

The Union of Catholic Mothers 63rd Annual WALSINGHAM Pilgrimage

MONDAY 30th June & TUESDAY 1st JULY 2008 Led by the Diocese of SALFORD

BOOKING FORM: All Cheques should be made payable to: 'The Union of Catholic Mothers Walsingham Sub-Committee'

Diocese:		No. of Pilgrims:	@ £5.00 each =	No. of Abbey Link Mobility Bus Tickets: (Includes a seat in the Abbey Grounds)	@ £2.50 each =	TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED
Foundation Name:		= £		=£		= £
No. of Cars:		No. of Coaches:		Organizer's Name:		
Tel. No. of Coach Company [Inc. Area code]		Address:				
No. of Pilgrims proposing to take part in the Monday Evening Service	No. of Pilgrims proposing to walk in the Monday Evening Procession		Post Code:			
No. of Deacons who wish to participate	No. of priests who wish to concelebrate		Tel No:		Date:	
		Signed:				

As facilities for Priests/Deacons have to be arranged, it is important that you indicate numbers. Please remember that the Foundation/Diocese is responsible for paying the Pilgrimage Fees for Priests/Deacons

All Bookings to be sent to:

Mrs Joan Deegan, 34 Cypress Avenue, Whitton
Middlesex, TW2 7JZ Tel: 0208 898 2118
Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope

**Monday 30th
SERVICE OF LIGHT
8pm
in Chapel of
Reconciliation
followed by
TORCHLIGHT
PROCESSION**

**Tuesday 1st
MASS at
11.30am**



**Concelebrated Mass Bishop T Brain –
and diocesan priests
followed by a Silent procession for
peace to the Abbey Grounds for
Benediction
For further information please contact
your Diocesan President or Local
Organiser.**



Does your will
provide for
everyone
you care
about?

Making a will is an important way of providing for your friends and family in years to come. But it's also an opportunity to protect the future of your global family in the developing world.

However you've supported CAFOD in the past, a gift in your will means your faith, compassion and values will live on. You can bring healthcare to the sick. You can help hungry people earn a livelihood and feed their families. You can stand alongside the survivors of conflict or disaster as they rebuild their homes and communities. Your legacy, large or small, could change lives forever.

For a free copy of our new guide to making a will, or to discuss the difference your gift could make, call **020 7095 5525**. Or write to Beth Brook, Legacy Information Officer, CAFOD, Romero Close, Stockwell Road, London, SW9 9TY.

Photo: Marcella Haddad

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Medjugorje Diary

ON TUESDAY, we arrived in Dubrovnik. The previous day they had had the first rain for three months, and the temperature had dropped to 24 degrees from the 40's when it had been impossible to walk in the heat. That evening, over coffee, one of the pilgrims, Barry, told us about his previous visions at Medjugorje of Mary and the Archangel Gabriel.

On Wednesday we realised how international the pilgrims are. Our guide found us the English Mass times and the times of confessions. There were dozens of priests but only about one in ten were English speaking. The same happened at Holy Hour, when there was a phrase or two in English every now and then. Also on Wednesday we had a translated talk from one of the visionaries, Ivan, who is still receiving daily messages from Our Lady calling us to pray for peace, especially in our families.

On Thursday we visited Father Jozo. He was the priest in Medjugorje when the visions first started in 1981. He protected the visionaries and was later put in prison for 18 months by the Communist regime. He has been moved to a parish 45 minutes drive away, but he gave us a talk through an interpreter telling us Our Lady's wishes for us - to say the Rosary daily, go to Communion, read the Bible, practice fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays and go to monthly Confession. Each pilgrim had a laying-on of hands to receive the Holy Spirit from one of the priests there.

The main thing for Friday was walking up the hill of the apparitions to the statue, which was one of the exact spots where Our Lady first appeared. The ground was very rocky with some bushes and some small pomegranate trees. Later on it got even better as Ivan had said that Our Lady was going to appear to him at the Blue Cross at 10pm, which was where we had been in the morning.

Seven of us sat on the rocks with hundreds of others for an hour and a half and at 10 o'clock there was total silence for perhaps six or seven minutes. I saw several pulses of light in the sky. I thought it was lightning, but it could have been related to Our Lady. On the loudspeaker some one said a few sentences and then in English that Our Lady blessed us all, and especially the sick. We certainly needed our torches to get down the hill and back across the fields. Medjugorje district is really five villages and the visionaries did not live in the village of Medjugorje itself. On Saturday morning we walked across



Medjugorje Pilgrims Pray at a Statue of Our Lady

the fields to hear another visionary talk via an interpreter. Marienka is receiving a visit from Our Lady only once a year, but she has received 10 secrets and is asked to pray for unbelievers. Ivan prays especially for the souls in purgatory and two of the others especially for sinners. Two of the visionaries were shown Heaven, Purgatory and Hell and Our Lady says that Medjugorje is continuing what was started at Fatima. Our Lady said that the most important thing is the Mass and that we must support our priests.

In the afternoon, some of us walked up Cross Mountain, which is extremely rocky. There are bronze stations of the cross and a stone plaque to show where Father Slavko died on the mountain.

On Sunday the highlights were visiting the Cenacolo community and receiving testimonials from two of the young men, (this is the Cenacolo community that I first heard of at UCM study days) and going to see the bronze statue of the crucified Christ, which is oozing a liquid from a point above His knee which seemed to be like oil when I touched it.

On Monday we went to 'Mothers Village', which was started by Father Slavko for orphans. There are up to eight children in each family house up to the age of eighteen. Nearby there is a lovely forested area, which is fenced in, so the children are able to play there. There are some donkeys and horses for the older children to ride, together with a small chapel and a bigger room for Mass. This was really charity in action.

A magazine is now published called the Medjugorje Tribune and it says that there have been 35 million pilgrims. It is certainly a place of prayer.

Hilda Carney