

TO HAVE PEACE, GROW IN FAITH BY REMEMBERING TO TRUST THE HEAVENLY FATHER! As Joshua gazed out across the valley to the city, he reminisced across the centuries—buildings change, clothing changes, **but can man change?** Man fails to learn from the experiences of past generations. In spite of all the knowledge amassed through the ages, people would rather learn from their own limited experiences, so their responses and decisions to life's circumstances never change. Man has no memory of the past. Yet it is memory of past experiences that should shape our responses and decisions, which determine patterns of human growth. Is man doomed to invent ever more sophisticated technology, but never grow and comprehend how to control them and have peace? Joshua thought about his own place in the long-term plan of his Father, and about the complex course He laid out through which humanity would evolve—*grow in faith*. Often he felt alone without a family, but kept a happy attitude toward earthly life, looking to distant goals rather than immediate satisfactions, realizing that in spite of appearances, his Father's will would ultimately triumph. He was here for a purpose, designed by Him. At night he knelt by his bed, praying with an open heart to His Father, who was intimately involved in his life, controlling the circumstances, making the decisions. Sometimes Joshua disagreed with them, **but he was not afraid to trust His Father, abandoning himself completely to His will.**



MOSES BY MICHELANGELO

The next day Joshua was busy with more orders than usual to get out. When he finished, he walked to the local mill to buy a piece of cherry wood for his next job. Phil, the manager of the mill, liked Joshua and asked him what he needed. Joshua replied, "I need a cherry log about five feet long and twelve inches thick." Phil asked, "What are you going to make with a log that big?" Joshua said, "Some Jewish people from the synagogue asked if I would carve a figure of Moses for their social hall." Phil asked, "How are you going to get it back to your place?" Joshua replied, "I'll carry it." Phil said, "That's a heavy load. If you wait a while, I'll drop it off on my way home." Joshua said, "Thanks, but I'll be able to carry it." Joshua picked up the log, hoisted it over his shoulder and left. He rested halfway down the street and a man named Mike offered to help him carry it. Joshua said, "No thanks," but Mike tried to pick it up anyway but it was too heavy. He asked, "What are you going to do with it?" Joshua replied, "I am making a statue of Moses for the synagogue." Mike asked, "Are you Jewish?" Joshua answered, "My family was, a way back." Mike said, "I saw you in church last Sunday, I thought you were Catholic." Joshua said, "Yes, I am a Christian." Mike asked, "You mean you're a Jew and a Christian too?" Joshua responded, "Jesus was a Jew and a Christian, so were the apostles." This mystified Mike. The story spread throughout town that Joshua carried a 300-pound log!

Joshua took the log to his backyard and began carving it. He worked hard all day until he got hungry. He thought about the day when his mother and her relatives came looking for him, concerned about his health. Some gossips told her that he was pushing himself too hard. He had been *witnessing God's love, giving of himself* and had not taken timeout to eat. When she came looking for him, he said to the crowd, "Who are my mother and brothers?" Then he explained, "**They who do the will of my Heavenly Father, trusting in His love,** are my mother, brothers and sisters." Joshua was an ordinary person who radiated an enthusiasm for life. He was attractive and possessed a grace that was charming. If one **came to know him intimately**, all that seemed to pale beside the richness and depth of his personality. It was a rare person who **came to know** the real Joshua because most people do not have the ability to see beneath the surface or they cannot capture at one glance the many facets of his rich inner life.

CARD 109: PRAYER IS A BALM TO YOUR SOUL—GIVE AND WITNESS!

A Message from the Queen of Hearts and Souls
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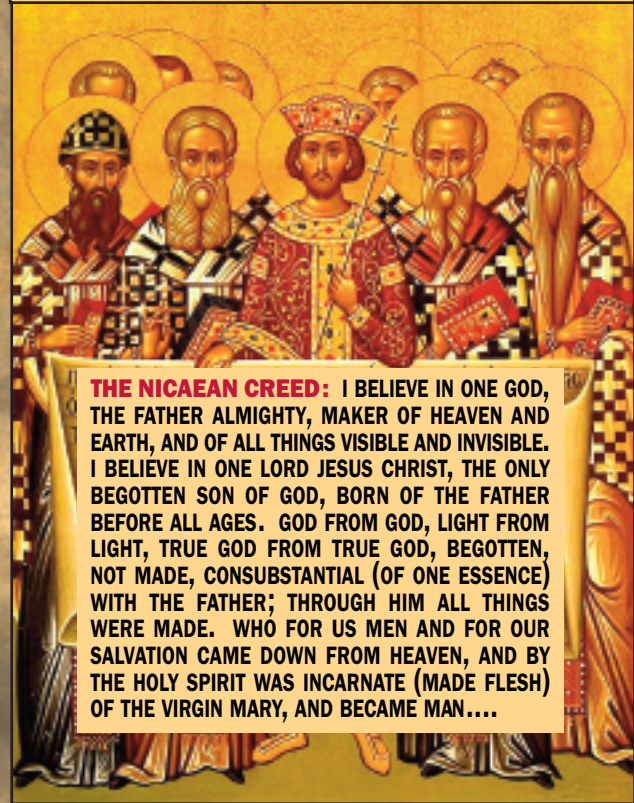
Card 108: Transform the Church with the Rosary—An Ecumenical Prayer!
Transform Your Life—Place It into God's Hands!
THE PURPOSE OF EARTHLY LIFE IS TO LOVE AND GIVE!
To Have Peace, Grow in Faith by Trusting the Father!

JOSHUA: A PARABLE FOR TODAY, CONDENSED AND INTERWOVEN WITH MARY'S MONTHLY MESSAGES FROM MEDJUGORJE ON THE 2ND & 25TH.

OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME; THY KINGDOM COME; THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD; AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US; AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL. AMEN.

◆ TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE WITH THE LIVING ROSARY AND MYSTERIES (CARDS 6-10) ◆

THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF NICAEA
The First Attempt to Unify the Worldwide Church



THE NICAEAN CREED: I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND OF ALL THINGS VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE. I BELIEVE IN ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD, BORN OF THE FATHER BEFORE ALL AGES. GOD FROM GOD, LIGHT FROM LIGHT, TRUE GOD FROM TRUE GOD, BEGOTTEN, NOT MADE, CONSUBSTANTIAL (OF ONE ESSENCE) WITH THE FATHER; THROUGH HIM ALL THINGS WERE MADE. WHO FOR US MEN AND FOR OUR SALVATION CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN, AND BY THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS INCARNATE (MADE FLESH) OF THE VIRGIN MARY, AND BECAME MAN....

◆ CARD 15 IS AN OVERVIEW OF MARY'S MESSAGES FROM MEDJUGORJE ◆

HAIL MARY,
FULL OF GRACE, THE LORD IS WITH YOU; BLESSED ARE YOU AMONG WOMEN, AND BLESSED IS THE FRUIT OF YOUR WOMB, JESUS.
HOLY MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD, PRAY FOR US SINNERS NOW AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH. AMEN.
BEGIN AND END THE ROSARY:
IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN.

EMBER DAYS IN SEPTEMBER ARE REMINISCENT OF ROSH HASHANAH—THE JEWISH NEW YEAR; AND YOM KIPPUR—THE JEWISH DAY OF ATONEMENT (LEV. 23: 24–27).

THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL WAS CONVENED IN AD 325 BY EMPEROR CONSTANTINE I. BISHOPS, REPRESENTING THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH—THE WESTERN ROMAN AND EASTERN ORTHODOX CATHOLIC CHURCHES—MET IN THE CITY OF NICAEA IN TURKEY TO ESTABLISH A UNITY OF BELIEFS. THE NICAEAN CREED WAS INSTITUTED AS A COMMON STATEMENT OF BELIEFS. ALSO, DESPITE MUCH OPPOSITION, THE DATE OF EASTER, COINCIDING WITH THE JEWISH PASSOVER, WAS CHANGED. THE WESTERN AND EASTERN CHURCHES DIVIDED IN THE GREAT SCHISM OF 1054; MANY DIVISIONS FOLLOWED. **PETER** IS CONSIDERED THE APOSTLE JESUS ENTRUSTED THE CHURCH TO FIRST BY THE WEST AND THE EAST, AND IS THE SPRING THAT ALL CHRISTIANS SPRING FROM—ALL WHO TRUST THE HEAVENLY FATHER, THIRSTING FOR HIS LOVE!

THE PURPOSE OF EARTHLY LIFE IS TO LOVE AND GIVE OF YOURSELF!
Transform Your Life—Trust the Heavenly Father and Abandon Yourself!



“DEAR CHILDREN: The will and the love of the Heavenly Father make it so that I am among you, that I, with a motherly love, may help the **growth of faith** in your heart for you to be able to truly comprehend the **purpose of earthly life** and the greatness of the heavenly one. My children, the earthly life is the **way to eternity**, to truth, and to life—to my Son. I desire to lead you on that way. You, my children, **you who always thirst for more love, truth and faith need to know that there is only one spring from which you can drink—it is trust in the Heavenly Father, it is trust in His love. Abandon yourselves completely to His will and do not be afraid!** Everything that is best for you, everything that leads you to eternal life, will be given to you. You will comprehend that the purpose of life is not always to want and take, but to **love and give**. You will have true peace and true love. You will be apostles of love. By your **example**, you will make it so that those children who **do not know my Son** and His love may desire to **come to know Him**. My children, apostles of my love, adore my Son with me (in the Rosary) and love Him above all. Always **strive** to live in His truth. Thank you" (Med. 10/2/19).

JOSHUA: A PARABLE FOR TODAY is a National Best Seller by Father Joseph F. Girzone, a Catholic priest, who joined the Carmelite order at age 14, serving Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (card 105). He died in 2015 at age 85. The book was mysteriously left in my backyard! He meditated on the mystery of what earthly life would be like for Jesus if He lived His truth among us today, again abandoning Himself completely into God's hands, trusting in the Heavenly Father's love. What experiences would Jesus encounter with the people He met today? What joys and sorrows would He pass through? Would He be received by the Church He entrusted to **Peter**, who succeeded to the chair of Moses? Would His people, the Jews, reject him like past generations? In the parable the Heavenly Father sends Jesus (Joshua) to a small town in America with a purpose, a mission—to help us **grow in faith and lead us to eternal life**. He carves a wood statue of Moses and two statues of Peter, portraying an inspiring message to the Church, the one all Christians spring from, all who thirst to experience love, truth and faith like Jesus, Moses and Peter: *There is only one spring from which you can drink—it is trust in the Heavenly Father's love, abandoning yourself completely to His will!* This card begins series 6, wherein the book will be condensed and interwoven with Mary's current messages from **Medjugorje**, where she has been present among us since 1981, and current Catholic calendar events, Earth's oldest Christian calendar, celebrating the events of the Gospel with Jesus in the breaking of the Bread. In this way, a mysterious message is revealed to help **transform the Church**, so they will be an example of faith like Peter to those who do not know Jesus and His love, so they will desire to know Him. When Christians strive to **change**—trust God, abandon themselves, and lead lives of true love and giving—we will have true peace! Chapters 1–3 follow.

THE MYSTERIOUS EARTHLY LIFE OF JOSHUA: *The townspeople meet Joshua—they come to know a man whose purpose in life is to love and give!* One sultry afternoon in Auburn, the regulars gathered at the lunch counter in the Sanders' store for the latest news and gossip. The current topic of conversation was the new fellow, who moved to the cottage at the edge of town. No one knew much about him except his name was Joshua. He was a simple man, who kept to himself. Twice a week he walked up the street to the grocery, then across the street to the liquor store to buy wine. He smiled hello to whoever he met. When he looked at you, you felt like he was looking into your soul. But the look was not critical. It was filled with **compassion**, like he knew all about you and understood you. But beyond that his life was a mystery!



“DEAR CHILDREN: I am calling you to pray for my intentions so that I may help you. Little children, **pray the Rosary and meditate the mysteries of the Rosary** (cards 6–10) because in your life you are also passing through joys and sorrows. **In this way, you are transforming the mysteries into your life** because life is a mystery until you place it into God's hands. **In this way, you will have the experience of faith like Peter, who met Jesus** and the Holy Spirit filled his heart. Little children, you are also called to **witness by living the love** with which, day by day, God wraps you with my presence. Therefore, be open and pray with the heart in faith. Thank you for having responded to my call" (Med. 9/25/19).

Auburn is a small isolated town in the foothills, built in the late 1700s. It has six churches, attesting to the variety of backgrounds of its people. The names on the mailboxes reveal a wide diversity of nationalities. Isolated from the big city, the people are more true to the old ways, and **change** comes slowly, if at all. Charlie the mailman got the courage to knock on Joshua's door under the pretext of asking what he should do with large packages. Joshua invited him in for lunch. Charlie eyed the simplicity of the furnishings as Joshua dished out the chicken soup he had made and poured some wine. Charlie asked, "Everybody's curious about you. Would you mind if I brought some friends by to meet you? You'd like them, they're real people, related to practically everybody in town. If they like you, you're really in, if that means anything to you." Joshua replied, "I'd like very much to meet them!" Then he took bread and broke it and offered Charlie a piece. Charlie's heart was filled with amazement, it felt unusual! A total stranger he had just **met** was offering him a piece of bread, but in some mysterious way he felt in his heart that he had **known him** for years. Embarrassed at the intimacy of the gesture, he took the bread, blurting out, "Thanks, Josh," as if he had **given** him a 100-dollar bill! Charlie asked Joshua what he did for a living. Joshua said, "I make things for people out of wood and repair wooden household objects." Then he showed him his simple workshop. When Charlie left, he could hardly wait to get to the Sander's store to tell the whole gang about his experience of meeting Joshua and that the door was open for them to visit him and get to know him.

TO TRANSFORM the lives of people in the Church—Trust the Father's love! The most stirring news in Auburn was changes made in its six churches: Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Lutheran, Baptist and Catholic. Changes in the Catholic Church had shaken the congregation loose from customs and traditions that had shackled them for generations, creating prejudices that had marred everyone's social relationships. The people were more willing to make the changes than the clergy, who become **insecure** when changes are discussed. They seem **brave** about changes made to ceremonies, which don't affect people's public lives. But when it comes to things that affect personal life-styles and people's relationships with other religions, they get **nervous, afraid to trust the Heavenly Father and His love and abandon themselves completely to His will**. They knew they were supposed to be ecumenically minded, so the clergy met once or twice a year for interfaith services and monthly to talk about irrelevant topics. But when members of their congregation attended another church, they became indignant that they would **thirst and drink from another spring than theirs**. They became upset when they saw their people socializing too much with members of other denominations. Ecumenism was only a window-dressing, not a serious attempt to bring people together, *striving to transform the Church*.

As more people came to know Joshua, he rarely had time to himself. He was never too busy to visit and help them with their problems. When a person left him, they had a deep sense of peace and renewed enthusiasm for life. His understanding of the **goals and purpose of life** was so simple that people would walk away free and lighthearted. But it was tiring for him to **give so much of himself** so in the evening he needed to be by himself to recharge his energies.