

# Green Tomatoes Journal 2<sup>nd</sup> Issue

Monday, July 11, 2022 “As long as you are green, you grow.”



Thank you for saying “yes” to my Green Tomatoes Community. A Christian is a disciple, a student, of Jesus Christ. I’m always learning and I love it! I hope sharing some thoughts and insights with you will help you continue to grow. This issue reflects my recent pilgrimage to Medjugorje.

A Scripture from my morning prayers jumped out at me today:

**I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect. (Rom 12.1-2)**

This is why I formed the Green Tomatoes community. Paul urges us, begs us to offer our bodies as a “living sacrifice.” At every Mass we hear, “Pray, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to the Almighty Father.” At every Mass, we perform our role within the priesthood of the baptized. With the ordained priest, we offer God the Father, the body, blood and soul and divinity of his only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. We also offer ourselves at the Offertory of the Mass and Jesus joins our humble offering with his one time sacrifice of Calvary. God totally gives us his love in his Son, Jesus Christ and in his Holy Spirit. There is no greater love than this. There is no greater sacrifice than the one Jesus offers to the Father on our behalf. Daily we should offer our total lives to God and bring that offering to every Mass we attend. Our offering is holy and pleasing to God, because Jesus joins our lives to his life, his death to our death. This is perfect spiritual worship. Paul urges us to be holy, not conformed to this age, this godless age of humanism, materialism, communism, and all the other “isms” that are not God, yet oppose God openly. You “renew your mind” by studying the Bible and the teachings of Jesus Christ, the Church Fathers and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We can study the lives of the saints and imitate their lives and live lives pleasing to God.

I asked Mirjana, one of the visionaries of Medjugorje: “How can I know God’s perfect will?” She answered “You put everything into God’s hands. You don’t pray for anything in particular. You leave everything to God. He knows your needs.” Later, a priest basically said that to love God totally and love your neighbor as yourself is God’s perfect will. Paul wrote that with a renewed mind, we can discern what is pleasing to God and what is his perfect will. So, keep your tomatoes “green,” keep growing in wisdom and knowledge of Jesus Christ. Love the Lord

God with all your mind, heart, soul and strength. That ought to get you to heaven, do you think?



We met with Mirjana and she told her story of how the visions with Mary began. Over 15 to 20 thousand people gathered outside all during the week I was there. Below: the view from Apparition Hill. Statue of Mary carried in Saturday night procession. “Risen Christ” bronze sculpture.



I am attaching my homily from yesterday “Love Your Neighbor” and also my pilgrimage power point presentation. I’m also attaching my flyer for my upcoming retreat “Medjugorje and the End Times.”

My website will have continued updates, including homilies and teachings.

Feel free to visit it: <https://holyspiritministriesatx.com/home-green-tomatoes>

Thanks for your precious time!

Until the next issue, I remain faithfully yours,

*Deacon Evan G Wittig*