

HIS LOVE AND COMPASSION FOR US ALL

I heard about *MIR* on *Radju Marija* and went to the prayer meeting in August 2005. It was my first experience to this new outreach of the Word of God. The words 'His love and compassion for us all' kept coming back to my mind till the next *MIR* meeting. In the same month, August 2005 I started to attend to Fr Elija's liberation mass as well. My thirst to hear the Word of God kept getting stronger.

I joined the packed church filled with people whose faces expressed the thirst for something, missing in our life. I experienced God and the Virgin Mary in a new dimension which I never experienced before and was filled with unexplainable energy. I cried all through the time (and still do) with joy of finding Someone who understands me, who knows my thoughts and what I go through in life, all the good and maybe bad examples I was for others, including to my family, all the ups and downs of my life. How wonderful it felt to know that there is You Almighty God who is always patient to listen to my worries...and joys! The priests plead to us to ask for the Virgin Mary's intercession to help us come closer to Her Son Jesus. She wants us to appreciate all His love for us. That is why she is appearing in so many places. Convert to Jesus! He has so much to give us - eternal life!

My husband told me he was coming for me at the end of this first meeting, but when I met him at the back of the church, he said he was there much earlier and he had tears in his eyes as well, tears of heavenly joy. Everyone is moved during these meetings. People are crying out for something more in life and *MIR* is one of God's revelations that is making up for the void and apathy... as soon as we open our hearts to God.

These meetings open the gateway to a new perception in our life. I was working in a new job for a month, after long years looking after the family as a housewife. After this first meeting my life changed inside out: I started to read the bible and went to confession. That week I cannot forget going to Sunday mass and hear the homily from our Parish Priest saying everybody is giving so much importance to money, all this emphasis to work and less priority to our loved ones and our home for what? To have more money to buy a yacht to show off, to buy luxuries that we can easily stay without etc. and suddenly I felt really guilty... and the day after I quitted the job.

I started to go to mass everyday and everytime I hear the priests saying after the reading of the gospel "with the teaching of the gospel we clear ourselves of our guilt", it always impresses me. I joined a prayer group and my relation with God became closer! The peak of my conversion was the pilgrimage to Medjugorje.

My character started to change too: I am more conscious of others' needs, I am cautious of what I say, act or do, I am calm, happy and I cannot keep all this to myself. I tell everyone to read the bible, starting from the New Testament to really become aware what a perfect character Christ has and that is why He wants us to be like Him - try to make a perfect world - the right step to heaven.

Great blessings await us from fasting, reciting the Rosary, going to confession, participating in Mass and receiving the Holy Eucharist. The Ten Commandments are a heavenly guide to a mature mind and a body that deserves to be treated with respect and dignity - It is the tabernacle of Our Lord. Religion gives us oxygen to breathe in this material world that preaches immediate satisfaction - but which is momentarily. The happiness that God gives us is forever and incomparable!

The biggest hurdle of the repentant is confession, at least that was mine: As soon as Satan realises our intention to convert, he invades us with guilt, shame and inflates our sins to monstrosity, so that we keep back from going to confession. But as I prayed for help from God and the Virgin Mary, I picked up courage and confessed. As soon as I was forgiven of my sins I realised how silly I was to take so long to make peace with God. How He welcomes us with open arms. He knows our weakness and He knows how our enemy makes all efforts to keep us away from all this love and peace of mind.

You cannot imagine what you are losing when you are away from God: Your concentration becomes Him and slowly but surely you become like Him. You notice the world around you changes too, you see it calmer, incredibly tolerant to your new routine! This is surely the result of your prayers. The more you pray, the more you receive BUT...always according to God's will.

My eyes opened and realised that my home needed a thorough spring cleaning from CD's, books, DVD's, clothes, certain TV programmes, even pictures, which resulted through years of accumulating relativism. I became conscious how many hours I wasted instead of visiting Him. How much help there was ready for me in my problems and worries. How proud I was before, to think I could manage my life and my family's alone. There was always God around me, waiting for the right time to 'knock' me conscious to His path.

Now I thank God for *Radju Marija*, my parents, family, friends and the people He met/meets me with, for now I know He was always guiding me to take the right decisions; only I did not always choose them and had to learn through my mistakes.

Thank You God for waiting all this time for me to love you in return. Now, with the help of the Holy Spirit, I promise to radiate this love and Your Word to everyone You meet me with. I am never alone when I am close to You. Holy Spirit bless the Pope, the priests and fill them with courage, perseverance, knowledge and health to continue guiding us to You. Thank You God!

Please God do not permit me again, to put You in second place in my list of priorities!

I cannot imagine myself writing this, a year and a half ago!

Peace !

Rosanna Debono
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