



Message from The Blessed Virgin Mary Queen of Peace, from Medjugorje and a reflection by Fr. Francisco Verar, on February 25, 2015.

"Dear children! In this time of grace I call all of you: pray more and speak less. In prayer seek the will of God and live it according to the commandments to which God calls you. I am with you and am praying with you. Thank you for having responded to my call."

At the present, all the visionaries are in Medjugorje, with the exception of Marija. For such reason, through Ivan, the pilgrims can take part in the extraordinary apparitions in the Blue Cross or at the Hill on Mondays or Fridays. The last extraordinary messages have been the following: On Friday February 20, 2015, the Virgin said: **"Dear children, I invite you to pray for peace, peace is endangered, pray more, pray with the heart. The Mother prays with you. I intercede next to My Son for all of you. Thank you dear children because today you have also answered my call."** And Monday's message at the Blue Cross was: **"Dear children, my children, today I also want to invite you, in this coming time of grace: pray more with your families, renew prayer in your families. Pray in particular, dear children, with your own children. Pray my children, for my intentions, for my projects that I want to fulfill with my coming here. Pray especially, for my projects of peace. The Mother prays next to you and She is always close to you. Therefore, decide, decide to pray more. Thank you, dear children, for having answered today to my call!"**

Through these messages, the Mother invites the pilgrims – and those who follow her messages- to help Her in her projects; especially the one that brings peace to the world. Do not forget. See that last Friday, She warned that peace was in danger. Therefore, we must have this pressing warning in mind, and relate these last three messages with this imperative. If peace is in danger, by helping our Mother with our prayers, we also help ourselves, because whatever it is that is going to happen, it affects us all. In fact, many Christians are being persecuted in Islamic territories. Aside from the violence that happens in the streets of many countries of America, and the horrifying violence taking place in the motherly womb, that assassinates innocent beings with the crime of abortion. Thus, we must remember, that the Mother wants that we pray for peace and to pray with the heart. And this prayer must be done as a family and in the family: parents to pray next to their children for the projects of Mary and for world Peace. The present time of Lent and Holy Week approaching, are occasions to double these efforts of family prayer. And, in this frame of reference, we also meditate on the message of this 25th day of this month, that came to us through Marija: **"Dear children, in this time of grace, I invite you all: pray more and talk less. Seek in prayer for the will of God and live it according to the Commandments to which God invites you. I am with you and I pray with you. Thank you for having answered my call"**

1. Lent is a time of grace. God Himself has established special times of grace through the Liturgical Year we have in the Church. Lent is not a time for vacations, and much less, Holy Week. NO! It is a time of conversion, fasting, of penance, of reconciliation, and above all, of constant prayer. It is a time for Jesus, for us to come near His Precious Wounds, to His Sacrifice of Love because of our sins. The Mother wants us to utilize this precious time for that what is first for God: Prayer and Conversion. Because there is no prayer without conversion, and without prayer there is no conversion either. The main problem is, that many Christians think that they already pray enough, or, that they have no grave sins. That is why the Mother speaks to us: to help us.

2. “I invite you all: pray more and talk less.” This second part of the message is important, perhaps the core or center of it. The Mother begins by saying: **“I invite you all”**. Keep in mind that She speaks from Her authority of Mother of the Church. It was precisely on Good Friday, when Her Son, vested Her with such authority, when He proclaimed from the Cross, Her spiritual motherhood above all of mankind; not just over the Church, but also that Christ died on the Cross for all human mankind as well. Hence, Mary’s motherhood fall upon all of mankind. And that motherhood tells us now: **“I invite you all”**. The invitation is not only for those who follow Her messages, not just for the consecrated, not just for the indifferent....The Mother invites all her children **“to pray more and speak less”**. What the Mother wants, is that part of the time dedicated to talk within the family, or with friends or in business or study...be a time best invested in prayer. And see that the Mother did NOT say: “stop talking or do not converse” but rather **talk less**, because She knows is that much of what is spoken is wasted time, that could very much so be dedicated to prayer. Therefore, we must be humble, and if we want to respond to the Mother during this month, we are to reduce the amiable conversations so as to increase our time of prayer. It is not about eliminating conversations completely , but rather minimize them so we can dedicate more time to prayer.

3. “Seek in prayer for the will of God and live it according to the Commandments to which God invites you”. This part of this month’s message , is also very significant, because it is not only to ask for peace which is in grave danger and pray for Mary’s projects, but also states that prayer is an ongoing continued search for the will of God, because many people when praying only ask, but do not seek the Will of God for their lives. That is why there are so many people embroiled in the world and in the Church: they think that God does not listen, this is because when they pray to God they do so as when going to a restaurant: they read the menu and ask for what they want to eat according to their tastes and appetites. Yet, when you pray, you cannot take a menu: there are no tastes or appetites for something special. Then, the best way to pray, is to tell God, with a **humble** heart: “Lord, what You want of me. I at this moment, leave all my projects in Your hands and I renounce to my will entirely to accept Yours, whichever that may be.” Consider that one of the major crises we are living – and that is why Mary speaks about it – is the crisis of prayer: people have changed their relationship with God, for technology, the internet, television, businesses, money fun in the streets, sports... There is time for everything except to pray. And if pray – with the same aridity that lack of prayer brings- we then go with the personal menu before the Lord, and not to seek for what He wants from us. And this could be called **Pharisaism <platinum or gold>**, which is to seek for God at per my convenience.

Consequently, we must fall on our knees, we must fast, and in humble ways, seek for the will of God in His Commandments with prayer.

I think that prior to prayer seeking the Will of God, we are to read and meditate the Ten Commandments and the explanation Jesus makes in Matthew 5, 6 & 7. On the contrary, we could pray in the wrong way. Another form of prayer in this sense, is to meditate with the heart, while praying, the Sermon of the Mount: Matthew 5, 7. This is the main platform of all the rest. Then, when the Will of God is known, and we look for it, the reward is, without a doubt, a better quality of emotional life, of satisfactions, of well being...because Jesus came so that we **live in abundance**. Remember that life in abundance does not come from money, from sentimental relationships, from liquor, from drugs, from amusements... No, these are all deceits, comedies, because the true happiness is given only by God and in becomes eternal in Paradise, which Mary has said we could live since now; but without sin, through humility, and exercising charity and works of Mercy.

4. "I am with you, and I pray with you. Thank you for having answered my call" The Mother at the end of the message, infuses hope, courage, optimism, trust; She emphasizes She is with us and that She prays with us. This part is wonderful, though is hardly meditated. Take into consideration that when the Mother speaks like this, She is thinking about all her children. These words are not for the visionaries since they see Her everyday and have no need to listen to said words. She does not either tell the pilgrims that are in Medjugorje, because Marija receives the message in Milan, Italy where she lives. Then, these words are for the whole Church; Mary is in a special way with all of Her children, She has no preferences, She intercedes for all. And it is pointless to try reasoning these words and with unexplainable scientific criteria. But they can be accepted through love, because it is through love that we experience the presence of Mary among us. Praised be Our Lord Jesus Christ!!!!