

THE KNIGHT OF THE  
*Immaculata*  
E-PUBLICATION OF THE MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA, USA



**THE  
ANNUNCIATION  
TO MARY**

**PAGE 2**

**Listening and Fasting:  
Lent as a Time of  
Conversion**

**PAGE 3**

**MI Groups in  
the USA**

**PAGE 15**



®

# The Annunciation to Mary



by Ronald L. Rodrigues, MI National President

**M**aria! Dear Knights of the Immaculata, this month we celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord to Mary by the Archangel Gabriel, nine months before we celebrate the Birth of Jesus on 25 December. We do this to commemorate the Archangel Gabriel's visit to Mary, her obedience and the truth that she is the Mother of God. Our Mother's "Yes!" changed the world. Mary was part of God's plan to save mankind.

Luke tells us in great detail of the event as it unfolded, but before this magnificent event the Archangel Gabriel had appeared to a priest named Zechariah with a similar message. It was a message of the birth of a child that would prepare Israel for the coming of the Messiah.

The Archangel Gabriel visited Zechariah with important news about the birth of John the Baptist, but he seemed to be punished when he asked the question: "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." (Luke 1:18). The Archangel Gabriel was asked a question from both Zechariah and from Mary. But he said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb, and bear a son, and you

shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" (Luke 1: 30-33)

What was Mary's reaction and how does it differ from that of Zechariah? They both ask the Archangel a question, but Zechariah seems to be punished for his. At first glance, Mary's reaction to Gabriel seems like Zechariah's, but they are very different. Like Zechariah, she asks a question,

but it is a question of a different nature. Zechariah asks *how he can know* this will happen and Mary asks *how it will happen*. It seems Zechariah asked how he could know what the angel says would be true. He was doubting this could be true. His attitude was one of skepticism, whereas Mary does not ask for proof. Instead, she asks how the Angel's words will be fulfilled. She accepts what he says and wants to understand specifically how it will take place. Her attitude is one of faith, believing what she was told and trying to understand how this could happen, not a lack of faith. The Angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God." (Luke 1:35) Gabriel speaks of all three Persons of the Trinity. Through the action of the Holy Spirit, the Father causes the Son to be conceived in human form. There will be no human father, making it very clear that the child will be the Son of God, thus making Mary the Mother of God. Mary's final "Yes!" was uttered when she said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. (Luke 1:38)

(Continued on pg. 10)

## Daily Holy Mass

will be offered throughout 2026 for the MI-USA and all MI Members, living and deceased, at the City of the Immaculata established by St. Maximilian Kolbe near Warsaw, in Poland.



Send your prayer intentions to be placed in the MI Book of Intentions at the feet of Our Lady and St. Maximilian Kolbe's first class relic:  
PrayerRequest@MissionImmaculata.com



# Listening and Fasting: Lent as a Time of Conversion

Message of the Holy Father Leo XIV for Lent 2026

**D**ear brothers and sisters, Lent is a time in which the Church, guided by a sense of maternal care, invites us to place the mystery of God back in the center of our lives, in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distractions of daily life. Every path towards conversion begins by allowing the word of God to touch our hearts and welcoming it with a docile spirit. There is a relationship between the word, our acceptance of it and the transformation it brings about. For this reason, the Lenten journey is a welcome opportunity to heed the voice of the Lord and renew our commitment to following Christ, accompanying him on the road to Jerusalem, where the mystery of his passion, death and resurrection will be fulfilled.

**Listening** This year, I would first like to consider the importance of making room for the word through listening. The willingness to listen is the first way we demonstrate our desire to enter into relationship with someone. In revealing himself to Moses in the burning bush, God himself teaches us that listening is one of his defining characteristics: "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry" (Ex 3:7). Hearing the cry of the oppressed is the beginning of a story of liberation in which the Lord calls Moses, sending him to open a path of salvation for his children who have been reduced to slavery. Our God is one who seeks to involve us. Even today he shares with us what is in his heart. Because of this, listening to the word in the liturgy teaches us to listen to the truth of reality. In the midst of the many voices present in our personal lives and in society, Sacred Scripture helps us to recognize and respond to the cry of those who are anguished and suffering. In order to foster this inner openness to listening, we must allow God to teach us how to listen as he does. We must recognize that "the condition of the poor is a cry that, throughout human history, constantly challenges our lives, societies, political and economic systems, and, not least, the Church." (Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi Te* (4 October 2025), 9.)

**Fasting** If Lent is a time for listening, fasting is a concrete way to prepare ourselves to receive the word of God. Abstaining from food is an ancient ascetic practice that is essential on the path of conversion. Precisely because it involves the body, fasting makes it easier to recognize what we "hunger" for and what we deem necessary for our sustenance. Moreover, it helps us to identify and order our "appetites," keeping our hunger and thirst for justice alive and freeing us from complacency. Thus, it teaches us to pray and act responsibly towards our neighbor. With spiritual insight, Saint Augustine helps us to understand the tension between the present moment and the future fulfilment that characterizes this custody of the heart. He observes that: "In the course of earthly life, it is incumbent upon men and women to hunger and thirst for justice, but to be satisfied belongs to the next life. Angels are satisfied with this bread, this food. The human race, on the other hand, hungers for it; we are all drawn to it in our desire. This reaching out in desire expands the soul and increases its capacity." (Augustine *The Usefulness of Fasting*, 1, 1.) Understood in this way, fasting not only permits us to govern our desire, purifying it and making it freer, but also to expand it, so that it is directed towards God and doing good. (Continues on pg. 9)



**The Lenten journey is a welcome opportunity to heed the voice of the Lord and renew our commitment to following Christ, accompanying Him on the road to Jerusalem."**

# Niepokalanów: Commemoration of the 85th Anniversary of St. Maximilian's Arrest

**T**uesday, February 17, 2026, marked the 85th anniversary of the day that St. Maximilian Kolbe and four of his confreres were arrested by the Nazis. The event was commemorated in Niepokalanów, Poland. At 11:00 that day, a commemorative Mass was celebrated in the Basilica of the Immaculate Mother of God in Niepokalanów, Poland. Friar Piotr Żurkiewicz, the Minister Provincial of the Province of the Immaculate Mother of God in Warsaw, presided. Those attending included many invited guests, members of the faithful from nearby towns, local politicians and administrators, representatives of municipalities associated with the life of St. Maximilian, members of the police force, and members of some benevolent associations. In his homily, the Minister Provincial pointed out the special trust that St. Maximilian placed in God in response to the difficult paths upon which God led him. Maximilian's "yes" to God, even in the midst of war and persecution, constituted a form of heroism in the daily life he lived. Good is something difficult and demanding, and St. Maximilian was tested "like gold in the crucible," and he never gave into the temptation to opt for something easier or more superficial. His collaborators also showed that their faith and dedication to

God were not merely a verbal declaration, but the most important reality of their lives. They showed that they were ready to pay the highest price for their faithfulness to God. At the end of the Mass, the Minister Provincial blessed the mosaic depicting the four martyrs of Niepokalanów: Friars Pius Bartosik, Antonin Bajewski, Bonifacy Żukowski, and Tymoteusz Trojanowski, who—like St. Maximilian—lost their

lives in the Nazi concentration camp of Auschwitz. The mosaic, designed by the artist Wojciech Łukasiewicz, is located in the chapel of St. Maximilian, in the south wing of the basilica. After the Mass, a wreath of flowers was laid before the monument to St. Maximilian, which is located in the square in front of the basilica.

Friar Franciszek Czarnowski  
Photos: Friar Mieczysław Wojtak





# Invitation to the 2026 MI National Assembly



“When we dedicate ourselves to Mary, we become instruments in her hands, just as she is an instrument in God’s hands.”

St. Maximilian  
Kolbe

**M**aria! MI Members,  
On behalf of the MI National Council, I am sending you a personal invitation to attend the **U.S. MI National Elective Assembly to be held on August 7-9, 2026, at the University Campus of Ave Maria, Florida, Home of the MI National Center.** The National Elective Assembly is called for by the MI General Statutes, and it is an exciting opportunity for MI members to become more engaged in the mission of the MI and help in our goal, “to win the entire world for the Immaculate Heart of Mary and through her to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,” a total consecration to Jesus through Mary. The U.S. MI National Assembly will be presided over by the MI International President, Miquel Bordas Prószyński, or his representative. According to the MI General Statutes, the National Elective Assembly is to be convened every four years. We hope and pray that many of you can attend.

It is **the competence of the Assembly** to:

1. Elect, according to the norms of Canon Law, the National President, Vice president and Council members — who may be a priest, a religious, a layman or laywoman;
2. Elect the Board of Auditors, composed of three members (who are not part of the National Council and if possible, have a financial background);
3. Discuss and approve the report of the outgoing National President;
4. Approve the balance sheet and budget of the MI National Center presented by the Treasurer;
5. Examine and evaluate the proposals of the outgoing National Council and of the members in view of the growth of the MI nationwide;
6. Discuss and approve plans for the MI mission in the next four years.

The Assembly may also discuss other matters deemed important for the life and mission of the MI in the United States. This is a significant event for the MI in the United States, and your active participation is extremely important. Please prayerfully consider attending. We all understand and appreciate that participation in person is preferred but not always possible. If you are unable to attend in person, please be aware you may vote via an on-line software pro-

gram. Please register with our U.S. National Center. You will need to provide your name, phone number, and email. You must be willing to receive an email and text with voting guidance and information. On voting day, you receive a notice with the link to the voting site and a code to enter to be able to vote. You will be able to vote via your phone (iPhone or Android) or computer. **All voter registrations must be received no later than 29 May 2026.**

The MI Assembly is not only called to choose a new national leadership, but to discern the path for furthering the MI mission in our country at these critical times. The MI Assembly will also be a time we can meet and renew our consecration to our most Blessed Mother and discuss our work of evangelization, to bring each and every person through the Immaculate Heart of Mary to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, according to the spirit and example of St. Maximilian Kolbe.

***Is Our Lady inviting YOU to serve the MI as an elected officer?*** Please prayerfully consider if you might be called and willing to serve Our Lady and her MI Movement for the next four years in this capacity. If you desire to be part of the MI Council, please send a brief biography, not to exceed a half page, to the National Center. Please include relevant information about yourself, such as your longevity and apostolic

experience in the MI, your educational background, your work and volunteer experiences, and the skills you think you could contribute. Include a picture of yourself, a letter of good standing from your priest, and if possible, the endorsement of other MI members who know you personally. Your resume and photo will be distributed online to MI members, giving them some basic information about who you are and why you should be considered to represent them as the governing body of the MI. **This information must be received no later than 30 April 2026. Late submissions will not be accepted.**

Let us renew our consecration to the Blessed Mother and pray for an election that leads to good leadership and upholds the legacy of St. Maximilian Kolbe.

Yours in the Immaculata,  
Ronald L. Rodrigues  
MI National President

*Do not forget that holiness consists not in extraordinary actions, but in performing your duties towards God, yourself, and others well.*  
St. Maximilian Kolbe

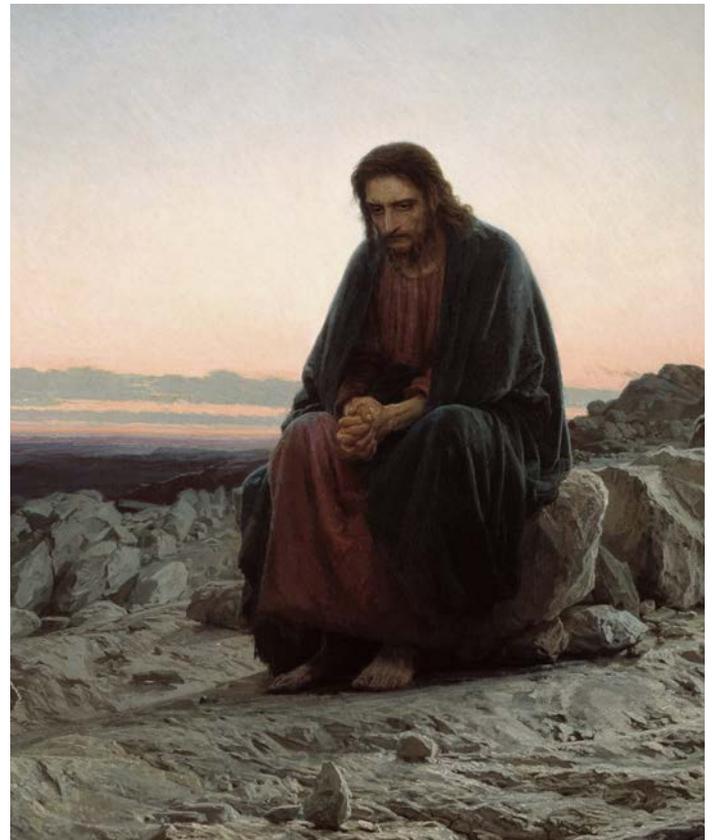


# Message of the Holy Father for Lent

(Continued from page 4)

**H**owever, in order to practice fasting in accordance with its evangelical character and avoid the temptation that leads to pride, it must be lived in faith and humility. It must be grounded in communion with the Lord, because “those who are unable to nourish themselves with the word of God do not fast properly.” (Benedict XVI, Catechesis, 9 March 2011). As a visible sign of our inner commitment to turn away from sin and evil with the help of grace, fasting must also include other forms of self-denial aimed at helping us to acquire a more sober lifestyle, since “austerity alone makes the Christian life strong and authentic.” (Paul VI, Catechesis, 8 February 1978). In this regard, I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbor. Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities. In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace.

**Together** Finally, Lent emphasizes the communal aspect of listening to the word and fasting. The Bible itself underlines this dimension in multiple ways. For example, the Book of Nehemiah recounts how the people gathered to listen to the public reading of the Law, preparing to profess their faith and worship through fasting, so as to renew the covenant with God (cf. 9:1-3).



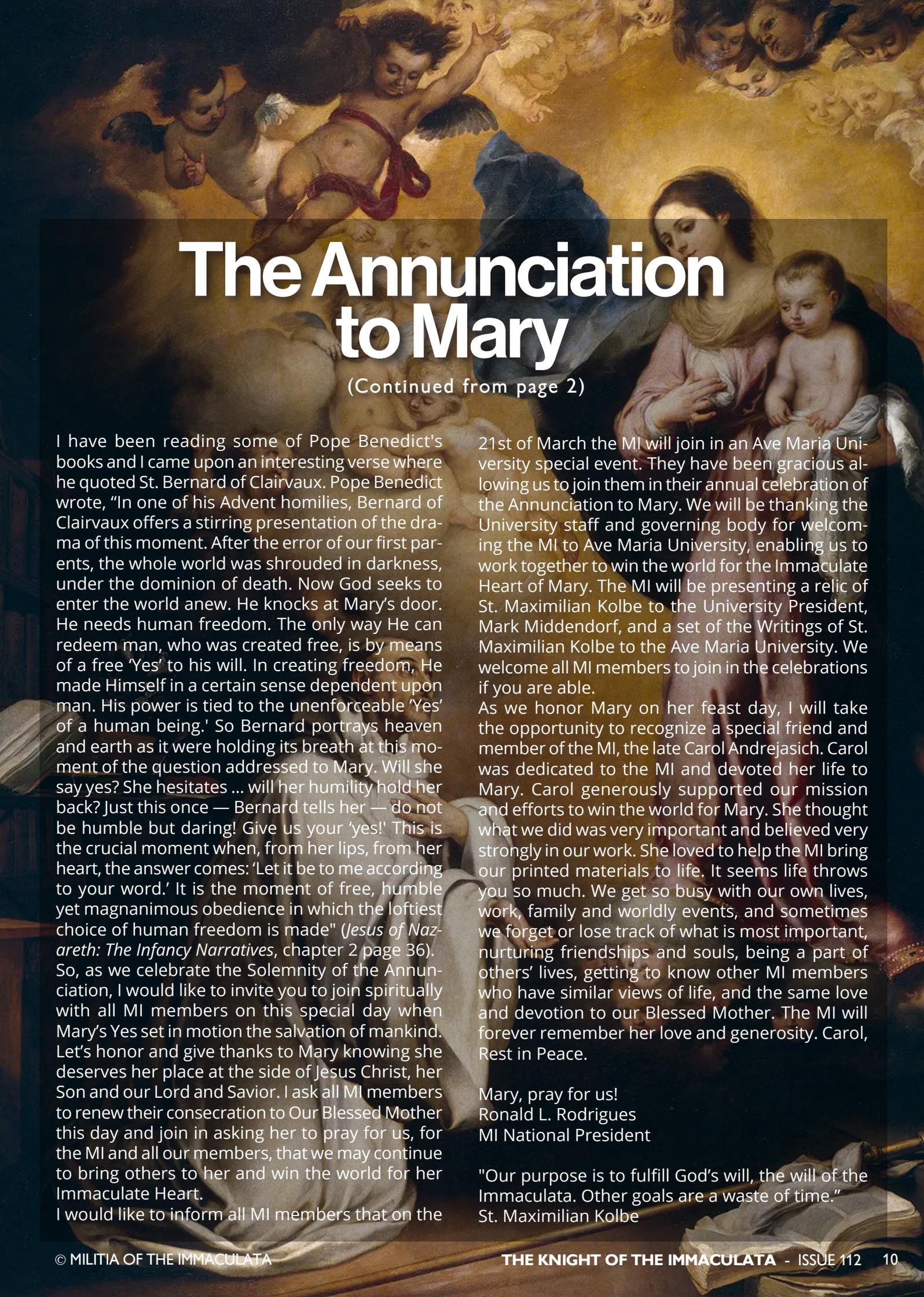
Likewise, our parishes, families, ecclesial groups and religious communities are called to undertake a shared journey during Lent, in which listening to the word of God, as well as to the cry of the poor and of the earth, becomes part of our community life, and fasting a foundation for sincere repentance. In this context, conversion refers not only to one’s conscience, but also to the quality of our relationships and dialogue. It means allowing ourselves to be challenged by reality and recognizing what truly guides our desires — both within our ecclesial communities and as regards humanity’s thirst for justice and reconciliation.

Dear friends, let us ask for the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us. Let us ask for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others. Let us strive to make our communities places where the cry of those who suffer finds welcome, and listening opens paths towards liberation, making us ready and eager to contribute to building a civilization of love.

I impart my heartfelt blessing upon all of you and your Lenten journey.

From the Vatican, 5 February 2026, Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

LEO PP. XIV



# The Annunciation to Mary

(Continued from page 2)

I have been reading some of Pope Benedict's books and I came upon an interesting verse where he quoted St. Bernard of Clairvaux. Pope Benedict wrote, "In one of his Advent homilies, Bernard of Clairvaux offers a stirring presentation of the drama of this moment. After the error of our first parents, the whole world was shrouded in darkness, under the dominion of death. Now God seeks to enter the world anew. He knocks at Mary's door. He needs human freedom. The only way He can redeem man, who was created free, is by means of a free 'Yes' to his will. In creating freedom, He made Himself in a certain sense dependent upon man. His power is tied to the unenforceable 'Yes' of a human being.' So Bernard portrays heaven and earth as it were holding its breath at this moment of the question addressed to Mary. Will she say yes? She hesitates ... will her humility hold her back? Just this once — Bernard tells her — do not be humble but daring! Give us your 'yes!' This is the crucial moment when, from her lips, from her heart, the answer comes: 'Let it be to me according to your word.' It is the moment of free, humble yet magnanimous obedience in which the loftiest choice of human freedom is made" (*Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives*, chapter 2 page 36). So, as we celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation, I would like to invite you to join spiritually with all MI members on this special day when Mary's Yes set in motion the salvation of mankind. Let's honor and give thanks to Mary knowing she deserves her place at the side of Jesus Christ, her Son and our Lord and Savior. I ask all MI members to renew their consecration to Our Blessed Mother this day and join in asking her to pray for us, for the MI and all our members, that we may continue to bring others to her and win the world for her Immaculate Heart.

I would like to inform all MI members that on the

21st of March the MI will join in an Ave Maria University special event. They have been gracious allowing us to join them in their annual celebration of the Annunciation to Mary. We will be thanking the University staff and governing body for welcoming the MI to Ave Maria University, enabling us to work together to win the world for the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The MI will be presenting a relic of St. Maximilian Kolbe to the University President, Mark Middendorf, and a set of the Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe to the Ave Maria University. We welcome all MI members to join in the celebrations if you are able.

As we honor Mary on her feast day, I will take the opportunity to recognize a special friend and member of the MI, the late Carol Andrejasich. Carol was dedicated to the MI and devoted her life to Mary. Carol generously supported our mission and efforts to win the world for Mary. She thought what we did was very important and believed very strongly in our work. She loved to help the MI bring our printed materials to life. It seems life throws you so much. We get so busy with our own lives, work, family and worldly events, and sometimes we forget or lose track of what is most important, nurturing friendships and souls, being a part of others' lives, getting to know other MI members who have similar views of life, and the same love and devotion to our Blessed Mother. The MI will forever remember her love and generosity. Carol, Rest in Peace.

Mary, pray for us!  
Ronald L. Rodrigues  
MI National President

"Our purpose is to fulfill God's will, the will of the Immaculata. Other goals are a waste of time."  
St. Maximilian Kolbe



# St. Maximilian Teaches...

Inspiring reflections for our Lenten journey of conversion with the Immaculata (KW 1075)

**K**night, Militia, Battle: these terms have a warlike ring to them, because they are associated with warfare. Not, however, a war waged with rifles, machine guns, rockets, airplanes, poison gas. Yet a real and true war.

What are some of its tactics?

First and foremost, *prayer*.

Unfortunately, to Catholics less educated about the work of perfecting their souls, the very opposite often rings true. Work, action: that is what they believe the gist of their activity is all about. However, it is not.

Prayer, prayer in particular, is the effective weapon in the struggle for the freedom and happiness of souls.

And why?

Because a supernatural goal may be attained only by supernatural means.

Heaven—the divinization of souls, so to speak—is a supernatural reality in the fullest sense of the

word. Therefore, it cannot possibly be attained by natural means. What is indispensable here is also a supernatural means, namely divine grace, which is obtained through humble and trustful prayer. Grace, and only grace, which enlightens the intellect and strengthens the will, is the cause of conversion, that is, the freeing of the soul from the bondage of evil.

But a prayer raised up to God *through the hands of the Immaculata* cannot possibly remain unanswered, as it is said in the invocation of St. Bernard:<sup>1</sup> “Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, was left unaided by thee.” First and foremost, then, humble, confident, constant *prayer*.

Second, *mortification*. Despite the claims of Protestants, despite the vaunted, much celebrated, and distorted emphasis on “human rights,” mortification is vital and *indispensable* to all of us. For it is through mortification that we obtain divine grace.

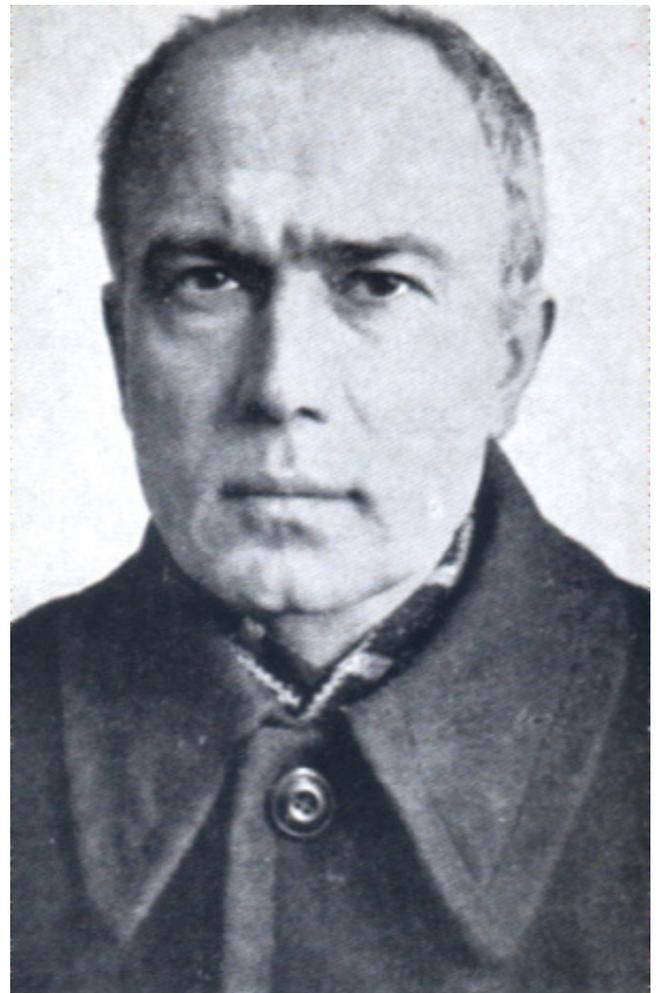
“

**“Some small mortification should be suffered for the following intention: that she may reign in the hearts of everyone, but especially of those whose conversion we are now undertaking.”**

Like gold melting in a crucible, the soul is purified through mortification and radiates its love; it becomes more God-like, more pleasing to Him, and thus better able to receive more abundant graces for itself and its other poor brothers. In fact, could genuine love for God ever exist without suffering?!...

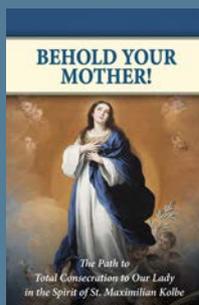
Finally, *love for one's neighbor*. Loving one's neighbor, not because he is "nice," worthwhile, wealthy, influential, or just because he is grateful. For such would be very petty reasons, unworthy of a male or female Knight of the Immaculata. Genuine love rises above the creature and plunges into God. In Him, for Him and through Him it loves everyone, be they good or bad, friends or foes. It offers a helping hand, full of love to everyone; it prays for all, suffers for all, wishes good to all, wishes happiness to all, because that is God's will!...

Ultimately, the ones to prevail will be those who, with prayer to the Immaculata on their lips or in the depths of their hearts, purified by suffering and inflamed by a burning fire of love toward God, driven by this same love, do whatever is in their ability to win the greatest number of souls over to God through the Immaculata, to free them from the snares of evil and make them happy. They, and only they will celebrate the triumph.



*fr. Maximiliano M. Kilby*

Invite Friends to Be  
Consecrated to Our Lady!



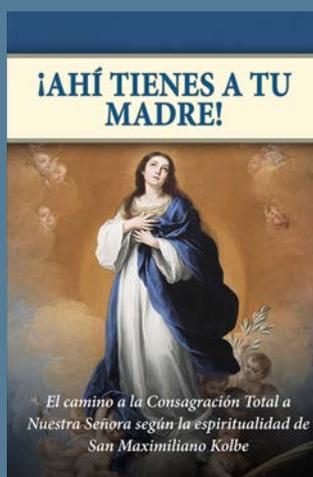
## Behold Your Mother! The Path to Total Consecration to Our Lady in the Spirit of St. Maximilian Kolbe

This beautiful 56-page booklet and its *No-venas* companion may be used individually or as a group activity (in a home or parish setting, for example), or as a series of classes led by a facilitator, or during a day of preparation for MI consecration to Our Lady. If you can offer a series of meetings, you can read each chapter with the group and invite the participants to reflect and comment on it. Alternatively, you can invite them to read each chapter beforehand and come together for discussion. While St. Maximilian Kolbe did not indicate a specific format, if you wish to use a 9-day plan or a 33-day format to prepare for consecration to Our Lady, click here.

The suggested donation for the two booklets is \$ 8.00, shipping included

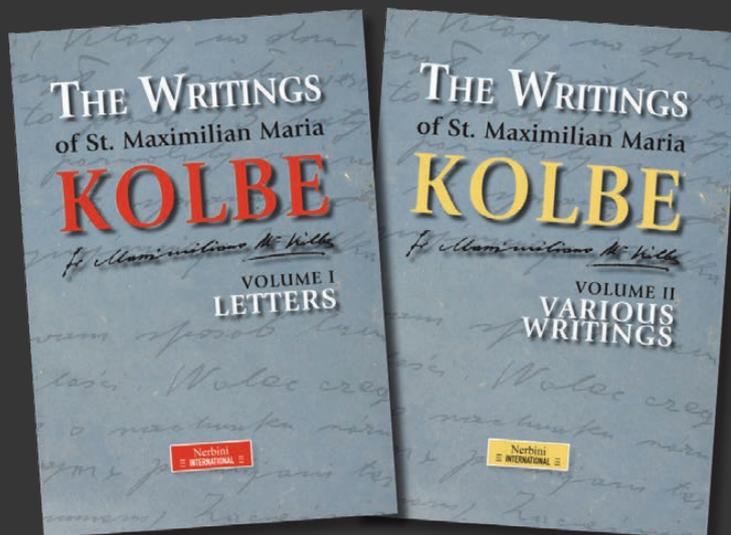
Available also in audio book form.  
Listen anytime, anywhere!

Now available in Spanish



Order copies today from the  
MI National Office:

MINational@MissionImmaculata.com



## The Definitive English Edition!

The Martyr of Charity, St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe (1894-1941), before his death in the Auschwitz concentration camp, had spent the previous twenty-three years as a priest, evangelizer, media mogul, social commentator, missionary and religious reformer. His life's work cut short at age 47, St. Kolbe nonetheless left behind an impressive body of writings. In the 1950s the English-speaking world first began reading bits and pieces of those writings translated from the original Polish, Italian and Latin. The publication of the first English critical edition, *The Writings of St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe*, constitutes a historic event for the English-speaking readership. The sublime inspiration of the Saint's Marian thought and spirituality transpires from every page of his writings, whether it be a treatise on the relationship between the Holy Spirit and the Immaculate Conception, an evangelization plan, a message of counsel to religious and laity, or a filial letter to his mother. His deep personal relationship with the Immaculate Virgin Mary colors and enflames nearly every page. His leitmotif is love for God, the Church, the world and all its peoples. His goal is the conversion and sanctification of that world.



Because the frenetic pace of St. Kolbe's active ministry afforded him no time to compose a theological Summa, this edition assembles together the wide scope of his extant writings into a unified synthesis. It represents a virtual magnum opus of Kolbean thought-- at one and the same time pastoral, anthropological, philosophical, spiritual, ascetical and mystical. In the person of St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe, the first half of the twentieth century found a fresh voice fearlessly defending timeless values in the contemporary context. These two volumes give vigorous new life to this prophetic voice of truth.

— Fr. James McCurry, OFM Conv.

The hardcover edition may be ordered from  
[MarytownGiftShop.com](http://MarytownGiftShop.com) - [Click Here](#)

Enjoy reading them on your computer, phone or iPad  
Order e-books online at  
[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) or [BarnesandNoble.com](http://BarnesandNoble.com)

Watch the online series "Dive in Search of Pearls:  
Introduction to The Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe"  
Subscribe to the MI YouTube channel.

# The Children's Consecration Book is

the perfect gift for your children, grandchildren,  
Godchildren!



**Follow the Star!** is designed to help children grow in their relationship with Our Lady and prepare for consecration, in the company of St. Maximilian Kolbe and other saints, our heavenly friends. The book provides lessons and activities created specifically for their young souls. Parents and teachers are invited to accompany and assist their children on this consecration journey, working through the book at their own pace, and pondering the message of each saint. The book is great for the whole family. It allows adults and children to journey together.

**Reading age: 6-11 years**  
**Grade Level: Kindergarten - 5**  
**96 pages**  
**Dimensions: 8.5 x 11 inches**

**Follow the Star!** is available for a free-will donation  
(\$6.50 each plus shipping & handling).

Order the book, by writing to:  
[MINational@MissionImmaculata.com](mailto:MINational@MissionImmaculata.com)  
Please, include your mailing address. Thank you.

# MI GROUPS IN THE US



## CHECK

Want to connect and pray, deepen or preparing for consecration with others? Visit several Online MI Villages.

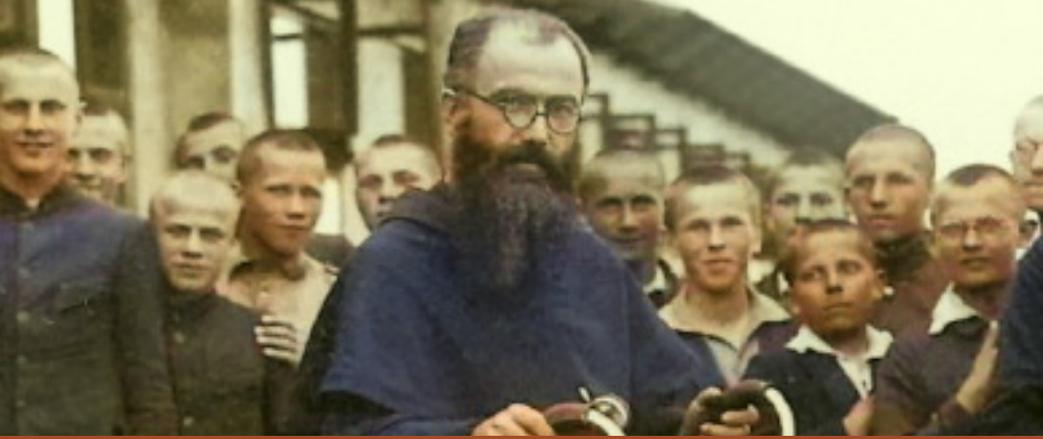
For more information about MI Villages, contact the National Office: [MINation.org](http://MINation.org)



## OUT THE MAP FOR NEW MI VILLAGES.

Want to live out your MI life with other MI members? Looking for support in your journey for your consecration? Join an MI Village and live out your MI life. In addition to MI Villages that meet in person, we have Online Villages (see page 18).

Want to start an MI group on the map, please contact the MI Village Coordinator at [MI\\_Village\\_Coordinator@MissionImmaculata.com](mailto:MI_Village_Coordinator@MissionImmaculata.com)



# March MI Intention

The monthly reflections are provided by Fr. Thomas Czeck, OFM Conv., the MI-USA National Spiritual Assistant.

## **O Immaculata, please intercede...**

*That we may become able to discern and bring to maturation the "seeds of the Word" present in our culture.*

**Reflection** - How do we open hearts and find those "seeds of the Word" present in our culture? St. Maximilian looked at his world during World War I and saw the seeds of destruction around him. Freemasons marched on the Vatican calling for Lucifer to crush St. Michael and for the Devil to rule in the Catholic Church. Christian nations were killing each other in a war that was in a stalemate with no end in sight. The collapse of the monarchies leading to political instability and the adoption of political ideologies that rejected God and Church (as in Communism) or tolerated religion as long as they could control the message (like National-Socialism). It was in this dilemma of evil and destruction that St. Maximilian was given a mission and was inspired to begin

the Militia of the Immaculata. He saw behind the events in his world the battle between good and evil. This battle has been with us since the fall of Adam and Eve, but the seeds of salvation were seen in the promise of the Woman who would crush the head of the serpent in Genesis 3:15. In his first conference to the friars on October 18, 1919, he lays out the Mission of the MI: "To seek the conversion of sinners, heretics, schematics, Jews, etc., and especially the masses. It is our aim to strive for the holiness of all men under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary - the Immaculata - and through her intercession." The MI's program expresses the sublime and noble aim to convert and to sanctify others for the benefit of its members. As MI members, we should give our impotent help to Jesus who gives us His divinity in order to make us holy and divine." May we be directed by the Immaculata to lost and searching people and introduce them to her so she can open their hearts and minds to the "seeds of the Word" in our midst as she reveals to their souls her Son, their Savior.

Prayer - Act of Total Consecration to the Immaculata.

## **Act of Total Consecration to the Immaculata**

(Prayer composed by St. Maximilian Kolbe)

O Immaculata, Queen of Heaven and earth, refuge of sinners and our most loving Mother, God has willed to entrust the entire order of mercy to you. I, (name), a repentant sinner, cast myself at your feet humbly imploring you to take me with all that I am and have, wholly to yourself as your possession and property. Please make of me, of all my powers of soul and body, of my whole life, death and eternity, whatever most pleases you.

If it pleases you, use all that I am and have without reserve, wholly to accomplish what was said of you: "She will crush your head," and, "You alone have destroyed all heresies in the world."

Let me be a fit instrument in your immaculate and merciful hands for introducing and increasing your glory to the maximum in all the many strayed and indifferent souls, and thus help extend as far as possible the blessed Kingdom of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. For wherever you enter, you obtain the grace of conversion and growth in holiness, since it is through your hands that all graces come to us from the most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

V. Allow me to praise you, O sacred Virgin.

R. Give me strength against your enemies.



## Online MI Villages

For information about an MI Village in your area, email the MI National Center. For online MI Villages, email the Moderators listed below.

**\*\*Moderator: Joseph Willis**

Email: [mi.la.adm@outlook.com](mailto:mi.la.adm@outlook.com)

Mtg Day: Friday

(Last Friday of each month)

Mtg Time: 8:00pm CST

Weekly Consecration Renewal & Virtual Village Rosary Tuesdays @ 8:30pm CST

**\*\*Moderator: Douglas Eschbach**

Email: [MI.village.marytown@gmail.com](mailto:MI.village.marytown@gmail.com)

Mtg Day: Sunday

(3rd Sunday of each month)

Mtg Time: 5:00pm CST

**\*\*Moderator: Donna Masek**

Knights at the Foot of the Cross (KFC)

Village of the Immaculata

E-mail: [miutah.stmary@gmail.com](mailto:miutah.stmary@gmail.com)

Mtg Day: Every Friday evening

Mtg Time: 8:00pm-9:00pm MST

**\*\*Moderator: Bill Bielawski**

Email: [william.bielawski@gmail.com](mailto:william.bielawski@gmail.com)

Mtg Day: Sunday

(3rd Sunday of each month)

Mtg Time: 7:00pm CST

**\*\*Moderator: Lisa Fulgenzi**

Email: [drlisafmi@gmail.com](mailto:drlisafmi@gmail.com)

Write to request Google Meet join info

Mtg Day: Monday

Mtg Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm EST

**\*\*Moderator: Patti Schwartz**

Email: [cljm100@gmail.com](mailto:cljm100@gmail.com)

Mtg Day: Wednesday

Mtg Time: 8:00 pm EST

© MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA

# MI Resources

Available from the MI National Center



Disseminate the Miraculous Medal and introduce Our Lady and the MI to others!

Miraculous Medals and various MI resources can be requested from the MI National Office via email: [MINational@MissionImmaculata.com](mailto:MINational@MissionImmaculata.com)



**MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA**

MI NATIONAL CENTER - USA

5251 Clancy Avenue, Ave Maria, FL 34142

331-223-5564

[MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com](http://MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com)

[mnational@missionimmaculata.com](mailto:mnational@missionimmaculata.com)

Check the MI website [MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com](http://MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com) often for updates and follow us on



Support Our Lady's Work by Helping the MI **DONATE HERE**

“Through Mary Immaculate to Jesus: that is our watchword. The more you spread veneration and love for the Immaculata the more souls you win over to her, and, through her, to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, who loved us unto death on the Cross.”

– St. Maximilian Kolbe