

“Our Lady came with little Jesus in her arms and she did not give a message, but little Jesus began to speak and said: **“I am your peace, live my commandments.”** With a sign of the cross, Our Lady and little Jesus blessed us together.” *Our Lady’s message to the world on 25th December 2012 through Marija - [see Sister Emmanuel’s letter noted below]*

annual message to Jakov, 25th December 2012: “Dear children, give the gift of your life to me and completely surrender to me so that I may help you to comprehend my motherly love and the love of my Son for you. My children, I love you immeasurably and today, in a special way, on the day of the birth of my Son, I desire to receive each of you into my heart and to give a gift of your lives to my Son. My children, Jesus loves you and gives you the grace to live in His mercy, but sin has overtaken many of your hearts and you live in darkness. Therefore, my children, do not wait, say ‘no’ to sin and surrender your hearts to my Son, because only in this way will you be able to live God’s mercy and, with Jesus in your hearts, set out on the way of salvation.”

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message to Mirjana, 2nd January 2013 [*pray for ‘unbelievers’ on 2nd of the month.*]:-

“Dear children, with much love and patience I strive to make your hearts like unto mine. I strive, by my example, to teach you humility, wisdom and love because I need you; I cannot do without you my children. According to God’s will I am choosing you, by His strength I am strengthening you. Therefore, my children, do not be afraid to open your hearts to me. I will give them to my Son and in return, He will give you the gift of Divine peace. You will carry it to all those whom you meet, you will witness God’s love with your life and you will give the gift of my Son through yourselves. Through reconciliation, fasting and prayer, I will lead you. Immeasurable is my love. Do not be afraid. My children, pray for the shepherds. May your lips be shut to every judgement, because do not forget that my Son has chosen them and only He has the right to judge. Thank you.”

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Sr. Emmanuel’s newsletter (extracted), “Children of Medjugorje”, www.childrenofmedjugorje.com of 31/12/12, Dear Children of Medjugorje, praised be Jesus and Mary! 1. On Christmas day, Marija said that, exceptionally, Our Lady kept quiet the whole length of the apparition. But, she said that to her amazement, Baby Jesus started speaking!!! She was so overwhelmed that, after the apparition, she could hardly speak to us (a little group of translators and friends). Have you ever heard a newborn speak? This is an amazing event for Medjugorje! It has never happened before, during 31 years of apparitions. Marija said that Baby Jesus spoke with authority, though he was a real newborn. He said: “I am your peace. Live my commandments!”

This is serious! Now we can’t help but ask ourselves, “Why all this?” I don’t know. But one thing all of us should know is that if God, as a baby, had to speak out so clearly, it is because the whole world needs to hear him! The world won’t have any peace until we put Him, Jesus, at the first place. And in order to have that precious peace we yearn for so desperately, we need to go back to living the commandments of God. Simple!

After this special event of December 25th, many people started to extrapolate with all sorts of interpretations, even apocalyptic ones. No one actually knows - not even the visionaries - if the end of the apparition is close. Of course, every 24 hours brings us closer to that day. Let us not be distracted by unsure interpretations; let’s rather go right to Jesus’ words, because His call is short, simple and crystal clear! I guess my role is to tell people: “Just do it!” In order not to miss the point, I wish to quote the major commandments of God, starting with what Jesus said in the Gospel: A scribe asked Jesus: Which is the first commandments of all? Jesus answered him: The first of all the commandments is ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone!’

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12, 28-34)

“Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. (Matt. 5:19) [Sr. then quoted the 10 commandments (omitted for space)]

Our Lady said: “Dear Children, I cannot help you if you do not live the commandments of God, if you do not renounce sin, and if you do not live holy Mass”

2. On the evening of **December 28**, we gathered at the Blue Cross for prayer with Ivan’s group. When Our Lady appeared, she gave this message: **“Dear children, also today I desire to call you to joy. Anew I call you to joy! I call you at the same time to responsibility. Dear children, accept my messages responsibly and live my messages, because in the living of my messages I desire to lead you to my Son. All of these years that I have been together with you my finger has been directed toward the Son, towards Jesus. I have a**

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desire to lead all of you to Him. Therefore these days that are upcoming, may your question also be - and I pose this question to you - 'What can I do that my heart may be closer to Jesus?' May this question lead you. Say to yourselves, 'What must I leave behind? What must I reject that my heart may be closer to Jesus? Pray dear children, and I will pray for all of you that your answer in your hearts may be 'Yes, I desire to be closer to Jesus!' Thank you, dear children, for also today having responded to my call."

3. Another tradition in our home in Medjugorje is that on 31 December or on 1 January, each one of us thanks the Lord and the Virgin Mary for the gifts, gifts of grace, and blessings received during the year. We do this by writing down 50 precise reasons for thanking Them. Newcomers all react by exclaiming, "What?!! 50?!!!" But they do it willingly, and after having given the first 50 reasons, they usually find even more to be thankful for! Try it, because your angel will inspire you with reasons for gratitude, in case you run out of thoughts.

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Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for January 2013:

General Intention: That in this Year of Faith Christians may deepen their knowledge of the mystery of Christ and witness joyfully to the gift of faith in him.

Missionary Intention: That the Christian communities of the Middle East, often discriminated against, may receive from the Holy Spirit the strength of fidelity and perseverance.

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Via CTIPA. **Queen's Christmas Address 2012.** *The final part is that which the news media so easily dismisses and continues to marginalise our Christian Faith.*

"At Christmas I am always struck by how the spirit of togetherness lies also at the heart of the Christmas story. A young mother and a dutiful father with their baby were joined by poor shepherds and visitors from afar. They came with their gifts to worship the Christ child. From that day on he has inspired people to commit themselves to the best interests of others. This is the time of year when we remember that God sent his only son 'to serve, not to be served'. He restored love and service to the centre of our lives in the person of Jesus Christ. It is my prayer this Christmas Day that his example and teaching will continue to bring people together to give the best of themselves in the service of others. The carol, 'In the Bleak Midwinter', ends by asking a question of all of us who know the Christmas story, of how God gave himself to us in humble service: 'What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part'. The carol gives the answer, 'Yet what I can I give him - give my heart'."

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Footnotes: 1. "Oh, yes, we do indeed truly believe that Jesus Christ came upon earth, that He provided the most convincing proofs of His divinity. Hence the reason for our hope. We rejoice, and we have good reason to recognise Jesus Christ as our God, our Saviour, and our model. Here is the foundation of our faith." ~ Saint John Vianney (1786-1859), patron saint of priests

2. "We cannot dwell upon the conduct of the Jews, my dear people, without being struck with amazement. These very people had waited for God for four thousand years, they had prayed much because of the great desire they had to receive Him, and yet when He came, He could not find a single person to give Him the poorest lodging. The all-powerful God was obliged to make His dwelling with the animals. And yet, my dear people, I find in the conduct of the Jews, criminal as it was, not a subject for explanations, but a theme for the condemnation of the conduct of the majority of Christians. We can see that the Jews had formed an idea of their Redeemer which did not conform with the state of austerity in which He appeared. It seemed as if they could not persuade themselves that this could indeed be He who was to be their Saviour; St. Paul tells us very clearly that if the Jews had recognised Him as God, they would never have put Him to death. There is, then, some small excuse for the Jews. But what excuse can we make, my dear brethren, for the coldness and the contempt which we show towards Jesus Christ? Oh, yes, we do indeed truly believe that Jesus Christ came upon earth, that He provided the most convincing proofs of His divinity. Hence the reason for our hope. We rejoice, and we have good reason to recognise Jesus Christ as our God, our Saviour, and our Model. Here is the foundation of our faith. But, tell me, with all this, what homage do we really pay Him? Do we do more for Him than if we did not believe all this? Tell me, dear brethren, does our conduct correspond at all to our beliefs? We are wretched creatures. We are even more blameworthy than the Jews." www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-religion/2333266/posts
Sermons of St. John Vianney - Cure of Ars » 'We are wretched creatures'

I Am the New Year:

I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time. I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months. All that you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it out with more determination. All the good that you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires. All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have

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-- these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose. **I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, "Behold, I make all things new."** Anon