are usually two or three interpreters near the visionary too. When Blessed Mary appears to the visionary, we don't see anything, but Blessed Mary and the visionary are actually having a conversation with each other; the visionary's lips are moving as she is looking up to Blessed Mary, but we don't hear what is being spoken. When Blessed Mary appears, you can definitely feel the very, very powerful presence of holiness there at that time. During the apparition, there is no noise or sound at all. The whole thing is just so serene and sacred, and I have never experienced anything like that before. At St. James Church, we attended Mass early in the morning and then in the evening at 7:00 p.m. the Mass was held in the huge outdoor pavilion, which was followed then by Adoration for one hour. And again, everything is just so quiet and serene, there were not even any birds chirping during that time. They have two big media screens on each side of the pavilion. When you are looking at the Blessed Sacrament on these huge screens, it looks like the heart of Jesus which appears to be pulsating and there is light all around the Blessed Sacrament. It is truly the living Presence of Jesus! I also wanted to share that Blessed Mary's first apparition was on Crucible Mountain. Our guide said that it is 500 meters up to the top of this mountain, and it took us 3 ½ hours to climb up to the top. There is no road or path to use as you climb straight up the side of the mountain, but along the way, you will come to a Station of the Cross every so often as you climb, until you have reached the 14<sup>th</sup> Station of the Cross near the top. The climb is very difficult as there are huge boulders everywhere. But what was so amazing is that the many, many people who were climbing this mountain were doing so **bare foot!** What impacted my heart as I was climbing this mountain, was the thought of how very, very difficult it was for Jesus to be carrying the huge cross after being beaten and scourged and going up to Calvary.

## **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, help us now to look away from all the cares of the day and to stay focused on You. Help us to praise You from the depths of our hearts, for freedom to be open to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Lord, we ask Your Spirit to come now!

## **PROPHECY / PRAYER**

When we were praying in the back before this praise and worship started, Barbara received these words: "Do you want dew or down-pour?" Lord, we ask for the down-pour of Your grace in this place here tonight.

## **PRAYER**

Lord, help us to surrender all of the circumstances of our lives to You in a deeper way. Lord, You are our Lord, and we want You to be Lord of our hearts. Help us to surrender to You with confidence and trust – with confidence and trust in Your love.

## **SCRIPTURE**

**Psalm 16: 8 - 9, 11:** I have set the Lord ever before me. Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore, my heart is glad and my soul rejoices; my body also will rest secure. You show me the path of life. In Your Presence there is fullness of joy; in Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

## **PRAYER**

Glory and praise to You, Lord! You are our Rock and our strong Deliverer, our mighty Savior; You are our Good Shepherd Who walks with us. You take us by the hand, and You guide us in the rocky places and in the dark places. You bring us up into the light and refresh us with Your love. O Jesus, Mighty and Glorious are You!! O Jesus, we thank You! We thank You!!

## **SCRIPTURE**

**Luke 11: 9 – 13:** So I say to you, “Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who seeks finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

## **PROPHECY / EXHORTATION / PRAYER**

The Lord is asking us ‘to ask Him’. We say we want to know You more, Lord. But we all know within our hearts that one thing which keeps us from knowing Him more. Is it busyness of life? Is it that we fear what He might ask of us? We know what the thing is within each of us which keeps us from knowing Him more. Right now, He is saying, “Just ask Me; just ask Me now for the grace to wash away that block, so that I can pour out the grace so that you will know Me more. It’s the promise, that when we ask, He will pour out good things. So, Lord, in this quiet time, we want to ask, and to give to You that one thing in our hearts which keeps us from knowing You more. So, Lord, we do thank You; for as we ask, You do pour out the grace to draw us closer to You.

## **SCRIPTURE**

**Philippians 4: 6 – 7:** Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

## **SCRIPTURE**

**Psalm 31: 19 – 23:** How great is Your goodness, Lord, which You have stored up for those who fear You, which You bestow in the sight of men on those who take refuge in You. In the shelter of Your Presence you hide them from the intrigues of men; in Your dwelling You keep them safe from accusing tongues. Praise be to the Lord, for He showed His wonderful love to me when I was in a besieged city. In my alarm I said, “I am cut off from Your sight!” Yet You heard my cry for mercy when I called to You for help. Love the Lord, all His saints! The Lord preserves the faithful, but the proud He pays back in full.

## **EXHORTATION**

The Lord wants us to be persistent – we don’t always get what we need on the first knock. The Lord asks for persistence because it keeps us turning back to Him. It makes us realize

that it is not about ourselves, but it keeps us focused on the Giver. It is a good thing! It is not a punishment. Those who persist in prayer are becoming closer and closer to the Giver. That is the greatest gift of all!

### **PROPHECY / EXHORTATION / SENSE**

Earlier the Lord asked, “Do you want dew, or down-pour?” Now we just sang and prayed, “Open the flood gates of heaven.” When God opens the flood gate to heaven, there is a down-pour – a down-pour of grace. He says, “Ask, and you shall receive.” As we sang “Open the flood gates of heaven, I just had a sense that He was pouring out upon us those gifts of ministry for one another. I really sense that someone here had an image, and another person had words that they were not sure of. I just want to encourage you, if that is you, please share it with everyone.

### **IMAGE**

This sounds silly, but I had an image of a record album on the old fashioned turntable. We are the record, and we circle around on the turntable with Christ as our center. If there are scratches on the record, sometimes the needle gets stuck and keep repeating the same thing over and over. We had to make sure we had the turntable set at the right speed. Christ wants us to have our song sung perfectly, so it has to be a perfect song for Him.

### **IMAGE**

When I was playing the drums, I had an image of Jesus on the cross and I could see His heart.

### **CONFIRMATION**

I want to confirm both of those images. During the song which we sang prior to this last song, I kept hearing, “Holy, holy” and “Mighty, mighty”. In this last image where he saw the heart of Jesus, a thought came to my mind; I was wondering – if we saw the Sacred Heart of Jesus and we saw all of His life being poured out, what would it be like visually if we saw the grace of Christ being poured out? What would that look like?

### **SENSE**

I didn’t see an image, but as we were singing the songs about pouring out, I had a sense, not an image, but it was more like I could just feel what seemed like curtains of rain – I couldn’t see them, but I could feel them. All I could hear was, “God’s merciful love, falling and covering us.”

### **TONGUES**

#### **INTERPRETATION**

I poured it all out for you!

#### **INTERPRETATION**

You were drowning, but I pulled you out. Just trust in Me!

#### **INTERPRETATION**

Let go!

## **INTERPRETATION**

I just got the word, "Receive!"

## **CONFIRMATION / INTERPRETATION**

I confirm the "Let go!" I got, "Why do you cling so tightly to things of this world?"

## **INTERPRETATION**

After everyone else had spoken, I was thinking that what I heard wasn't applicable. But I heard, "Martha, Martha, why are you worried about so many things?"

## **IMAGE**

I had an image of a window slowly being opened, with a bird sitting on the branch outside of the window and the joy coming in. But you have to open the window to let the joy come in.

## **SCRIPTURE / PRAYER**

**Psalm 40: 1 – 3:** I waited patiently for the Lord; He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and put their trust in the Lord." Lord, we thank You that You do indeed put a new song of praise on our lips.

**(Praying over those who are in need of prayers)**