

Reflection of Message, 25. June 2010

LIVE MY MESSAGES WITH JOY

This month's message begins with a call to all **'live my messages with joy.'** For me personally, the first message that brings us all joy is the presence of Mary herself. Mary with the Visionaries, Mary with Her priests, Mary with all of her children, just as she was with the early church joined in continuous prayer awaiting the promised gift of the Spirit.

Yes, to be close to Mary, and to have Mary close to us, as a loving Mother who loves us with immeasurable love and whose only desire is to lead us all closer to her Son, this is Mary's greatest joy, as it was for John the beloved disciple, 'to hear that my children are living according to the truth.' 3 Jn,4,

The messages of Mary contain certain or important aspects of the truths of our faith. Through **'faith'** comes, **'conversion,'** and through conversion, **'peace.'** true peace and joy for the heart.

CLOSER TO MY SON

Mary who forever lives close to her Son, who dwells within his heart, desires that through living her messages we draw close to her Son. The apostle James put it this way, **'Come close to God and God will come close to you.'** Jas 4:8

When we ponder the life of Jesus and Mary in the gospels we see that they are both resolute, unshakable, relentless in their pursuit of God's will, of doing his work. For the sake of the joy in the future Jesus, disregarded the shamefulness of the cross. He was resolute and so too was Mary who stood there at the foot of the cross. What joy must have filled her whole being, when, on that third day, she saw her Son in his glorious resurrected body shining with such love and splendour.

We all need that resolute spirit that we see in both Jesus and Mary if we are to follow her Son not at a distance through fear, timidity, selfishness but close to the very one who has called each one by name to, **'Come follow me'**.

I BLESS YOU ALL AND LOVE YOU WITH IMMEASURABLE LOVE

Mary always does what her Son asked his disciples to do, to bless and never curse anyone. Mary always causes a wave of blessings to ascend from the hearts and lips of God's people. This we see when she visits her cousin St Elizabeth, **'Blessed'** is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.' Lk:1:45 and after his power of speech returned Zechariah began his prophecy with the words **'Blessed'** be the Lord the God of Israel.'

It is with joy we welcome into the home of our hearts the gift of Mary and with God's grace and her guidance live her messages so as to be closer to her Son and know that this is the deepest desire in the heart of Mary to lead us to her Son and find in Him true peace and joy.

Just as there is no limit's to how much God loves us Mary too loves each one of us with immeasurable love. So let us thank God for such love and pray that we all maybe made worthy to know that love forever through a life of prayer and love the sign of our conversion, the sign of our surrender to God of ourselves and all we possess so that it is God who is in control of our lives and not ourselves or anyone else or anything that is passing.

Lord, with joy we welcome the words of Mary who desires to lead us all to you. May we all listen to you, to your Spirit, like Mary did and so make your call and choice of us a permanent experience.

We pray for those who may have wander far from your love and the love of Mary, that once again by the help of your grace they may find their way back home to your Son, so that where life was once lost may now be found again in Jesus. Where the light of grace was extinguished through sin and evil, shine once again ever brighter like Jesus Himself the Morning Star, and where peace was lost or destroyed through selfishness and quarrels be bestowed and rest upon all people of goodwill, and good faith.

I wish you all every joy and blessing in the heart of Jesus and Mary.

Fr Ciaran