

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



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EUCCHARISTIC
SOUL

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NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Congress

THE EUCCHARIST

by Ronald L. Rodrigues, MI National President



Dear Knights of the Immaculata, Maria! As we approach the hot days of summer, this July our church invites us to celebrate the 10th National Eucharistic Congress, the culmination of three years leading up to this celebration and of a pilgrim walk with Jesus across America to honor the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Catholic faith. The term Eucharist originates from the Greek word *eucharistia*, meaning thanksgiving. "It is called Eucharist, because it is an action of thanksgiving to God." (CCC, no 1328) In the celebration of the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and the instrumentality of the priest. Jesus is truly present, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, under the appearances of bread and wine. This is what the Church means by the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is a sacrificial meal. Jesus implemented the first Eucharist at the Last Supper in the Upper Room. Jesus, on the night before He suffered on the cross, shared one last meal with His disciples. He instituted the sacrament of His Body and Blood. He did this so we may remember His sacrifice on the cross and as a memorial of His death and resurrection. The four Gospels recall the institution of the Eucharist (Matthew 26:26-30, Mark 14:22-26, Luke 22:14-20, John 6:22-59).

Jesus gives Himself to us in the Eucharist as spiritual nourishment because He loves us. By eating the Body and drinking the Blood of Christ in the Eucharist, we become united to the person of Christ through His humanity. Being united to His humanity we are at the same time united to His divinity. It is important for us to understand the Eucharist as a sacrifice: Christ's sacrifice of Himself to the Father out of Love. He gave His life for our salvation and offered Himself to the Father on our behalf. His Blood shed for us is the eternal sign of that love. The Eucharist is not just another sacrifice, but the re-presentation of the sacrifice of Christ

by which we are reconciled to the Father. It is the way we are drawn into Jesus' perfect offering of love. The remembrance of His perfect gift consists not in the mere repetition of the Last Supper, but in the Eucharist itself, that is, in the radical newness of Christian worship. In this way, Jesus left us the task of entering into His hour. The Eucharist draws us into Jesus' act of self-oblation. More than just statically receiving the Incarnate Logos, we enter into the very dynamic of His self-giving, as Pope Benedict XVI stated. The Jewish celebration of the Passover involves both a meal and sacrifice. It is celebrated as a remembrance of the Exodus. At the last supper, Jesus revealed Himself to be the Paschal Lamb ("Behold the Lamb of God") whose sacrifice frees us from slavery to sin and whose blood marks out a new people belonging to God. All the sacrifices in the Old Testament prefigure and find their fulfillment in the one perfect sacrifice of Jesus. The saving work of Jesus Christ, brought to fulfillment, announced in the Passover, is now re-presented in the celebration of the Eucharist. The Eucharist makes present the one sacrifice of Christ (Excerpts from "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church" by USC-CB). "In the Eucharist, Jesus does not give us a thing, but Himself; He offers His body and pours out His own blood." "In the sacrament of the Eucharist, Jesus shows us in particular the truth about the love which is the very essence of God." (Pope Benedict XVI)

(Continues on pg. 10)

Daily Holy Mass

will be offered throughout 2024 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

MARY'S EUCHARISTIC SOUL

THE SAINTS ON THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

What must Mary have felt as she heard from the mouth of Peter, John, James and the other Apostles the words spoken at the Last Supper: "This is my body which is given for you" (Lk 22:19)? The Body given up for us and made present under sacramental signs was the same Body which she had conceived in her womb! For Mary, receiving the Eucharist must have somehow meant welcoming once more into her womb that Heart which had beat in unison with hers and reliving what she had experienced at the foot of the Cross. "Do this in remembrance of me" (Lk 22:19). In the "memorial" of Calvary all that Christ accomplished by His passion and His death is present. Consequently, all that Christ did with regard to His Mother for our sake is also present. To her He gave the beloved disciple and, in him, each of us: "Behold, your Son!" To each of us He also says: "Behold your mother!" (cf. Jn 19: 26-27). Experiencing the memorial of Christ's death in the Eucharist also means continually receiving this gift. It means accepting—like John—the one who is given to us anew as our Mother. It also means taking on a commitment to be conformed to Christ, putting ourselves at the school of His Mother and allow-

ing her to accompany us. Mary is present, with the Church and as the Mother of the Church, at each of our celebrations of the Eucharist. If the Church and the Eucharist are inseparably united, the same ought to be said of Mary and the Eucharist.... In the Eucharist the Church is completely united to Christ and His sacrifice, and makes her own the spirit of Mary. This truth can be understood more deeply by re-reading the *Magnificat* in a Eucharistic key. The Eucharist, like the Canticle of Mary, is first and foremost praise and thanksgiving. When Mary exclaims: "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior," she already bears Jesus in her womb. She praises God "through" Jesus, but she also praises Him "in" Jesus and "with" Jesus. This is itself the true "Eucharistic attitude"... Mary sings of the "new heavens" and the "new earth" which find in the Eucharist their anticipation and in some sense their program and plan. The *Magnificat* expresses Mary's spirituality, and there is nothing greater than this spirituality for helping us to experience the mystery of the Eucharist. The Eucharist has been given to us so that our life, like that of Mary, may become completely a *Magnificat*!"

(St. John Paul II in *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 56-58)



“
The *Magnificat* expresses Mary's spirituality, and there is nothing greater than this spirituality for helping us to experience the mystery of the Eucharist.”

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

With these words Mary first acknowledges the special gifts she has been given. Then she recalls God's universal favors, bestowed unceasingly on the human race. When a man devotes all his thoughts to the praise and service of the Lord, he proclaims God's greatness. His observance of God's commands, moreover, shows that he has God's power and greatness always at heart. His spirit rejoices in God his savior and delights in the mere recollection of his creator who gives him hope for eternal salvation. These words are often for all God's creations, but especially for the Mother of God. She alone was chosen, and she burned with spiritual love for the Son she so joyously conceived. Above all other saints, she alone could truly rejoice in Jesus, her savior, for she knew that He who was the source of eternal salvation would be born in time in her body, in one person both her own Son and her Lord. *For the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name.* Mary attributes nothing to her own merits. She refers all her greatness to the gift of the One whose essence is power and whose nature is greatness, for He fills with greatness and strength the small and the weak who believe in Him. She did well to add: *and holy is his name*, to warn those who heard, and indeed all who would receive His words, that they must believe and call upon His name. For they too could share in everlasting holiness and true salvation according to the words of the prophet: "and it will come to pass, that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." This is the name she

MOTHER OF THE EUCHARIST, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

"May the Most Blessed Virgin Mary from whom Christ Our Lord took the flesh which under the species of bread and wine 'is contained, offered and consumed,' - intercede before the Father of mercies so that from this same faith in and devotion toward the Eucharist may result and flourish a perfect unity of communion among all Christians." (St. Paul VI in *Mysterium Fidei*, 75)

“

Receive Jesus in Holy Communion and accept all things from His hands, with the humble disposition that the Most Blessed Virgin Mary had at the time of the Annunciation: 'Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to Thy word' [Lk 1:38]."
St. Maximilian Kolbe

spoke of earlier: *and my spirit rejoices in God my savior.* Therefore it is an excellent and fruitful custom of holy Church that we should sing Mary's hymn at the time of evening prayer. By meditating upon the Incarnation, our devotion is kindled, and by remembering the example of God's Mother, we are encouraged to lead a life of virtue. Such virtues are best achieved in the evening. We are weary after the day's work and worn out by our distractions. The time for rest is near, and our minds are ready for contemplation. (From a homily by St. Bede the Venerable, priest).



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Congress**

**JULY 17-21, 2024
INDIANAPOLIS,
INDIANA**

The Militia of the Immaculata will be at the National Eucharistic Congress! If you plan to attend, find the MI booth # 227 in the Exhibit Hall and stop by to say Hi! It will be great to see MI Knights at this historic event.



PREPARING FOR THE NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

If you are unable to attend in person the National Eucharistic Congress (July 17-21), you can still be part of this historic event, not only by watching the broadcasting by EWTN, but also by your prayer in the presence of the Eucharistic LORD. Invite family and friends to spend time in adoration, participate in the Holy Mass, offer some hidden sacrifice for the spiritual success of this event and for the desired outcome: the revival of faith and love for the Eucharist.

THIS BEAUTIFUL PRAYER BY POPE BENEDICT XVI MAY ACCOMPANY YOUR PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, As the first apostles,
Whom you asked: "What do you seek?",
Accepted your invitation to: "Come and See"
Recognizing you as the Son of God,
The Promised Messiah for the world's redemption,
We too, your disciples in this difficult time
Want to follow you and be your friends,
Drawn by the brilliance of your face much desired yet hidden.

Show us, we pray you, your face ever new,
That mirror, mystery laden, of God's infinite mercy.
Grant that we may contemplate it With the eyes of our mind and our hearts:

The Son's face, radiance of the Father's glory And the imprint of his Nature (cf. Hb 1,3),

The human face of God that has burst into history
To reveal the horizons of eternity.

The silent face of Jesus suffering and risen,
When loved and accepted changes the heart and life.

"Your face, Lord, do I seek,
Do not hide your face from me" (Ps.27,8ff).

How many times through the centuries and millennia
has not resounded

The ardent invocation of the Psalmist among the faithful!

Lord, with faith, we too repeat the same invocation:
"Man of suffering, as one from whom others hide their faces" (Is.53,3),

Do not hide your face from us!
We want to draw from your eyes,
That look on us with tenderness and compassion,
The force of love and peace which shows us the way of life,

And the courage to follow you without fear or compromise,

So as to be witnesses of your Gospel,
With concrete signs of acceptance, love and forgiveness.

O Holy Face of Christ, Light that enlightens the darkness of doubt and sadness,

Life that has defeated forever the force of evil and death, O inscrutable gaze

That never ceases to watch over men and people,
Face concealed in the Eucharistic signs

And in the faces of those that live with us,
Make us God's pilgrims in this world,

Longing for the Infinite and ready for the final encounter,

When we shall see you, Lord, "face to face" (1Cor.13,12),
And be able to contemplate you forever in heavenly

Glory.

Mary, Mother of the Holy Face,
Help us have "hands innocent and a heart pure,"

Hands illumined by the truth of love
And hearts enraptured by divine beauty,

That transformed by the encounter with Christ,
We may gift ourselves to the poor and the suffering,

Whose faces reflect the hidden presence Of your Son

Jesus,

Who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen!

(Rome, September 1st, 2007, written and sent to the Guardian of the Basilica of the Holy Face in Manoppello, Italy, in memory of his pilgrimage to the Sanctuary a year before, on September 1st, 2006.)

"I participated in the Eucharistic Revival Procession in Pittsburgh, PA. We had Mass at St. Catherine of Siena church. Being a weekday, the church was nearly packed. We then processed on the street singing, praying the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and marched to St Bernard's, where there was adoration, reflection, and benediction."

-Kyle Zenchak



"...Even if we do not correspond regularly, the MI really brings us close and keeps us there, nestled within Our Lady's Heart. May both she and her Son gift you with abundant blessings flowing from those Hearts, which are all love! We had a beautiful Eucharistic procession after Mass on Corpus Christi Sunday, and there is still that special glow outside in the garden as we retrace our footsteps where the Lord of heaven and earth Himself walked in our midst. It was a paradisaic morning weather-wise, and our hearts were so united with all the 'perpetual pilgrims' walking along the four different routes right now from each corner of the United States, to converge on Indianapolis in July for the Eucharistic Congress. We are so excited about what a grace-filled event this pilgrimage has already been for our entire country! May the heart of Jesus, present with us in the Blessed Sacrament, reach many hearts through this truly unique initiative. It does have the potential to transform our nation and culture, and Jesus Himself is walking along our roads and entering our cities, calling all those He encounters to join Him."

-Poor Clare Sisters, Roswell, NM

"To spend a half hour or an hour in the presence of the Lord is not to accomplish or achieve very much; it is not really 'getting' anywhere; but it is a particularly rich form of spiritual waiting. As you keep vigil before the Blessed Sacrament, bring to Christ some problem that you have been fretting over, and pray. Say, 'Lord, I'm waiting for You to solve this, to show me the way out, the way forward. I've been running, planning, worrying; but now I'm going to let You work! Then watch attentively for signs. Allow your desire for the things of God to intensify. You might even pray: 'Lord, surprise me.'"

-Bishop Robert Barron



“On Sunday, June 23, Bishop Brennan, along with some of the seminarians of the Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia Diocese, embarked on a sternwheeler with Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist at the Steubenville, OH marina and traveled down the Ohio River to bring Our Lord to the people gathered along the shores of the river. The procession arrived at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling followed by Benediction and an all-night Eucharistic Adoration. The next day the procession continued in the streets of Wheeling with Our Lord being processed to St. Alphonsus Church and then back across the Ohio River to continue on the Seton Eastern Route.

My view of Our Lord’s blessing in motion was from the old wharf in Wellsburg, WV. There was a 2-hour delay due to high winds and a strong counter current. Spirits remained high as the faithful sang Eucharistic songs and visited with parish friends and locals curious about “What’s going on?” Nearly 100 people from two small parishes in the area attended. And when the sternwheeler was finally spotted coming down the river, shouts of joy could be heard and arms began to wave. The sternwheeler passed and many fell to their knees as Bishop Brennan held the monstrance and their Lord and Savior blessed them from the bow of the boat. It was an amazing two days!”

–Julie Elkinton

THE EUCHARIST

(Continued from pg. 2)

Pope Benedict wrote that through the Blessed Sacrament, God reveals His love and strengthens us to love those around us. “The sacrament of charity, the holy Eucharist, is the gift that Jesus Christ makes of Himself, thus revealing to us God’s infinite love for every man and woman.” (*Sacramentum Caritatis* no.1) The Real Presence in the Eucharist is a holy mystery and the life of the Church. By receiving the Holy Eucharist, we remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us, and we grow in love for one another. The Eucharist provides us with the strength and nourishment we need to fulfill all the ordinary tasks of life. St. Maximilian Kolbe loved the Eucharist and the reality of being a living tabernacle if only for 15 minutes after receiving Holy Communion. Fr. Kolbe based his faith in the Eucharist on the Gospel of John 6. “Every priest, a successor of the Apostles, obedient to the command of the God-man, repeats at Mass in His memory the moving scene of the Last Supper the bread will become the living Body of Christ and the wine His most Holy Blood.” St. Maximilian Kolbe was deeply touched by the Real Presence of Jesus under the Eucharistic species. Before the Blessed Sacrament, he acted as if he saw the Savior, “God dwells in our midst in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar” (*KW* 1088). He was fascinated that Jesus gives Himself to us as food. “The culmination of the Mass is not the consecration, but communion” (Conference, March 10, 1940). “You come to me and unite yourself intimately to me under the form of nourishment. Your blood now runs in mine, Your soul, incarnate God, compenetrates mine, giving it courage and support. What miracles! Who would ever have imagined such!” (*KW* 1145). “If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason; Holy Communion” (Conference, December 18, 1938). Fr. Domanski, OFM Conv. commented that contemplating the mystery of the Eucharist, Fr. Kolbe was convinced that the most Blessed Sacrament is the richest of the divine treasures on earth, the source of the sanctification of souls and the conversion of the world, and thus the most efficacious means for attaining the goals of the MI. Fr. Kolbe knew the significance and power of Holy Communion. “Holy communion is nourishment. One single Holy Com-

munion is enough to make one holy” he noted on October 25th, 1917 (*KW* 968). He asked all to implore Mary to prepare in our souls the most pleasant welcome possible for Jesus in Holy Communion. There is a story of the Eucharist and Little Li that hopefully reaches your heart. It is not mine, but told by many over the years. Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen in his autobiography, *Treasure in Clay*, wrote about the sufferings of Chinese Catholics following Mao’s revolution. It was written shortly before he died in 1979 but not published until 1982. I think it is worth repeating. Sheen had revealed the story of Little Li’s devotion to the Eucharist in a 1979 television interview. When Communists came to power in China in 1948 or 1949, one thing they did was suppress religion, especially Christianity. In a small-town church in China, a priest had just begun Mass when the communists entered and arrested him and made him a prisoner in the rectory house adjoining the church. The Communists opened the tabernacle and threw the Hosts on the floor and stole the Sacred Vessels. The priest looking through a window could see into the church and would make adoration day and night. One morning, at about three o’clock, he saw a child who had been at the morning Mass open a window and climb into the church, walk to the sanctuary get down on her knees, press her tongue to the Host, and give herself Holy Communion. The priest said there were about 30 Hosts. Each night she would come at the same time until there was just one Host left. On the last night, the guard saw her, and a shot rang out killing the little girl. Little Li had been taught it was wrong to touch the Hosts with her hands. She knew that in ordinary circumstances lay persons were not supposed to consume more than one Host per day. She didn’t know of the exception to prevent the desecration of the Eucharist. This story led Archbishop Fulton Sheen to promise that he would observe a Holy Hour of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament every day of his priestly life, a promise that he kept. May we follow the examples of St. Maximilian Kolbe and Ven. Fulton Sheen, offering our adoration and Eucharist celebration to our Blessed Mother. Mary, pray for us that we will remember and understand the importance of the true Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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.”



“
The most Blessed Sacrament is the richest of the divine treasures on earth, the source of the sanctification of souls and the conversion of the world, and thus the most efficacious means for attaining the goals of the MI.”

Invite Friends to Be
Consecrated to Our Lady!



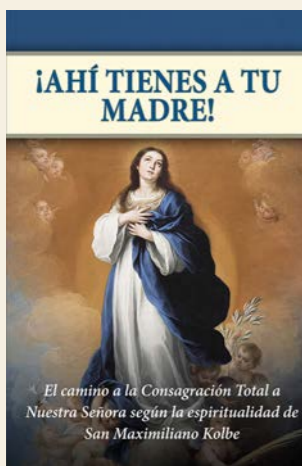
**Behold Your Mother!
The Path to Total Consecration
to Our Lady in the Spirit of
St. Maximilian Kolbe**

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 is \$ 2.50/each plus shipping

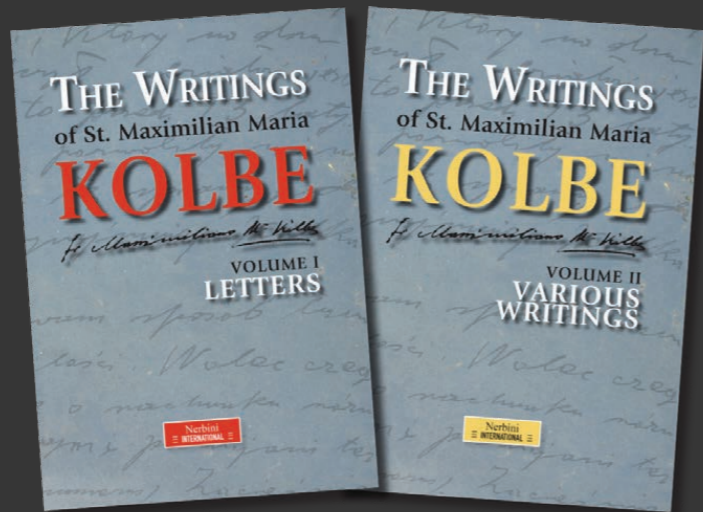
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VOLUME I: **LETTERS** • VOLUME II: **VARIOUS WRITINGS**

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.

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MarytownGiftShop.com - Click Here

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Order e-books online at
Amazon.com or 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.



MI INTERNATIONAL NEWS

On June 13, 2024, the MI International President, Miquel Bordas-Proszynski, accompanied by the Vice President, Mrs. Margherita Perchinelli, and by the Delegate of the MI International Spiritual Assistant, Fr. Gilson Nunes, OFM Conv., attended the annual Meeting of Moderators of Associations of the Faithful, Ecclesial Movements and New Communities, which took place in the New Synod Hall in the Vatican. Pope Francis addressed the more than 200 participants highlighting some attitudes, which we can derive from the three announcements of the Passion in the Gospel of Mark (cf. Mk 8:31; 9:31; 10:32-34): *thinking as God thinks, overcoming exclusiveness, and cultivating humility*. The Pope said: "First: thinking as God thinks. Following the initial announcement of the Passion, the evangelist recounts how Peter rebukes Jesus. He, who should have been an example by helping the other disciples to be fully at the service of the Master's work, opposes God's plans by rejecting His passion and death. Jesus tells him, 'For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things' (Mk 8:33). This is the primary interior change that is asked of us: to move beyond 'merely human thought' to embrace the 'thought of God.' Before making any decision, before starting any program, any apostolate, any mission within the Church, we should ask ourselves: what does God want from me, what does God want from us, at this moment, in this situation? Is what I envision, what we as a group have in mind, truly aligned with the 'thought of God'? Let us remember that the Holy Spirit is the protagonist... He alone teaches us to listen to the voice of God, individually and as a Church."



ST. MAXIMILIAN WRITES...

AS WE CELEBRATE THE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS THIS MONTH, LET US ENJOY ST. MAXIMILIAN'S EUCHARISTIC INSPIRATIONS.

To attract the souls and turn them into Himself through love, Christ showed His own boundless love, His own Heart inflamed with love for the souls, a love that drove Him to ascend the Cross, to stay with us in the Eucharist, to enter our souls, and to bequeath to us His own Mother as our Mother. (KW 1296)
•So that the love toward the Father could become even more perfect, infinitely more perfect, the love

of the Son Jesus was manifested. He came down to earth, died on the Cross and has remained in the Eucharist, in order to awaken love toward Himself in our hearts. Yet, for the love toward the Son to be heightened and the love to the Father to burn with even more ardent zeal, there comes to our aid the love of the Spirit, of the Immaculata, the one full of Mercy, the Mediatrix of all graces, an earthly creature like us, who strongly attracts hearts to herself by way

of her Motherly heart. (KW 1326)
•We must constantly strengthen the love for the Immaculata in souls, tighten the bond of love that exists between her and souls, so that they may become one with her— become her herself; so that she herself may live and love (act) in them and through them. Then souls will love the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus as they had never loved Him before, because, like her, and in ways they have never experienced before, they will plunge

fr Maximilianus M. Kolbe



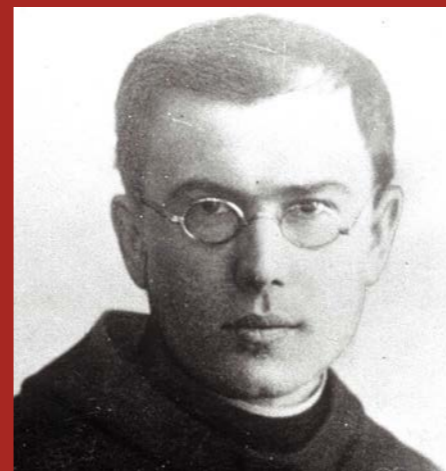
[Let us] tighten the bond of love between the Immaculata and souls, so they may become one with her... and plunge into the mysteries of Love: the Cross and the Eucharist."

into the mysteries of Love: the Cross and the Eucharist. Through her, God's Love shall kindle the world, set it on fire. (KW 991 Q)
•The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus is the love of God toward mankind. His Kingdom is the domain of this love in the hearts of men, the love that Jesus manifested in the

manger, throughout His life, on the Cross, in the Eucharist, and in giving us His own Mother as our Mother; and He wants to kindle this love in the hearts of men. To infuse and to enhance the glory of the Immaculata, to conquer souls over to her, means to win souls over to the Mother of Jesus, who introduces the Kingdom of Jesus into them. (KW 1331)
•We are to] be more and more of the Immaculata, to belong to her more profoundly, and so let fly more and more the wings of love, especially toward the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and the manifestations of His love: the womb of the Immaculata, the crib, the infancy in the arms and under the gaze of the Immaculata, life hidden in the little house of Nazareth, apostolic activity, patience in persecution, poverty, and so on, and death on the Cross and the Resurrection, and the Eucharist.... From the Immaculata [we] learn to love [our] divine elder Brother, the prototype, the ideal of holiness,

who deigned to descend from Heaven to become flesh in her and take up residence among us in the tabernacle. (KW 1284)
•I wish you to come every day, every moment closer to the Immaculata, to know her more and more perfectly, to love her always more, to let yourselves be more and more infused with her thoughts, her feelings, her intentions, her love for Jesus in the crib, in the house of Nazareth, on the Cross, in the Eucharist, and in heaven. In a word, I wish you to make yourselves ever more similar to the Immaculata and—like her—become ever more immaculate, so that the stains of sins and imperfections may gradually diminish in intensity and number. (KW 757)
•The more one belongs to the Immaculata, the more openly and freely one can approach the wounds of the Savior, the Eucharist, the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, and God the Father. (KW 603)

KOLBE DATES



July 22, 1919

Fr. Maximilian receives his doctorate in theology at the Pontifical Theological Faculty of St. Bonaventure in Rome.

July 23-29, 1919

He returns to his homeland, Poland.

MI GROUPS IN THE US



Want to connect and pray with other MI members? Looking for support in deepening or preparing for your consecration? Join an MI Village and live out your consecration with others. In addition to MI Villages that meet in person, we have several Online MI Villages (see page 18).

For more information about an MI group on the map, please contact the MI National Office: MINational@MissionImmaculata.com



JULY MI INTENTION

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

July

O Immaculata, please intercede... That the Holy Spirit, the Giver of every gift, may guide us to be Eucharistic missionary disciples to transform the world.

Reflection - The transformation of the world begins with the transformation of oneself through the Eucharist. St. Maximilian Kolbe said: "One Holy Communion alone is sufficient to make me a Saint, can effect the conversion of many sinners, but all depends on our interior dispositions, our preparation" (KW 968). May we consider how we prepare ourselves to celebrate the Eucharist. Have we reviewed our conscience and sought reconciliation to prepare ourselves to be in union with God when we receive the Blessed Sacrament? Have we aligned our will with

God's Will? Do we lovingly bring our petitions for ourselves, for our families, and for those who do not know the God of Love that conversion may happen so that the Kingdom of the Sacred Heart of Jesus may reign in every heart? "God wills that humble souls, who love Him and hence pray to Him, govern the world with divine goodness and power, save and sanctify souls and inaugurate in them, the reign of divine love" (KW 1320). "Let us give ourselves to the Immaculata. Let us permit her to prepare us to receive Jesus in Holy Communion. This is the most perfect way, and the one most pleasing to our Lord, yielding the greatest fruit" (Kolbe Conference, March 28, 1937). We offer ourselves to the Immaculata so she may prepare us to come into Communion with God at each Eucharist and bring that divine Love to the world.

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.



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
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
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
Mtg Day: Every Friday evening
Mtg Time: 8:00pm-9:00pm MST

****Moderator: Bill Bielawski**
Email: william.bielawski@gmail.com
Mtg Day: Sunday
(3rd Sunday of each month)
Mtg Time: 7:00pm CST

****Moderator: Lisa Fulgenzi**
Email: 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
Mtg Day: Wednesday
Mtg Time: 7:30 pm EST



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"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

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