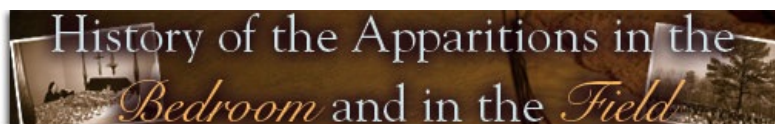

What Happened on August 6, 2005: Caritas Silver Jubilee



August 6, 2005, Saturday

The Five Days of Prayer at Caritas with Our Lady were officially over. However, in a few days a chartered flight would be leaving from Birmingham with 200 pilgrims for a pilgrimage in Medjugorje for Our Lady's feast of the Assumption. BVM/Caritas of Birmingham organized a pilgrimage entitled, "Birth to Assumption" Pilgrimage and many pilgrims who signed up for the charter flight came to Birmingham early to attend the apparitions of Marija at Caritas. Marija and her family, along with most of the Caritas community would also be on the flight. Our Lady continued to appear in the Bedroom in the evenings during these last days of Her apparitions at Caritas. On August 6, 2005, Marija said: "She come, She pray over us, and She go. Tomorrow "Same time, same place."

For weeks, even months, after this event had ended we received amazing testimonies of the graces received by the pilgrims, such as the following one from Franklin, Tennessee:

August 28, 2005

Dear Friends of Caritas,

It is thundering outside as I write this letter, and I am always reminded of THE STORM on August 5th now. I am a convert to the Catholic faith and never have understood why Catholics are so crazy about Mary. For years it just kind of irritated me and then slowly I began to want to know Her too. But how? I occasionally prayed the Rosary and read the Medjugorje book by Wayne Weible. So

now I know She is special, but still felt like I'm on the outside looking in.

Then I made the trip to Caritas a few weeks ago with four other women who love Our Lady. What a beautiful ride from Nashville—praying the Rosary together and sharing stories about Mary. I was blessed to be with each one of these ladies! Still, I longed to know the Blessed Mother for myself! The first day of being at the Field for the Rosary and apparition was hot, sweaty and long. I felt nothing and was disappointed that the Virgin Mary had been there and I was oblivious. The next day, I enjoyed our time in the Field so much more! I knew what to expect and loved the Rosary and apparition. Then the Question & Answer time with Marija was amazing. I learned so much and hung on every word! Then when we returned to the Field and saw the beautiful nativity with the candles, the flowers—Wow! That evening was wonderful and I felt myself growing closer to Our Lady.

August 5th...what can I say? I couldn't wait to go to the Field that afternoon. It was another hot, sunny day, so our rain gear was left in the car! (Oops!) As the sky darkened and the wind blew, it felt so refreshing! Then came the thunder, lightning, rain and hail. It was exhilarating! I never felt scared—it was the weirdest thing! I knew Mary was with us and felt protected. As it turns out, we all felt an incredible peace. As we drove away that night, we all were amazed at our joy and marveled at the calm we felt during such a terrible storm! We felt that satan was trying to ruin the beautiful birthday gathering, but he must have been disappointed because everyone stayed, continued to pray and actually knew our faith was being strengthened!

We could not believe our eyes when we were driving back to the hotel—power lines down, tree branches and debris scattered on the ground—looked like satan was mad! What an incredible night. One of the women with our group was also celebrating her birthday on August 5, and she was so excited to share it with Our Lady!

On our drive home to Nashville, we prayed the Patriotic Rosary and laughed and talked about our amazing days at Caritas. All of us grew closer to the Lord and

Our Lady, even me, the “Doubting Thomas” of the group! As if I needed any more blessings, still another was to come. When I got home, I pulled out my Rosary made of rosewood that I’ve had for 12 years. When I received it as a gift years ago, it smelled of roses. The aroma faded and eventually disappeared. I used that Rosary at the Field on August 5th. When I got it out the evening of the 6th, I was stunned when I smelled the scent of ROSES! After years of having NO SCENT left, my beautiful Rosary smelled of roses once again, after being with the Virgin Mary on Her birthday!!! What an amazing ending and gift to me from my new-found Mother, Mary. Thank you all for all of your hard work and preparation for August 1-5th!

Franklin, Tennessee

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