

## 30th Anniversary of the alleged apparitions of Medjugorje

June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 - Thursday (eve of the apparitions)  
Saint Paul the Apostle Church, Brookville, NY  
7pm – Rosary, 7:30pm – Mass  
Refreshments to follow

## ALL ARE WELCOME!



Betania XIII meetings are presently being held on the 3rd Friday of the month at St. Mary's Church 110 Bryant Avenue Roslyn, NY – 7:45pm Mass or Benediction (when possible) and Rosary

Update Session on Betania XIII and Refreshments Contact: Deacon Ed Case – 516.621.1172 or Joan & Tony Grau 516.801.1035 Weather Permitting



Please send your donations & prayer requests to:

### Our Mother Queen of Peace

PO Box 117, Glenwood Landing, NY 11547

Prayer Requests do not require a stipend.

We love to pray for you.

Your prayers and your financial support make you a peacemaker.

\$5  \$10  \$20  \$50  \$100  Other

## Medjugorje Pilgrimages

206 Tours – Call 631.361.4644

## Our Mother's Monthly Message

516-887-MARY

THIS NEWSLETTER MAY BE REPRINTED IN PART OR WHOLE WITHOUT PERMISSION.

"If you would abandon yourselves to me, you will not even feel the passage from this life to the next life. You will begin to live the life of Heaven from this earth." -BVM 1986

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## Our Mother Queen of Peace Times

PO Box 117, Glenwood Landing, NY 11547

**First Class Mail**



## First Saturday is Parish Day:

Lindenhurst. Our Lady of Perpetual Help, starts 7:40am  
Hicksville, Our Lady of Mercy, starts 7:40 AM.  
Center Moriches, St. John the Evangelist, starts 7:40am  
Glen Cove, St. Patrick, starts 8:40 AM  
Manhasset, St. Mary's, starts 8:00 AM  
Glen Cove, St. Rocco's, starts 7:15 AM  
Shoreham, St. Mark's, starts 9:00AM followed by Rosary

"In The End, My  
Immaculate Heart  
Will Triumph!"  
Fatima 1917

# Our Mother Queen of Peace Times

## Betania XIII

Volume 24 No. 206

February - March 2011

Pray the Rosary

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*Maria Esperanza,  
Servant of God &  
Fino - St. Patrick's, NYC*

One of my interests over the past 40 years has been investigating Marian apparitions and the life of Our Blessed Mother. For me, meeting a real live visionary from a church-approved site where Our Holy Mother appeared is a very big deal.

#### THE CONFERENCE

In November 1993 a friend of mine, Sister Margaret Sims from Betania II in Massachusetts, hosted a Marian conference in Lowell, Massachusetts.

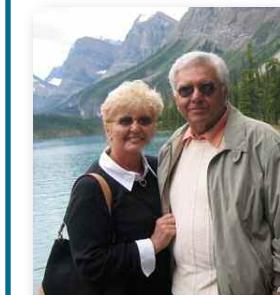
The key speaker at the conference was Maria Esperanza, the seer from the *church-approved site, "Betania,"* near Caracas, Venezuela. This was an opportunity for me to see and hear what a visionary from an approved site had to say. I have entertained a few *alleged* seers from Medjugorje and Australia in my home. I have met others from the Bronx, Ohio, Maryland, Russia and Italy. These seers *are not* from apparition sites that have been approved by the church *nor* have they been condemned!

I drove from Long Island, New York to Lowell, Massachusetts, thinking that this would be like visiting St. Bernadette of Lourdes, the children from Fatima, Juan Diego from Guadalupe, Mexico or even St. Catherine Laboure of the Miraculous Medal or other saints.

When I arrived in Lowell and attended the conference, I listened very attentively to what Maria Esperanza had to say

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## MARIA ESPERANZA, SERVANT OF GOD & JOAN'S CANCER



Testimony by her husband, Dr. Anthony Ciuffo

#### Original Diagnosis: Carcinoma with Serous and Clear Cells

I will try to briefly relate the series of events leading up to what we pray is the final chapter to my wife, Joan's illness. We feel that due to deep prayer to Maria Esperanza, Servant of God, to intercede to Jesus and Our Heavenly Father to lift Joan from the depths of such a serious illness, a terrible event has become an amazing event.

May I preface this article by saying that I intend to relate the facts as they actually occurred and you can draw your own conclusions.

Joan had a battery of tests and a biopsy. On May 26, 2010 (my birthday), we received a telephone call from the doctor's office asking us to come to her office at 8:30 pm that evening to discuss the results of the biopsy. I recall thinking this was not good. Our children were over to celebrate my birthday and left early so we could keep the appointment. When we got to the office, the doctor clearly and bluntly started the conversation as follows: "I am afraid I have bad news. You have cancer of the uterus, and it is not the typical cancer which 85% of the affected women get. It is rather rare; only about 15% of the patients get this type. It is very

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## MESSAGES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MEDJUGORJE

**Message of February 25, 2011** "Dear children! Nature is awakening and on the trees the first buds are seen which will bring most beautiful flowers and fruit. I desire that you also, little children, work on your conversion and that you be those who witness with their life, so that your example may be a sign and an incentive for conversion to others. I am with you and before my Son, Jesus, I intercede for your conversion. Thank you for having responded to my call."

**Message of March 25, 2011** "Dear children! In a special way today I desire to call you to conversion. As of today, may new life begin in your heart. Children, I desire to see your 'yes', and may your life be a joyful living of God's will at every moment of your life. In a special way today, I bless you with my motherly blessing of peace, love and unity in my heart and in the heart of my Son Jesus. Thank you for having responded to my call."

*How it all Began: continued from Page 1*

through an interpreter. Remember, Maria had not yet been given the church title, Servant of God. Many speakers gave witness to experiencing alleged phenomena that surrounded the life of Maria. I remember one witness, a non-believing physician, was soon converted after meeting Maria. He is now the coordinator of Betania VII in Lima, Peru. After Maria spoke, she made her way through the auditorium which was filled to capacity. She was walking slowly through the crowd on the other side of the auditorium from where I stood. Suddenly she changed direction and came to where



Maria's Husband  
Geo Bianchini,  
Maria Esperanza & Fino -  
Shrine of Mother Cabrini

Suddenly, and to my bewilderment, Maria stood right in front of me and her eyes met mine. She literally studied me and then asked Sister Margaret to introduce me to her. That was it - she then walked away. We never exchanged one word! Years later, Carlos Marrero Bornn who is married to Maria Coromoto, one of Maria Esperanza's daughters, explained to me that Maria does this often. What she is really doing is "scanning you." She reads you and your heart. When I heard this, I could only think that God must have interceded for me by putting a purifying filter system between Maria Esperanza and me. The following morning I returned to Long Island.

#### THE PHONE CALL

Two days later I received a phone call from the family of Maria. They said Maria would like me to arrange a meeting with the people of Long Island so she might deliver her message of peace, family unity and holiness with special attention to youth. At the same time, she proposed to bring the Angelic Betania Choir for our enjoyment. I had about four

days to make the arrangements. ***Maria had visited Long Island several times in the past and had a special love for Long Island.***

I made many phone calls and then called Father Arthur Anderson at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Brookville, N.Y. (*he is now retired*). In the past Father had helped me bring Ivan, the seer from Medjugorje, to speak at St. Paul's and now I was asking him for another favor. He was so kind and gracious with his approval and consent.

We had no time to advertise, so I networked by telephone through the members of Our Mother Queen of Peace. The special day arrived in November 1993 and the church was filled to capacity. Some of you who are reading this may have been there. That evening many people witnessed the alleged phenomenon which is not unusual when Maria Esperanza visits an area. The aroma of roses was noticed by many who attended; and yet others didn't detect it. In the November 2010 issue of our newsletter, we printed a witness experience of a mother and the **alleged** miracle birth of her baby girl after Maria blessed her on that evening.

[www.OurMotherQueenofPeace.com](http://www.OurMotherQueenofPeace.com)

#### A SECOND PHONE CALL

The following day I received a phone call from a family member of Maria Esperanza with the following request: "Fino, could you spend the day with Maria and her family tomorrow?" Of course I said "Yes!" I was at their hotel in NYC the following morning.

That whole day Maria either held my hand or we were arm and arm as we visited St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Shrine of Mother Cabrini; finally the whole family and I went to a New York City restaurant for dinner.

The picture at the beginning of this article is of Maria giving me advice outside St. Patrick's Cathedral, as she did all that day. What she was saying here was, "*Fino, you must keep one foot in heaven and one foot on earth. If you try to keep both feet in heaven you will become a fanatic and that is not good.*" I answered Maria, "My problem is that I change feet." I do not know if Maria knew what I meant at the time but I am

sure she does now. It was my way of saying at times both my feet hit the earth and I become too worldly and it is confession time.

After visiting Mother Cabrini's Shrine we proceeded to dinner at a restaurant in New York City. (*Maria had a strong devotion to Mother Cabrini. That is a whole story in itself.*) It would take too many pages to relate all that happened that day, including all that happened at dinner that evening.

#### THE DINNER

Counting family members and myself, we were about twenty people for dinner. Before dinner we had a meeting with another couple at the dinner table. They were very influential people who promoted celebrity appearances for New York City's clubs and theatres. They offered to present Maria and the Betania Choir at Radio City Music Hall. After they discussed this proposition with Maria and her husband, Geo, Maria looked at me and said, "Fino, what do you think?" I said, "Maria, if you do this you will lose all credibility." My thinking was that by turning her heavenly mission into a means of obtaining financial gain, she would be looked at with disdain, even if the money was for a good cause. Maria looked at me, smiled and said, "That is why you are one of my spiritual sons."

***(At the time I had no idea what this adoption meant.)***

Only last year, 17 years later, when I retold the story to Maria Esperanza's daughter, Maria Coromoto, did I find out what really happened. Maria Coromoto explained to me, "My mother was **not** asking you for advice, she was testing you." How naïve I am!! How could I give an alleged mystic and possible saint any advice? Humility is a never-ending experience, at least for me.

May I mention here that it is written in our bylaws: *The executive officers of Our Mother Queen of Peace – Betania XIII are not to receive financial payment for services.* I firmly believe money and spirituality do not and should not mix.

Much more happened that evening but what I have said thus far is sufficient for this occasion.

*How it all Began:  
To Be Continued In Our Next Issue*

*NMaria & Joan's cancer: continued from Page 1*

dangerous and it spreads quickly. It is hideous and unpredictable. You need to be operated on immediately. I set it up for Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and I have made appointments for you to see an oncologist and have additional tests done. The oncologist will also be in the operating room and will perform certain aspects of the surgery." She also said that Joan would need chemo and radiation after the operation.

Joan and I were bewildered and shocked at that moment. We decided to pray for assistance. We prayed to Maria Esperanza and to the Blessed Mother, asking them to intercede on our behalf. We also asked Jesus to intercede on our behalf with our Heavenly Father. Remembering that Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest," (Matthew 11:28), we resolved to accept whatever our Heavenly Father willed.

I prayed to Maria Esperanza and Jesus at 3:00am every morning. Joan was blessed by Father Timothy Byerley, Vice Postulator for the Beatification and Canonization of Maria Esperanza, with her relic. Joan was at peace with her situation due to the constant prayers and spirituality which surrounded her. She begged for Divine Mercy by praying, "Jesus, I trust in You."

At 6:00am on June 3, 2010, Joan and I drove to the hospital, feeling the peace and calmness of Jesus, feeling confident that all would be well. Because of the praying over Joan and all the prayers, we both had the peace of Jesus in our hearts and we were calm. Joan had a radical hysterectomy including uterus, cervix, tubes, and ovaries; 15 lymph nodes were removed, and a bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy was performed.

After the surgery, the two doctors came out, one at a time, and each said, "We cannot comment on how things look until we get the pathology report." This was a source for concern.

Joan handled the operation well, and I prayed for her to be okay, to have a speedy recovery and be free from pain. Two days after having such a radical operation, the hospital wanted to send Joan home. I objected and she was sent home on the third day. I know I prayed for a speedy recovery but this was too speedy.

After coming home I noticed that my brother had sent flowers and on the flowers was a beautiful decorative yellow butterfly. Remembering that Maria Esperanza had told her

family she would be near them and they would know that by the presence of a yellow butterfly, I called him and asked how he had come to send the butterfly. He said there was no special reason, he asked the florist to put an ornament on the top of the orchids and the florist said he had something really beautiful, a yellow butterfly. I told my daughter the story of Maria Esperanza and the yellow butterfly and she thought I was getting carried away.

My daughter asked me if I would go to the store while she stayed with Joan. I did, shopped for about an hour and came back. When I came back she said "You are not going to believe this, but I was talking on the phone to Joe, looking out of your window onto the patio, and on the top of the chair was a beautiful yellow butterfly. It stayed on the chair for a long time, and then gently flew away, toward my yard (she lives next door)." With the appearance of this yellow butterfly, along with other occurrences, as well as Father Tim's prayers, we were confident we were going to receive a good report.

The following Wednesday we went to see Joan's doctor. This time instead of saying she had bad news, she said, "I have very good news. While part of the tumor was the type of cancer originally diagnosed in the biopsy, a greater part of it favored the endometroid type of adenocarcinoma, which is the type of cancer that most women get. The tumor had spread slightly into the cervix, but they got it all out. The 15 lymph nodes and everything else tested negative and were clear of cancer. No chemo would be needed, just radiation. As insurance, we decided to go to Sloan-Kettering for another opinion. The doctors there took their own tests and sent all slides of the tumor to their own pathology, and they downgraded her to a 1B, because they felt the spread was less than originally stated. Joan had radiation treatments as a precaution and is now following up with check-ups every three months. No signs of cancer after the radiation. Praise Jesus! Thank you, Our Heavenly Father, Jesus, Our Blessed Mother, and Maria Esperanza, Servant of God!

Anthony F. Ciuffo, PhD  
Co-host with Dr. J. Palmer:  
**Listen up, Jesus is on the Air:** Saturday 10am  
WGBB1240 AM



Charles Hussey

**MEMORIAL TO CHARLES HUSSEY, S.F.O.  
The Guardian of Our Lady of Grace Statue  
for over 20 years.  
His devotion to Our Holy Mother  
was exemplary and inspiring.**

**February 9, 1948 - December 14, 2010**

Thank you, Charlie, from all Franciscans, Divine Will prayer groups  
and Our Mother Queen of Peace - Betania XIII



Our Lady of Grace

If you wish to be on our FREE mailing list call Gina Deluca, 516.676.1669