



Medjugorje Irish Centre News Letter

JANUARY 2016



*Celebrating the
Epiphany in
Medjugorje
2016*



Welcome to the Medjugorje Irish Centre's monthly Newsletter

Each month we gather together stories and events taking place in Medjugorje and the surrounding area to help people keep in touch with this special place.

January 2016

Medjugorje in January starts off with a bang. At the

stroke of midnight, all across the village, local people let off an amazing array of fireworks to mark the New Year.

The wonderful thing about this is that there is no central organisation as each family appears to set off fireworks on their own.

Seemingly chaotic, the display is beautiful and if you can get high enough you can see the fireworks displays from the surrounding villages across the horizon.



January weather has been quite good with dry clear days with only a little light rain. At night its quite cold with temperatures dropping well below freezing with a frosty start to the mornings.

Events taking place in Medjugorje



Epiphany in Medjugorje

The Feast of the Epiphany was celebrated in Medjugorje on Wednesday 6th January. Along with local parishioners there were pilgrims from Spain, Italy, France, USA and Korea. There were four Masses in Croatian celebrated along with masses in Italian, French, English and Korean.

The Anniversary of the solemn blessing of Medjugorje parish Church

This year marks the 47th Anniversary since the Church of St. James was built and solemnly blessed. The Parish was founded in 1892 and its first Church was completed in 1897. The original Church building was built on unstable ground and slowly sank. Today's Church began construction in 1934 and was completed in 1969.



The entrance to the Old Church grounds directly opposite St. James Church

14th Anniversary of Fr. Leonard Orec



On Thursday 21st January the parish of Medjugorje commemorated the fourteenth anniversary of the death of former Medjugorje parish priest and the founder of the religious / humanitarian organisation "Medjugorje - Mir", Fr. Leonard Orec (born in Gradac 1928 - died in Zagreb 2002).

Fr. Leonard served in Medjugorje from 1988 to 1991 during which time he served as Parish Priest for over a year.

In 1992 he established "Medjugorje - Mir" which is still currently active.

Since 1997 Fr. Leonard was active in the General Curia of the Franciscan Order in Split until 2001 when he became seriously ill.

MEDJUGORJE IN PICTURES



WINTER WEATHER IN MEDJUGORJE IS GENERALLY MILD DURING THE DAY GIVING PERFECT CONDITIONS FOR CLIMBING APPARITION HILL.

THIS PARTICULAR GROUP CAME FROM ITALY AND WERE LEAD BY LOCAL GUIDES WHO STOPPED TO PRAY AT EACH MYSTERY OF THE ROSARY.

IN OTHER NEWS

Medjugorje Nativity Scene in front of St. James Church

Each year in Medjugorje just before Christmas, the parish begins construction of a replica Bethlehem in the area in front of St. James Church.

Originally quite modest, this has grown to resemble a small town square area with the focal point being the stable where the baby Jesus was born.

The Parish holds a Christmas ceremony to celebrate the birth of Christ by re enacting the Nativity story.



Just for fun

An American tourist in Dublin asks a local citizen:

"Is Irish whiskey REALLY strong?"

The Irishman answered:

"Aye, it's very strong, last Saturday night after only 2 Irish whiskeys, I went to 7am Mass."

"What's so unique about that," the American inquired.

The Irishman replied: "I'm Jewish!"

Learn a little Croatian

To say nice to meet you
"Drago mi je"

Our Lady's Message

December 25th 2015

"Dear children! Also today I am carrying my Son Jesus to you and from this embrace I am giving you His peace and a longing for Heaven. I am praying with you for peace and am calling you to be peace. I am blessing all of you with my motherly blessing of peace. Thank you for having responded to my call."

Mirijana's Message

January 2nd 2016

"Dear children, as a mother, I am joyful to be among you because I desire to speak anew about the words of my Son and of His love. I hope that you will accept me with the heart, because the words of my Son and His love are the only light and hope in the darkness of today. This is the only truth and you



Mirijana Dragicevic-Soldo is one of the original Visionaries and receives monthly messages

who will accept and live it will have pure and humble hearts. My Son loves those who are pure and humble. Pure and humble hearts bring to life the words of my Son, they live them, they spread them and they make it possible for everyone to hear them. The words of my Son bring back life to those who listen to them. The words of my Son bring back love and hope. Therefore, my beloved apostles, my children, live the words of my Son. Love each other as He loved you. Love each other in His name, in memory of Him. The Church is advancing and growing because of those who listen to the words of my Son; because of those who love; because of those who suffer and endure in silence and in the hope of final redemption. Therefore, my beloved children, may the words of my Son and His love be the first and the last thought of your day. Thank you."



Statue of the Risen Christ in Medjugorje



Viska the Visionary Praying



Evening service at the back of St. James Church

CHECK THE CALENDAR 2016

2nd February

2nd of the month Apparition

10th February

The beginning of Lent

**29th February
- 4th March**

23rd International Meeting for Organisers of Pilgrimages, Leaders of Peace Centres and Medjugorje Prayer and Charity Groups

18 March

Mirjana the Visionary's Birthday

25 March

Good Friday and 25th of the month Apparition

27 March

Easter Sunday and the first Aer Lingus flight from Dublin into Dubrovnik in 2016

Reminder: Book your flights early to get a good price and we'll pick you up at the airport

PREVIOUS DRAW WINNERS



Medjugorje Irish Centre Club Draw



TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE

1. SEND US IN A PICTURE OF YOURSELF
2. THIS PICTURE WILL APPEAR ON OUR WEBSITE AND ON FACEBOOK
3. YOU CAN COME ANY TIME EXCEPT YOUTH FESTIVAL AND ANNIVERSARY WEEK
4. THE PRIZE IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR

January's Winner is
Fidelma Mallen
Co. Kildare

NI / UK: 028 8224 1888
IRELAND: 00353 1 443 4510
reservations@med-irishcentre.com
www.med-irishcentre.com

MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE CLUB

Club Rules and Benefits:

Any Flight Any Time:

- Even if traveling alone, club members get a guaranteed transport price
- It only applies to club members staying their entire time in Medjugorje with the Irish Centre
- To get the guaranteed price members must book return transport at the same time

Monthly Draw:

- For Club members only
- Monthly draw to win one week's all included package trip to Medjugorje for one person.
- This includes 7 nights B&B, airport transport and flight (up to €300 flight value).
- Winners can claim their prize at any time within a 1 year period. i.e. the winner of March 2016 can claim their prize anytime up to and including March 2017.
- The only exceptions are dates occurring during Anniversary Week or Youth Festival.
- The winner can also choose to delegate their prize to a single person of their choice.
- To claim their prize the winner must send in a picture of themselves

Monthly Newsletter:

- Monthly newsletter with updates from Medjugorje
- Stories of interest
- Upcoming events
- Pilgrimage Information

Special Offers:

- Special discounts on selected dates for club members only



Club membership fee: €12 for 1 year's membership.

MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE PILGRIMAGES 2016



FANTASTIC ACCOMMODATION

GUARANTEED
AIRPORT COLLECTION WHEN STAYING WITH
US

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MONTHLY DRAW TO WIN A TRIP TO
MEDJUGORJE

7 Nights B&B
4 Star Apartments

Club Membership

Dubrovnik or Split
Transfer

€279

and from
Zadar

€319

Any Flight - Any Time



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