

The Medjugorje Star

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An International Commission for Medjugorje

A statement of the Apostolic Nuncio to Bosnia & Herzegovina about Medjugorje was released on March 18, 2010.

Archbishop Alessandro D’Errico, Apostolic Nuncio to Bosnia and Herzegovina, gave a statement about Medjugorje on March 18, 2010, at the end of the 48th Bishops’ Conference of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the statement broadcasted by Radio Mir Medjugorje, he among other things said: “Whenever I would meet the Holy Father, he was always very much interested in Medjugorje. He was involved in everything, starting with the time when he was head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. He is aware that this is an issue of special importance, and he, as supreme authority of the Church, needs to give his precise statement about that matter. The Holy Father is very much familiar with the

Medjugorje phenomenon; he even mentioned that to me personally. He is aware of the huge amount of positive and good influence of local priests, religious, Franciscans, lay people; and therefore, it is very difficult for him to perceive that there can be so much opposing information about the same matter.

That is why he wanted to establish this commission that is on a really high level. He wanted to establish this commission in order for him to have a broad picture, but according to the people who have the highest qualities and skills. That is why he invited cardinals, bishops and experts from different parts of the world to be part of this commission.

On March 17, 2010, it was officially announced that the chairman of this commission is going to be Cardinal Ruini, a very

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Messages of Our Lady of Medjugorje

March 25, 2010

Dear children! Also today I desire to call you all to be strong in prayer and in the moments when trials attack you. Live your Christian vocation in joy and humility and witness to everyone. I am with you and I carry you all before my Son Jesus, and He will be your strength and support. Thank you for having responded to my call.

April 25, 2010

Dear children! At this time, when in a special way you are praying and seeking my intercession, I call you, little children, to pray so that through your prayers I can help you to have all the more hearts be opened to my messages. Pray for my intentions. I am with you and I intercede before my Son for each of you. Thank you for having responded to my call.

Reflection on the Message of Our Lady

by Fr. Charles Sellars, omi

Let Your Life Shine

Following the death of Jesus, the disciples were afraid and locked themselves away. Jesus appeared in the midst of the disciples to calm their fear. The risen Lord twice gave the disciples a greeting of “Peace.” Jesus commissioned the disciples to carry on His work of forgiving sins.

Jesus was physically present to those who followed Him and heard Him preach. Those who followed Jesus saw Him provide signs and wonders after the Resurrection. The disciples and other followers of Jesus were reassured by His numerous appearances. Those who want to see Jesus can still know His presence today. We can experience the loving and healing presence of Jesus through our daily interactions with others. We can help show God’s presence to others by the way we live.

“So let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16



prestigious cardinal who has great qualities, and also a close associate to the Holy Father, and his friend not only in this period while he is the pope. Cardinal Ruini is very much familiar with the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina; he especially knows the situation from the war period, when he used to be the president of the Bishops' Conference of Italy. At that time, he brought the decision that the Italian Church and the Bishop's Conference of Italy become more involved in helping all the wounded nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

What is especially interesting and shows the Holy Father's great sympathy for this country is that he wanted this information about the Commission to be announced publicly at the same time, both in the Vatican as well as in Mostar, since Medjugorje is in the territory of the Mostar diocese. I know well that the media spoke a lot about this commission for a longer period of time and certain expectations were made. Today, we can say that we are pleased and grateful to the Holy Father for this attention that he expressed towards Mostar and our Catholic communities. That is how I, on behalf of the Holy Father, announced this decision on March 17th, at the same time when the decision was announced in Rome. We understand that the work of this commission is going to be very demanding, and I would like to invite all of our communities to pray and to offer the work of this commission to St. Joseph and to Mary, Mother of the Church, patron saints of Mostar."



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www.medjugorje.hr.

New Book

The Fruits of Medjugorje

by Elizabeth Ficocelli

Inspirational, candid, first-person stories from people who have been deeply & permanently transformed by their Medjugorje experiences. A hard book to put down and especially recommended for doubters. It is offered on page 5.



From The Heart: What is happening to our Church?

By Hubie Mule

Do you feel the Church is letting you down? Do you feel hurt and angry? Are the bishops and cardinals and the Pope at fault? Are you considering backing off a little with your church offering?

The above questions are being mulled around in our minds continuously since news of the first pedophile priest splashed the media. How could this happen? What does Our Lady in Medjugorje tell us? Perhaps she already has. Mary gives us the Way, and the Way is Jesus Christ.

Don't get discouraged. Look past the priest if there is a problem and on to Jesus in the tabernacle and the crucifix. Finish your earthly pilgrimage strong in faith and pray for the Church and the many good, holy and dedicated priests.

The following is my witness that I have shared many times since this issue was first brought out of the closet. As a young lad, I was taught by the Carmelite nuns at St. Dominic Catholic Grammar School in New Orleans, and I served there as an altar boy. In fact, my serving continued on for quite some years in high school. Actually, I still serve at mass in our parish each week.

I was taught by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart and graduated in the class of 1960 from St. Aloysius High School. By the time we graduated, we absolutely knew right from wrong. We may not have always done the right thing, but we definitely knew solid moral behavior.

Many mornings I would serve the daily 6:00 a.m. Mass. I never had a problem with the Dominican priests in our parish or the Carmelite nuns that taught me at grammar school. I never heard my friends tell me or heard of any scandal in our area seminaries.

Back in the Fifties, the altar boys were taken out of school during the day to serve at funerals. I liked that! We were with the

priest most of the morning. The priest and the altar boy sat together in the rear of the limousine and were driven to the funeral parlor for prayers, then off to the church for the funeral Mass and onward to the graveyard and back to class. That's the way it was done way back then. So what happened? Why all the trouble beginning in the Sixties and up until the present time? What has caused this abomination in our Church?

I think a large reason may be that the late Fifties brought about the television. Today the television and the computer are so permissive with pornography, violence, immorality, drugs, murder, cheating, lying and political misconduct. Our youth are being fed these vices earlier and earlier and, in many cases, without parental guidance, that they can easily accept immoral actions as being O.K. If any man or woman looks at the permissiveness on T.V. coupled with pornography, they are opening the door for the evil one. In an early message, Our Lady said to the visionaries for those who were unable to fast on bread and water, ***"First of all, renounce television programs. They are a great source of sin in your families. After these programs, you are incapable of praying. Renounce alcohol, cigarettes and various pleasures. Everyone can make these renunciations."***

The news broadcasters are using words I would not say in front of my wife of forty-five years. If I were a reporter, I wouldn't want my parents, spouse, children or friends to hear the words being spoken. The newspaper gives graphic details unfit for printing. Some things need to be in reports but not broadcast to the nation.

Mary told us in the early days of her apparitions in Medjugorje to put the T.V. in the corner of the house and make Jesus the center of attention. This I did and took it very seriously. My family seldom watches T.V. and we monitor our grandchildren very closely with the computer. I

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have no cable T.V., only an antenna. There is no way I would give a penny to a company that presents demoralizing programs. My only regret is that I cannot receive EWTN.

Another source of influence for the youth is the immorality and violence presented on the big screen in movies. Violence is depicted in vivid detail in so many movies. Then we wonder why the youth are becoming so violent themselves. Teens and young people are the main movie-goers. Who gives them the money for this? It is the parents' responsibility to guide children about the negative influences of immorality and violence in movies and on television. This is not always an easy task as often times the youth have forgotten about the wisdom of the elderly. The experience of life is a very good teacher.

Fr. Gabriel Amorth, the Vatican's chief exorcist for 60 years has this to say about the world today: The modern world has "given in to the Evil one. You see it in the lack of faith, the empty churches and the collapse of the family. Compare the world of today to when I was a boy in Modena [Italy]; families and parish communities were strong, women did not go out to work. Now they have to because one income cannot support the family. So young people are left to their own devices, they get into bad company, they have lost their roots and replaced them with the negative influences of television, the internet or the occult."

To a certain degree, as the body of Christ, we are our country. We are the world as it stands today. The sins of our country are the same sins all around the world. We are of one body and one spirit in the Lord. Follow the Way! I challenge you to put Jesus in the center of your life and home.

Let your politicians know of the degradation of our society due to the air-ways and cyber-space avenues. Pray for our Church, our priests, sisters and strong family values. Finish your earthly pilgrimage strong and in the faith of eternal life and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hvaljen Isus i Marija!



A Glimpse into the "Passion of the Christ" with Jim Caviezel

Jim Caviezel played the main role in Mel Gibson's movie "The Passion of the Christ" and became known throughout the whole world. The very moving presentation of the scourging and crucifixion of Jesus have permitted the passion of the Lord to become the initiator of many discussions about faith. A Viennese professor of theology brought the criticism of the movie to the point: "How can I accept that my sins are supposedly so great, that a man must bear so much suffering for me?"

Again and again we hear about conversions which the spectators experienced while watching the movie. Who is this Jim Caviezel who was able to interpret Jesus in such an impressive way? In an interview with the "Oase des Friedens," he admits that without his experience in Medjugorje he would never have accepted this role. In Medjugorje he was granted a new dimension of faith.

Christian Stelzer in Vienna held this interview with Jim Caviezel in February 2010.

Jim, could you tell us how you heard about Medjugorje?

My wife was in Medjugorje while I was in Ireland during the filming of "Monte Christo." Things were not going so well at the time, although I was working seven days a week. She called me and at the tone of her voice I could feel that she had undergone a change. She began telling me about Medjugorje and that a visionary would come to Ireland. I interrupted her with these words: "Look, I have serious work to do. I cannot deal with visionaries just now." I thought that as a Catholic I was not obliged to accept Fatima, Lourdes or Medjugorje at all costs. This was my thinking. I also remembered how my friends and I, who were going to a Catholic school at the time, were enthusiastic about

the events in Medjugorje, and as we heard that the local bishop rejected the apparitions, declaring them not authentic, we had lost interest.

The visionary Ivan Dragicevic from Medjugorje came to Ireland. It was clear to me that I would not have any time for him, as I had to work non-stop. But, then, on one Thursday, my filming partner, Richard Harris, did not feel well, and I was free for the rest of the day. Therefore I could assist at the apparition. I stood at the very back of the packed church and had no clear idea about what was going on here. At the moment of the apparition, a man in a wheelchair fell to his knees, and I was very struck by that. I thought, "This handicapped man is kneeling on the cold stone floor in spite of his incredible pain and he is praying!"

Today I am aware that only God could know me so well as to know where I could be seized. As strange as it sounds, I was given free time again on the following Sunday and could meet the visionary Ivan, which had been the special desire of my wife. During the apparition I knelt next to him saying in my heart: "OK, here I am. I am ready. Do with me as you wish." At the same moment I felt something filling me. It was so simple and yet so unique. When I got up, tears were streaming out of my eyes. I began crying with all of my heart.

Ivan told me, "Jim, man always finds time for what he loves. If somebody has no time and suddenly meets a girl whom he loves, he will make sure he finds time for her. The reason why somebody has no time for God is that he does not love Him." This touched me and I wondered whether I had time for God. Ivan continued to say to me, "God calls you to pray with the heart."

"How should I do that?" I asked him. "By
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beginning to pray” he answered. In that moment a window in my heart opened. Never before did I think this was possible. We went to a restaurant, and I must say that the food and wine that evening tasted as good as never before. Something began changing in me. Often my wife had wanted to teach me how to pray the rosary, and I had always refused. Now I wished to pray the rosary although I did not really know how to. I only felt that my heart had opened for it. One morning I said to my driver who was bringing me to the filming site every day: “I do not know what you think about this, but I wish to pray the rosary.” To my surprise he told me, “Okay, let’s do that.”

In the gentle light of the love which I began feeling in me, I began to recognize where I was standing, how many temptations I had, where my feelings were, how weak I was and how many people were condemned by me.

When did you come to Medjugorje for the first time?

After the end of the filming, which finished in Malta, I decided to go to Medjugorje. I was full of inner expectations. When I was 20 years old, there was like an inner voice that told me to become an actor. When I told my father about that, he gave me this answer: “When God wants something from you, then surely only for you to be a priest. Why should you become an actor?” I also did not understand this at the time. Now I was asking myself in a new way whether it was the will of God that I should become an actor in order to earn lots of money and to become rich. I was aware of the unbalance in the world between the few who possess much too much and the many who have much too little to live, and I was sure that God did not want that and that we also had to make a decision whom we should serve: wealth, which will not grant us eternal joy, or God, who wishes to guide our lives.

Medjugorje reminded me of Bethlehem and I thought, “As Jesus was born in a small place, so the Mother of God appears here in a poor area between the hills.” The

four days in Medjugorje were like a breakthrough for me. In the beginning I was still surprised how much the people were praying here. I saw a similarity with a basketball camp, thinking that there you do not only play once a day, but again and again, continuously. After all, in school, we do not read just once a day, but all the time, again and again.

During the first days in Medjugorje, I felt restlessness within myself while praying, as I was not used to praying so much, and I asked God to help me. After four days, all I wanted to do was pray. Every time I prayed, I felt united to God. This is an experience I could only wish for every Catholic to make. Perhaps as a child I had such an experience but had forgotten it. Now it had been given to me.

Today, when people ask me why I go to Medjugorje, I tell them, “Look, if you do not believe in radiation, go to Chernobyl and stay there for five days. You will see that your hair starts falling out. These are the consequences of radioactive radiation. In Medjugorje there is a radiation from heaven in which thousands of people convert and generations of sinners melt. It is an irradiation of the Holy Spirit which leads people to prayer, daily Holy Mass, and to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. This experience lasts, also at home. In my family we live the sacraments together. With my children I pray the rosary every day on the way to school. If I do not start at once, my son begins to pray.

When I went to Medjugorje for the second time, I was looking to have the same experience as during my first visit. This time it was different. After a lunch, some pilgrims invited me to go with them to Siroki Brijeg to meet Father Jozo. This was the special desire of my wife. I did not know Father Jozo, but what I heard him say touched me very much. I went up to him, he put his hand on my shoulder, which I also did to him. He laid his hands on my head, which I also did to him. In that moment I felt these words in my heart: “I love you, brother. This man loves Jesus.” Father Jozo spontaneously turned to his interpreter, asked her in Croatian who I

was and that he wished to speak to me. This was the beginning of a friendship which lasts until today.

At that time, I had just completed the filming of the “Passion of the Christ” and repeatedly had the experience of how different powers tried to keep me from doing that movie.

Can you tell us why you had this experience and what is the link between the film and Medjugorje?

Probably you know the saying “crossing the Rubicon” – it means that there is no turning back. The film “The Passion of the Christ,” is something like that for me. When I heard Pope John Paul II say that we need not be afraid, I thought that I was without fear in any case and that I was doing well. During the filming of the “The Passion of the Christ,” I began to understand that Jesus is more controversial than ever before. Some colleagues prophesied to me that I would lose everything through that film, my career, my money, perhaps my family or my life.

I was 33 years old when the work for the film began; I was the same age as Jesus when He lived the Passion. Repeatedly I doubted whether I was worthy to interpret Jesus. Ivan Dragicevic encouraged me, telling me that God doesn’t always choose the best, and that he saw that with himself.

Without Medjugorje I would never have acted that role as I did. My heart opened to prayer and to the sacraments. I knew I had to be very close to Jesus if I wanted to act Him. Everyday I went to confession and to Eucharistic Adoration. Mel Gibson also came to Holy Mass under the condition it would be celebrated in Latin. This was good for me, as I also learned Latin that way. ...*To be continued next issue*

Those Who Saw Her Apparitions of Mary

by Catherine Odell contains 18 of the most famous apparitions including 17th century Laus, France -- recently approved this century. The book is offered on page 5.

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Our Lady of Medjugorje

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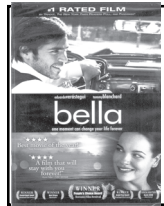
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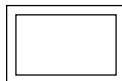
- _____ **Nylon cord to make cord rosary** \$15.00/roll*
instructions, #36 white nylon cord
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- _____ **Medjugorje Rosary (blue crystal)** \$15.00
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- _____ **Medjugorje Candle glass holder** \$4.00
- _____ **Disposable candle refills** \$3.00ea
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Send page 5 & 6 when ordering!

Mail to : **The Medjugorje Star - 2627 David Drive - Metairie, LA 70003-4509**

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DINNER WITH DR. JOHN BRUCHALSKI

Medjugorje changed his life forever. From abortionist to pro-life advocate!

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DR. JOHN BRUCHALSKI's life changed forever when his mom offered him a free European adventure to Medjugorje about 20 years ago. As a young doctor in the field of gynecology, he found no problem with performing abortions, until Our Blessed Mother changed his heart in Medjugorje.



He is the founder of the Tepeyac Family Center. It is the only Catholic medical practice in Northern Virginia and the largest practice made up of NFP – only OB-Gyns in the world. It is the only known medical facility using the language of JPPII's Theology of the Body in their daily work. Learn more on his website - www.tepeyacfamilycenter.com.

Thursday, May 27, 2010

7PM - \$50 per person

Landmark Hotel

2601 Severn Ave., Metairie, LA

(Reserve a full table of 10 for \$450)

Doors open at 6PM (Open Cash Bar)

Advance Reservations Necessary!

Sorry, no tickets at the door.

Deadline for reservations – May 21

(ONLINE REGISTRATION - www.womansnewlife.com)

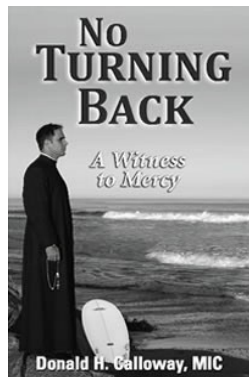
For a mail-in Registration Form, go to www.themirgroup.org or contact MIR at themirgroup@aol.com



THE MIR GROUP, ONE GALLERIA BLVD., STE 744, METAIRIE, LA 70001
OR CALL 504-849-2570 - FAX 504-849-2574

EVENING OF PRAYER & REFLECTION WITH FR. DONALD CALLOWAY, MIC

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2010



St. Clement of Rome Church

3900 Block W. Esplanade Ave. at Richland in Metairie, LA

5:30PM Rosary; 6:00PM Holy Mass;

6:45PM Chaplet of Divine Mercy; Fr. Don's Talk follows

Book signing after the talk. His book will be available.

How can it happen that a person without faith, morals, or even the awareness of any of our Catholic doctrines can know in a flash that God does exist, and that he is being called, not only to the Catholic faith, but to be a priest?



Fr. Calloway's story has been an inspiration - *from "drop out" to priest!* His life changed because of Our Lady of Medjugorje. He is now the House Superior of the Marian House of Studies in Steubenville, OH.



CELEBRATING THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE APPARITIONS OF OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2010 - ST. CLEMENT OF ROME CHURCH (address above)

7PM ROSARY; 7:30PM HOLY MASS - CELEBRANT: FR. JOSEPH CAZENAVETTE

FOLLOWED BY GUEST SPEAKER - JASON JONES



Jason Jones is the President and Founder of Whole Life America, a non-profit organization that promotes the dignity of the human person regardless of ability, age, status, race or geography. He is the co-executive producer of the feature film "Bella," winner of the 2006 Toronto International Film Festival People's Choice Award.



The Medjugorje Star
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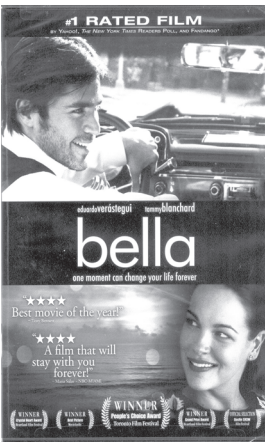
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Bella is a powerful and moving pro-life movie that will lift your spirits and capture your heart. It was awarded best picture and best actor of the 2008 MovieGuide Awards and received four other prestigious awards. The co-executive producer of the film will be the guest speaker at the June 23, 2010 Peace Mass. Page 7 has details.

The movie is offered on page 6.

Our purpose is to spread information about the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Any article in this newsletter can be copied in whole with credit given to The Medjugorje Star. There is no subscription fee. This newsletter survives solely on your donations and purchases of books and religious items. Your prayers are requested for this ministry of spreading Our Lady's messages worldwide.

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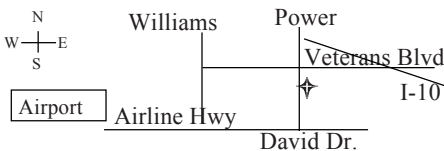
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 St. Anthony Mary Claret

Visit our home page
<http://medjugorje.home.mindspring.com/>
for message and stories

Store Hours
Mon.-Fri. 9:00-5:30
Sat. 9:00-4 CST

§ Visit the Silver Chapel §

The Medjugorje Star is located near the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport. Join us for prayer in the Silver Chapel –noon–Angelus, 3 pm–Divine Mercy Chaplet.



The Holy Father's
Intention for June

That every national and transnational institution may strive to guarantee respect for human life from conception to natural death.

Intention for July

That in every nation of the world the election of officials may be carried out with justice, transparency and honesty, respecting the free decisions of citizens.