

From the Blue Book 'Abandon yourselves totally to Me'

(P52 -)

'I am beautiful because I love. If you want to be beautiful, love'

I am going to explain to you, a bit, the position of the visionaries: All five visionaries still have the apparitions. Mirjana had these apparitions on her birthday; I spoke to her last Sunday, 17, on the day before her birthday: she said that at Christmas she had half an hour's apparition and Our Lady said She would speak to her but would not show herself. She told me that Our Lady had spoken to her at the end of February and also last Sunday for maybe twenty minutes, about atheists, unbelievers and concerning the secrets and she had prayed with Her for these intentions. And on this day, February 28, Our Lady promised she would appear to her twice: on her birthday and on the feast of St. Joseph, that is on the day after. So on the following day, Wednesday, I rang her up and she told me that she had had the apparitions, but she could not tell me more over the 'phone. She cannot reveal the details or any further information yet. Anyway, we can say that Mirjana has a special duty towards unbelievers and that Our Lady always asks her to pray a lot for atheists, for unbelievers.

Our Lady is still telling Vicka the story of Her life. Vicka writes everything down but it cannot be checked because Our Lady asked her not to show it to anybody until she has finished everything. Also, Our Lady is telling Ivanka the problems of the Church and of the world, but nothing can be revealed yet. Marija, Ivan and Jacov pray with Our Lady and She gives the messages through Marija. Now I am going to say something about Vicka's health: when you ask her how she is, she says 'fine'. But this must be understood as meaning: Vicka is ill, but she bears her suffering and illness with total abandonment and even with joy. And this I believe is a very important message for us all. The visionaries have their own sufferings and they bear them; for instance Vicka lets none of the other visionaries ask Our Lady about her health, instead she accepts her condition and is resigned to it. Bishop Franic told me once, that in his opinion, a great standard of genuineness of the apparitions can be measured by how the visionaries speak of their sufferings, as they would about health, because only Our Lord can carry a person near the Cross or to the Cross with love, patience and joy.

Vicka has got a cyst between her brain and cerebellum and with the changing of the weather she falls into a state which prevents her from communicating with anybody, even for three, four or ten hours. Vicka is convinced that all this has been sent by Our Lady and therefore I am sure Vicka has accepted the suffering from Our Lady, but nobody knows the reason and she does not want to reveal it.

At the end of January (31st January) Our Lady gave a message in which She asked us all to open ourselves to God as flowers do in the springtime. , to long for Our Lord as flowers long for the sun. On 21st February She said: *"Dear children, day after day I am inviting you to pray, to renew your lives, but if you are not willing to follow me, I am not going to give any more messages. But during this Lent you can be renewed. I am inviting you."* This was the message at the beginning of Lent.

I myself was a little afraid. I said to myself: if Our Lady is not going to speak any more, to give any further messages, it will be very sad. On the following Thursday (28th February) She spoke and gave a most beautiful message: *"Dear children, I am inviting you to live the words: 'I love God'. Dear children, by loving you can receive anything, even things that seem impossible to you. Our Lord wants you to belong to Him entirely, and so do I. I thank you because you have responded to my call."* On Thursday (14th March) She said: *"Dear children, you all have experienced evil and good, light and darkness in your lives. Our Lord gives the power and the strength of discerning good from evil; I invite you to the light which you should*

bring to all who are in darkness. Day by day, many people who are in darkness come to you. Dear children, give them light."

Yesterday (21st March) She gave this message: *"I am going to give you my messages also in future and therefore, for this reason, I invite you: accept and live my messages. Dear children, I love you. This Parish which I have chosen in a special way is very dear to me, dearer than all the other places where I have appeared or where Our Lord has sent me. Therefore, listen and accept my messages. Again I thank you for listening to my call."*

Our Lady speaks in this way, giving short messages like impulses and these messages are always like a school Our Lady wants to teach us and She gives us a message every Thursday. However, She speaks to the visionaries every evening, but from our point of view there is nothing special with regard to words. Every apparition is a great message, which is: *"I am with you."* When She shows herself to the visionaries, the message for us all is: *"I am with you."* One day a group came, I do not know from where; there were about twenty-five children. I invited Marija to speak to them a little and I said to the grown-ups: 'please be silent so that the little ones can ask questions.' They were very interesting questions. A child asked: 'Does Our come when it rains ?' Marija replied: 'Yes, of course She comes.' 'So is She wet when it rains ?' Marija laughed and said: "No, no She is not.' And I added: 'Our Lady does not only come when it is sunny in our hearts, but even when it is raining, even when we are in trouble. We are the ones who sometimes come only when it is sunny. Our Lady is always with us. Do not wait for the rain, but be always with Our Lady.'

Every time Our Lady appears there is a message. And this is a reason you can call theological, pedagogical-educational.

Why do so many people feel a little annoyed ? Why has Our Lady been appearing for such a long time ? I say I would never have ventured to hope for such a situation as this. Impossible. And the day after tomorrow it will be forty-five months since the visionaries first saw Our Lady. Most people believe and accept. Just a few say they are hallucinations. Then they say that it is perhaps some other kind of illness, but they refuse to see this, they cannot see all that is happening.

And the visionaries have been through a lot of difficult situations. They always say: 'We are with Our Lady, we can see Our Lady.' When somebody asks why is She appearing for such a long time ? I say I do not know. But I am sure it is real.

Maybe you have heard that some doctors from France together with Laurentin made some further experiments at the end of December; for instance, on their sight and it can be said that manipulation, hallucination or suggestion are absolutely impossible. The reaction comes at a fifth of a second and this cannot be explained unless we accept the facts as the visionaries explain it: 'When we begin to pray we can see a light and we kneel down.' I would say that this goes beyond science; it is incapable of explaining it. They say it is inexplicable. Then faith has to look for an answer. You must always jump to faith. I spoke to a German, who said to me: 'I did not come to see anything and I do not care what happens with the visionaries. Just the fact that something like this is possible has appealed to me strongly, I am living a new life.' A month ago, Our Lady appeared to little Jelena who asked Her: 'My Lady, why are you so beautiful ?' The answer was: *"I am beautiful because I love. I you want to become beautiful, love and you will not need the mirror so much."* Our Lady speaks on a child's level.

I say: look, we all have got a chance to become beautiful in our lives if there is love. This works for us all, either as our greatest chance or our greatest judgement. If Our Lady says: *"You do not know how to love yet"*, this is the very thing we should be upset about.

All the world's problems and those in our lives come because we do not know how to love, not because we have not got as much money as we need or anything of the sort. Problems come when we do not love. Love is another word for conversion. Nobody can say: 'I was converted yesterday'. Conversion is a process and nobody can say: 'I loved yesterday.' A child is not interested in yesterday, he wants to be loved by his mother, today.

This is a very important thing, therefore, when Our Lady invites us to prayer, fasting and love.

(Fr. Slavko Barbaric - 22nd March, 1985)