

Fr. Gobbi's International Retreat

Collevaenza, Italy-2006

Having just returned from Medjugorje's 25th Anniversary and Fr. Gobbi's Intn'l Retreat I want to share with you this point that was articulated so well by Fr. Michael Gaughran SSC, who is the director for the Marian Movement of Priests (MMP) in England; a point that many of us are aware of ... but his presentation helps serve the TRUTH!

The Renewed Church

"Let us remember that the difficulties in the Church began with the priests: false teaching, lack of discipline, abandonment of the Holy Father, lack of prayer and so on. These things did not begin with the faithful people, but with the terrible attack of Satan on the priests, who lead many astray. In rebuilding the Church, our Mother seeks to achieve her purpose through the priests, because that is the order established by her Son. They were appointed to be shepherds of the flock, and must act as such. To restore this order, our Mother seeks to heal and sanctify the hearts of priests, who are for her, sons of a very special predilection. How does she do it? By giving them her own Immaculate Heart, not only as a Model but also, for those who will accept it in consecration, as a real, living gift. For this, she has established her Marian Movement of Priests." Fr. Michael then ends with the quote of Our Lady #575, 27th June 1996.

Another interesting point was in a discussion I had with the French Director of the MMP on the bus to Rome's airport. He said that Our Lady once told Fr. Gobbi that "the Rule of a New Religious Order I entrusted to the LaSalette Visionary Melanie, of being Apostles of the Last Times, was ignored by the Bishop. Having established his own Rule, and her initial request not having been accomplished, she said she had to form the Marian Movement of Priests". She often refers to the priests and laity as "Apostles of these Last Times".

If you have read Wisdom's Fool, a biography of St. Fr. Louis Marie DuMontfort, one discovers the tremendous grace and protection Our Lady gives to those who consecrate themselves to Her Immaculate Heart! For as such an act gives the light and life of Jesus to the world, it is also intensely despised by those operating with a world view! St. Louis was kicked out of one diocese after another throughout France, but his work and mission of converting souls to Christ through Mary went on and on!!!

Finally, the 25th Anniversary of Our Lady's Apparitions in Medjugorje was a wonderful moment! The group had the opportunity to be present with Ivan during his apparition on Apparition Hill last Friday night! We were also blessed to have Colleen Willard stay with us for a few days before her trip to Ireland where she was invited to share her testimony of her healing in Medjugore from an inoperable brain tumor over 2 years ago. Our 34 Pilgrims were touched in many and varied ways to assist them in their own change of heart (conversion), unique to each, and we are so grateful for Our Lady's on-going presence there!!!