

Reflections

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Catholic Family Newsletter

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Bringing Light Into a World of Darkness

Satan Is In The Open Now

Global Problem of Missing Children

Our Blessed Mother and the Koran

Bible Verse for the Day: Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." 1 Corinthians 15:33

Thoughts for the Day: Christ walks each day with us, although we don't see him. For each person you meet has God's sprit within them. Love one another as Christ has loved you.

What to Prayer for Today: For salvation for every member of your family. Pray each day. Do not stop. Pray, Pray

Blessing to All:

By: Richard Pickard

The evil forces that are raging against the children of God are at work all over the world. They know their time is coming to an end and they are in rebellion for one last time before their eternal damnation. The evil forces have centered their attacks on the family. Causing divorces, abortions, and confusion about the identity of women and men. Our children are being subjected to ideas that are contrary to natural laws. Men presenting themselves to children as drag queens and making a mockery of womanhood. Satan wants to confuse the minds of young people. One of the slogans of woke drag queens is "Be who you are."



Satan's power on earth is in the open. He is not hiding anymore. This century is his

time to destroy morality and humanity. We know this from the messages of Our Blessed Mother in Medjugorje. "This century is under the powers of the devil. But when these secrets are realized, that are confided to the visionaries here in Medjugorje, his power will be destroyed."

Our Blessed Mother also told Visionary Miryana, that "She is preparing us for what is to come. She says, "Be prepared, it is necessary to shake the world a little. Events will cause the world to stop and think. Our Lady is calling us to conversion now which means complete surrender to God. If we do that, we are not afraid, not even of death." The visionaries themselves have spoken about this time of grace and the coming time when the earth will shake.



The date that Our Blessed Mary appeared to the children in Medjugorje is very important. It tells us that these apparitions

are not like any others. The apparitions in Medjugorje began on the **Feast Day of John the Baptist, June 24, 1981**. We know that John the Baptist <u>announced the coming of the Messiah</u>, Jesus Christ. Mary's appearance on his Feast Day of John the Baptist speaks of apocalyptic times that are coming. **Her appearance on this date** is not a coincidence.

To prove Our Blessed Mother was sent by God and to warn us of coming chastisements, she gave this message... " O My dear children on earth, tell the world not to wait any longer, it needs to convert. When God comes, He will not be joking. I tell you that you must take My messages seriously. Many people have begun their conversion, but not all. Convert before it is too late while there is still time. Do not wait for the sign. Yes, I will leave a sign on the hill. It will be a sign of proof for those who do not believe that I am here. It will be very beautiful and indestructible and permanent. It will be the source of many conversions, healings and miracles. But do not wait for the sign. The sign will come too late for those who do not believe. The only word I want to say is conversion. I ask for nothing but the conversion of the whole world. I will suffer for you, but you must convert yourselves.

The Deception of Satan is Spreading

People are being deceived all over the world who live in serious sin. Satan has so influenced their minds, that whatever serious sin that they commit, appears as normal and "not" against God's moral laws. Good is now bad and bad is now good. Here are a few examples of the woke agenda that Satan is pushing on people...

¹A recently passed bill in Michigan, USA, **would make it a felony to intimidate someone by using the <u>wrong gender pronouns</u>. Michigan's state House of Representatives has passed bill HB 4474, a piece of legislation that criminalizes causing someone to <u>feel threatened by words</u>. Under the new bill, offenders are "guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or by a fine of not more than \$10,000."**

²**Abortion is considered "Health Care for Women."** Over 73 million babies are aborted each year worldwide. Abortion for health reasons is extremely rare with the overwhelming majority are not for non-health concerns, but for convenience and because women have been deceived by Satan to kill their babies.

³Euthanasia is legal in Canada, Australia, Colombia, New Zealand, Belgium, Luxembourg, Spain and others.

Higher Suicide Rates for Transgenders in 10-year Sweden Study

Ten Year Study in Sweden shows a 19 times higher suicide rate for transgenders than for non-transgender. Yet we see in many countries a push to allow hormonal or surgery to alter a child's sex gender.

More Laws Passed to Allow Men & Boys in Women's Bathrooms

We see an increase in laws passed to grant access to transgender people which allow men and boys to enter into women's bathrooms. The law states that these men and boys, believe in their minds, that they are women and

¹¹ https://www.foxnews.com/politics/michigan-house-passes-bill-wrong-pronouns-felony-fineable-10000

² https://www.liveaction.org/news/staggering-death-toll-abortion-us-worldwide/

³ https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/where-is-euthanasia-legal

girls. ⁴"One case that helped the movement towards bathroom equality was USA Doe vs. Regional School Unit, in which the Maine Supreme Court, USA, saw a boy (transgender girl) win the right to use the women's bathroom in his school to ensure that his psychological well-being wasn't impacted from having to use the men's." So, the law says in fact, "don't *hurt the feelings* of a transgender", but it's okay to **offend the natural born girls** by making them admit a non-female into the bathroom. That is plain crazy and another example of Satan's plan of confusion and acceptance of woke moral depravity.

⁵Suicide Rate of Transgenders

42% of transgenders have attempted suicide, USA.

A new study from the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law finds that 81% of transgender adults in the U.S. have thought about suicide, 42% of transgender adults have attempted it, and 56% have engaged in non-suicidal self-injury over their lifetimes.

Organization of Men Who want sex with Boys Legalized

Men pedophiles in USA are actively engaged to change the laws with the organization called NAMBLA. ⁶The North American Man/Boy Love Association is a pedophilia and pederasty advocacy organization in the United States. It works to abolish age-of-consent laws criminalizing adult sexual involvement with minors and campaigns for the release of men who have been jailed for sexual contacts with minors that did not involve what it considers coercion.

There are only two sexes that God created. Gen 5:2

⁴ https://fairpunishment.org/can-a-man-legally-use-a-womens-bathroom/

⁵ https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/press/transpop-suicide-press-release/

⁶ https://www.nambla.org/

Missing Children Around the World

Are these children runaways or being kidnapped to be used as sex slaves? The lack of a common definition of "missing child," and a common response to the issue, results in few reliable statistics on the scope of the problem around the world.

⁷Missing Children Statistics International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC)

Even with this challenge in the definition of missing children, we know that:

Country	Donart Vacu	Missing	0/ Deputation Who
Country	Report Year	Children	% Population Who
			Attend Religious
		Under 18	Services
			Weekly
Germany	2021	83,900	4.3%
India	2020	59,262	unknown
United States	2021	58,200	39.0%
Russia	2019	50,000	7.0%
United Kingdom	2021	48,870	8.0%
France	2021	43,870	5.0%
Australia	2021	34,000	17.0%
Canada	2022	30,840	20.0%
South Korea	2022	26,416	18.0%
Italy	2021	12,117	26.0%

In many countries, statistics on missing children are not even available; and, unfortunately, even available statistics may be inaccurate due to under-reporting/under-recognition; inflation; incorrect database entry of case information; and deletion of records once a case is closed.

At **ICMEC**, we firmly believe that <u>one missing child is one too many</u>, and we are committed to improving the global understanding of and response to missing and abducted children.

International Phone Number to report children missing 1-703-837-6313. Fax 1-403-549-4504

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⁷ https://www.icmec.org/missing-children-statistics/

When do the majority of child abduction take place?

Statistics show that 71% of non-family abductions happen outdoors. Notably, the most likely time of day for abductions is the afternoon or early in the morning when children are walking to and from school.



If you see someone abucting a child, call police immediately.

If you are able, try to stop the abuction and yell for HELP LOUDLY.



Pray For and Pray With your Children Each Day. Make a difference in a world that has lost its sense of what is right and wrong.

Give your child a secret "word" that only they know. If someone tells them that your mother needs you,

ask for the secret word. If they don't know it, tell them to RUN.

What is Happening in Our Church and Why do they Need Our Prayers

There is a growing concern within the conservative faithful that the higher ups in the church are not protecting the faith and the flock.

My brothers and sisters in Christ. You and your family are in a battle with Satan. **And so is our Church.** The whole world is in this battle, and at times it seems that Satan has won. We see horrible

things accepted as the norm. Even pagan statues and pagan offerings being blessed by Pope Francis.

We have seen at the Vatican an unusual occurrence regarding the naked pagan goddess Pachamama being honored by Pope Francis. This occurred during the Amazon Synod of 2019. According to Inca

mythology, Pachamama is the fertility goddess. People of the Amazon region worship Pachamama as Mother Nature. The pagan statue was placed briefly in the Basilica of St. Peter in front of St. Peter's tomb, again in the presence of the Pope, and then during the



entire time of the Amazon Synod in the church of Santa Maria Traspontina on the Via della Conciliazione and were in regular prayer ceremonies worshiped in a church with a tabernacle and the Eucharistic presence of Christ. Furthermore, the statue of the naked pregnant woman (Pachamama) was even carried on October 19, 2019, in a Way of the Cross organized by participants of the Synod.

Here is a brief story by Dr. Maike Hickson who stated the following in a news article in December 2020.



8"Something happened in the Vatican in the last months that has been largely overlooked: the High Altar of St. Peter's – the Papal Altar, which is situated right on top of the tomb of St. Peter himself – has been left unused now for many months. This fact comes in light of the coronavirus

lockdowns, but also after Pope Francis, in October 2019, allowed a bowl with earth dedicated to the false goddess Pachamama be placed on the High Altar, against the liturgical rules, and allowed the placement of the pagan statue in the Santa Maria Catholic Church in Traspontina.

Dr. Hickson goes on to say about the Amazon Synod that Pope Francis called in 2019..."First the Pope had blessed a sacrifice (bowl with dirt and flowers) that had been offered to the false goddess, (Pachamama) and then it was placed on the very altar on which the Pope usually offers in Mass, the Son of God to God the Father. Not long after this scandalous event, Pope Francis decided not to be called anymore in the 2020 Vatican Yearbook "Vicar of Christ," giving this title the character of merely being a "historic title." Instead, he placed his personal name on top of his entry, Jorge Mario Bergoglio."

My brothers and sisters, we need to pray for our church and the leaders. Many of us do not know the meaning of these things. We know that Christ said in Matthew 16:18 " And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

⁸ https://www.lifesitenews.com/blogs/a-symbolic-sign-after-the-pachamama-worship-at-st-peters-papal-altar-unused-for-months-now/

We see blows to the Church from various entities and many of us believe that the smoke of Satan has entered the Church. But our faith teaches us, to trust in Jesus and offer our prayers, sacrifices and fasting for the Body of Christ, which is the Church. These are times of trial for our Church and the leaders. Many faithful Catholics are wondering if our Pope is steering our church carelessly in these trouble waters. Most Catholics are not even aware of the erosion within the church. But some Cardinals, like, Vigano are outspoken and bring important dialog into the public sector.

Dear brother and sister don't fall asleep to the many moral changes and attacks we see happening in the world regarding our faith and our children. You and your family are in a battle against the forces of evil. For most of us, our only weapons are our prayers. If you are a Church leader, you have to be faithful to your responsibility to protect the Church from attacks within and outside the Church. For some who are in public office, you have to be bold and speak up. Be the Light Shinning in the Darkness. Satan's plan is to destroy the Church, our families and to bring eternal damnation to humanity. Satan has corrupted some church leaders, and politicians in many countries around the world. But **You** can be the difference. One person at a time. Stand up for what is right and speak up for what is morally wrong. Pray for church leaders. Talk to your pastors. Don't be silent.







Trust in Jesus

Our Blessed Mother and the Koran



I have often heard that Muslims hold our Blessed Mother Mary in high regard. This reverence may stop short of devotion but there is said to be a respect for her in the Muslim tradition. The great Archbishop Fulton Sheen, in his book *The World's First Love*, reflected on Mary's significance to Muslims. Here are some excerpts from his book.

"The Koran, which is the Bible of the Muslims, has many passages concerning the Blessed Virgin. First of all, the Koran believes in her Immaculate Conception, and also, in her Virgin Birth ... The Koran also has verses on the Annunciation, Visitation, and Nativity. Angels are pictured as accompanying the Blessed Mother and saying, Oh Mary, God has chosen you and purified you, and elected you above all the women of the earth. In the 19th chapter of the Koran there are 41 verses on Jesus and Mary. There is such a strong defense of the virginity of Mary here that the Koran in the fourth book, attributes the condemnation of the Jews to their monstrous calumny against the Virgin Mary.

Mary, then, is for the Muslims the true Sayyida, or Lady. The only possible serious rival to her in their creed would be Fatima, the daughter of Mohammed himself. But after the death of Fatima, Mohammed wrote: Thou

shalt be the most blessed of women in Paradise, after Mary. In a variant of the text Fatima is made to say; I surpass all the women, except Mary.



This brings us to my second point; namely, why the Blessed Mother, in this 20th Century should have revealed herself in the significant little village of Fatima, so that to all future generations she would be known as "Our Lady of Fatima." Since nothing ever happens out of Heaven except with a finesse of all details, I believe that the Blessed Virgin chose to be known as "Our Lady of Fatima" as pledge and a sign of hope to the Muslim people, and as an assurance that they, who show her so much respect, will one day accept her divine Son too.

Evidence to support these views is found in the historical fact that the Muslims occupied Portugal for centuries. At the time when they were finally driven out, the last Muslim chief had a beautiful daughter by the name of Fatima. A Catholic boy fell in love with her, and for him she not only stayed behind when the Muslims left, but even embraced the Faith. The young husband was so much in love with her that he changed the name of the town where he lived to Fatima. Thus, the very place where our Lady appeared in 1917 bears a historical connection to Fatima, the daughter of Mohammed.

Missionaries, in the future will, more and more, see that their apostolate among the Muslims will be successful in the measure that they preach Our Lady of Fatima. Mary is the advent of Christ, bringing Christ to the people before Christ himself is born. In any apologetic endeavor, it is always best to start with that which the people already accept. Because the Muslims have devotion to Mary, our missionaries should be satisfied merely to expand and develop that devotion, with the full realization that our Blessed Lady will carry the Muslims the rest of the way to her divine Son. She is forever a "traitor," in the sense that she will not accept any devotion for herself but will always bring anyone who is devoted to her to her divine Son."

A beautiful reflection by Archbishop Sheen and one we can surely hope will come to pass! Relations are much tenser between Christians and Muslims today than in 1952. But Fatima is the apparition that just keeps prophesying.

It is nothing less than astonishing that Mary should appear in a town with the name of Fatima. Surely this is no mere coincidence. As Sheen points out, Heaven does nothing without purpose. It is very clear to me that we are not to pass over this detail. "Our Lady of Fatima" has a different ring to it when we consider that Fatima is more than a place; Fatima is the daughter of Muhammad and the greatest woman in Islam. "Our Lady of Fatima" sounds and feels so different when it is heard in this context of person rather than place. It is hugely significant.

It seems clear that Mary will play an important role in the years ahead as the Muslim/Christian conflict likely grows sharper. Perhaps, as Sheen notes, she will be the bridge that connects two vastly different cultures; the common mother who keeps her children talking. Right now, this connection seems little pursued, even (as far as I can tell) by the Vatican.

The Guadalupe connection wonder, too, if the history of Our Lady of Guadalupe presents some historical parallels to our current struggle with the Muslim world. In the early 16th Century in Mexico, missionaries had made meager progress in bringing the Aztec people to Christ. This was a combination of the sometimes rude and cruel treatment of the indigenous people by the Spanish soldiers, and also of the fearful superstition surrounding the Aztec gods. The people were locked in with the fear that unless they fed these gods with horrific human sacrifices, their greatest god, the sun, would no longer shine.



Into this fearful and suspicious setting entered Mother Mary. The miraculous image she left in 1531 was richly symbolic. Her face is that of a mother: gentle and compassionate, unlike the appearance of the frightening Aztec gods, who wore fierce masks. Her features seem to be both Aztec and European, two cultures combined in kindness and peace. Her attitude is one of humble prayer, so she is clearly not a goddess. She is a merciful mother who consoles and prays for us. She is to be honored but not adored. The black band around her waist means that she is with child and offers Jesus to the people. Her message is about Him. The sun was the greatest of the Aztec gods, so by standing in front of it, Mary shows that she is greater than even

their greatest god. To the Aztecs, the moon represented the god of darkness and death. That Mary is standing on the moon is a sign that these powers, too, are defeated by the Son she bears.

Mary brought the breakthrough. Within ten years, over twelve million Mexicans came to Christ and entered the Catholic Church.

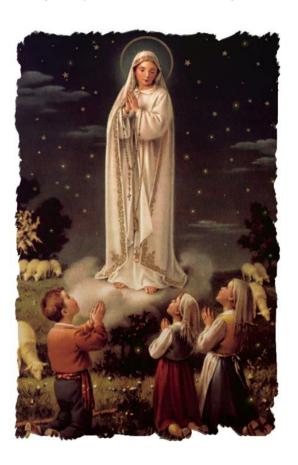
This history is paralleled in many ways today in the current tensions with the Muslim World. In many Muslim lands today, conversions are few. Part of the reason for this is a strong aversion to the Western culture from which Catholicism comes. Many Muslims also hold grievances due to alleged American and Western "mistreatment." Finally, a large factor is fear. In many parts of the Muslim world, leaving the Muslim faith is likely to get one killed. So, it is a combination of a wide cultural gulf, grievances, and fear that keep conversions low. All of this is not unlike the situation in 16th century Mexico.

Is Mary key to this? It took Mary to bridge all these similar gaps between the Aztecs and the Christian missionaries. Might Mary also be that bridge today when similar gaps divide people? Time will tell, but one of her greatest modern titles is "Our Lady of Fatima." And then there is the crescent moon, upon which Mary stands in the image of Guadalupe. In modern times the crescent moon is the symbol of Islam. By God's grace, and with love and humility, Mother Mary of Guadalupe was victorious in overcoming the false religion of the Aztecs.

Might this crescent moon on which Our Lady of Guadalupe stands also point to our times and the crescent moon of Islam? Might it indicate that her victories, by God's grace, are not at an end? Perhaps we can hope that what our Lady of Guadalupe was to the Aztec people of Mexico, Our Lady of Fatima will be to the Muslim people of the world.

Ave Maria in Arabic (hover over web address and hold down control & left click to hear the beautiful song in Arabic)





Hear the testimony of a muslim who was a former Iranian hezbollah member share his encounter with Jesus Christ in a jail cell.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQgCGFemNNQ. Hover over and click control & left click of mouse to see his personal testimony. This is a powerful testimony and should be shared with others.

Miracles in Medjugorje

Over 600 cases of healings in Medjugorje have been recorded and are kept in the Information center "Mir," run by the Franciscans of the St. James parish in Medjugorje, along with all the given documentation, which is then forwarded to medical and theological examiners.



Photo of Diana Basile, 1984

Mrs. Diana Basile, born October 5, 1940, in Cosenza, Italy, suffered from multiple sclerosis, an otherwise incurable disease, from 1972 till May 23, 1984. In spite of the expert help of the professors and doctors at the clinic in Milan, she grew more and more sick. By her own desire she came to Medjugorje and was present during the apparition of Our Lady in a room connected to the Church and was suddenly healed.



All of that happened in such a quick and thorough way that on the following day the same woman walked barefoot 12 kilometers from the hotel in Ljubuski, where she spent the night, to the apparition hill in order to thank Our Lady for the healing.

Ever since then until today, she has remained well. Upon her return to Milan, the doctors were astonished by her healing and immediately established a medical commission, which was again thoroughly to examine both the previous and present condition of the healed woman. They collected 143 documents and, in the end, 25 professors, head doctors, and other doctors wrote a special book about the disease and the healing in which they stated that Diana Basile indeed did suffer from multiple sclerosis, that for many years she was unsuccessfully treated, but that now she is completely well and that this did not happen by any kind of therapy, nor by any kind of medicine. They, thereby, indicated that the cause of the healing was from a different than scientific source.

Another significant miracle happened to Rita Klaus of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA, a teacher and mother of three children, born January 25,



1940, who for 26 years suffered from multiple sclerosis. She was also one that neither doctors nor medicine were able to help. Reading the book about Medjugorje, Is the Blessed Virgin Appearing in Medjugorje? by Laurentin-Rupcic, she decided to accept Our Lady's messages.

And once while she was praying the rosary on

May 23, 1984, she felt within herself some unusual warmth. After that, she felt well. And from then till today the patient has been completely well and capable of doing all her domestic and schoolwork. There is solid medical documentation about her sickness and her futile therapy and likewise a professional certification of the doctors on her extraordinary and incomprehensible healing, which is complete and permanent.

Inoperable Brain Tumor Miracle Healed



Colleen Willard's story began in 2001, when she experienced excruciating back pain. Later, she was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor, had multiple health problems, became wheelchair bound, and was in constant, severe pain. After receiving a devastating second opinion from a team of doctors at the Mayo Clinic she began preparing for her funeral. But Our Lady had other plans. Colleen learned about

pilgrimages to Medjugorje, and despite many obstacles she, along with her husband John, embarked on a pilgrimage to this holy site that has documented countless stories of healings and conversions.

Colleen was not there to seek healing, but to pray for those she would leave behind. You will be captivated to hear the movements of the Holy Spirit and Our Blessed Mother's intercession, where during Mass, Our Lord would heal Colleen.

Since her confirmed healing, she and her husband have shared their story across the world and have been a guest on multiple radio programs, including Relevant Radio and Shalom World TV.

Editors Note: Information about Medjugorje and travel arrangements can be found at: https://medjugorje.org/

Man is completely healed of terminal cancer in Medjugorje.

Arthur Boyle was diagnosed with cancer in 1999. They removed his kidney. He thought the operation took care of everything, but eight months later during a follow-up exam, doctors found three tumors in his right lung. In September of 2000, Arthur Boyle, emotionally crushed by his progressing illness, traveled to Medjugorje. At first, he felt a great power after Confession, then he had an impressive meeting with the visionary, Vicka and father Jozo Zovko at Široki Brijeg, not far from Medjugorje. That gave him the strength to attempt climbing up Cross Mountain.



"It was raining. As I was climbing, I felt tired. I had a strong pain in my legs, and I felt as if everything was getting worse. My chest hurt like never before, but we climbed to the top. We were the only three adult men on Cross Mountain. I prayed with all my heart and soul for God to forgive me and to help me to get well. We cried as we prayed. After that, I called my wife on my cell phone, because my friends and I had a feeling that something strange happened to me up on Cross Mountain. She then told me that they had scheduled an operation to remove my right lung four days

after my return from Medjugorje. I asked her if she could ask the doctors to examine me one more time before I went into surgery. I also asked her to organize everything, if it was possible, when I got back to America.

Shortly after that, the doctor's secretary called me and said: "Mr. Boyle, we know that you are in Medjugorje, and we know why. That is really great, but you have cancer, and it's not going to go away all by itself, believe me. I assure you that you need this operation." Arthur Boyle told his story.

He arrived home in America convinced that he was healed. "God healed me. I am healed in my heart. I am spiritually healed. All that was rotten and unhealthy in me, I got rid of it in Confession in Medjugorje." he repeated.

He then went to his doctor who showed him the old and new CAT scans. "He [the doctor] told me to wait outside for five minutes, then he called me into his office. He was scratching his beard, while looking stunned. He concluded that the cancer had just disappeared, that it was gone. Amen.





Tell others about this monthly Newsletter. Let the Light shine in the darkness to guide people to Jesus.

The International Catholic Family Newsletter Is Published Monthly

Our mission statement is to motivate people to pray and to be Christian examples in their work, home and with others, for those needing the Light in a world of Darkness.



The Rosary is the 'weapon' for these times. - Padre Pio

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