

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

MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

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The Holy Spirit & Mary: Lessons
for Pentecost - Page 7



WHO IS MARY?

by **Ronald L. Rodrigues, MI National President**



Dear Knights of the Immaculata, Maria! May is Mary's month, the time-frame during which the Church celebrates in a special way the Mother of the Church. It's springtime, the days are warmer, and the flowers are beginning to bloom. It brings about a sense of joy and happiness in most people. The darker days of winter are gone. Mary brings about a sense of joy in those who know her. Her beauty, her vibrant colors, and the flowers that usually surround her cause that same feeling of warmth and joy you get at the beginning of spring. Mary brings us new life in her Son, Jesus, our Savior who brings us eternal life, the Joy that blooms in each Christian heart. If not for Mary, how would Jesus come to share our human nature? But who is Mary? She is the Immaculate Conception. God planned to create someone immaculate, a perfect vessel to bring His Son into the world. God created Mary out of His love. We are all created out of His love, but Mary had to be created a little more special. She had to be without sin, a living tabernacle to bear His Son.

God planned to correct Eve's mistake, to right Eve's wrong. With Mary's yes to God at the Annunciation, by giving her total self, and her free will to God, she fulfilled God's plan to right the wrong that Eve created. Mary would be the new Eve.

God knew we all need a Mother's love, someone to guide us and

point us to Him. While a mother is united with her child whom she carries in her womb, the child doesn't know the father yet. After the child is born, the mother continually shows the child who the father is and tells the child, "This is your father, Daddy," until the child learns who the father is. Mary does that for us. She leads us to God the Father.

God needed a vessel to bring His Son into the world and we needed a mother to guide us and point us to Him. At the Visitation, Mary heard the words of Elizabeth: "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1: 42-43)

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

And Mary sang: "My soul magnifies the Lord, for he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all the ages call me blessed." (cf. Lk 1: 48)

The Nativity and Presentation of Jesus, the Son of God, give a glimpse of who Mary was to become. After hearing the proclamation by the angels, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that had taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." (Lk 2:15) When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about the child. (cf. Lk 2:17)

At the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, we hear that it had been revealed to Simeon by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Messiah of the Lord. (cf. Lk 2:26). The Child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about Him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." (Lk 2: 33-35) A good example of Mary's motherly love is the wedding feast of Cana, where Mary shows us her maternal love for her children. She is concerned for the young couple. They are out of wine and will be humiliated, and embarrassed. She steps up as a good mother to assist with the problem.

(Continues on pg. 12)

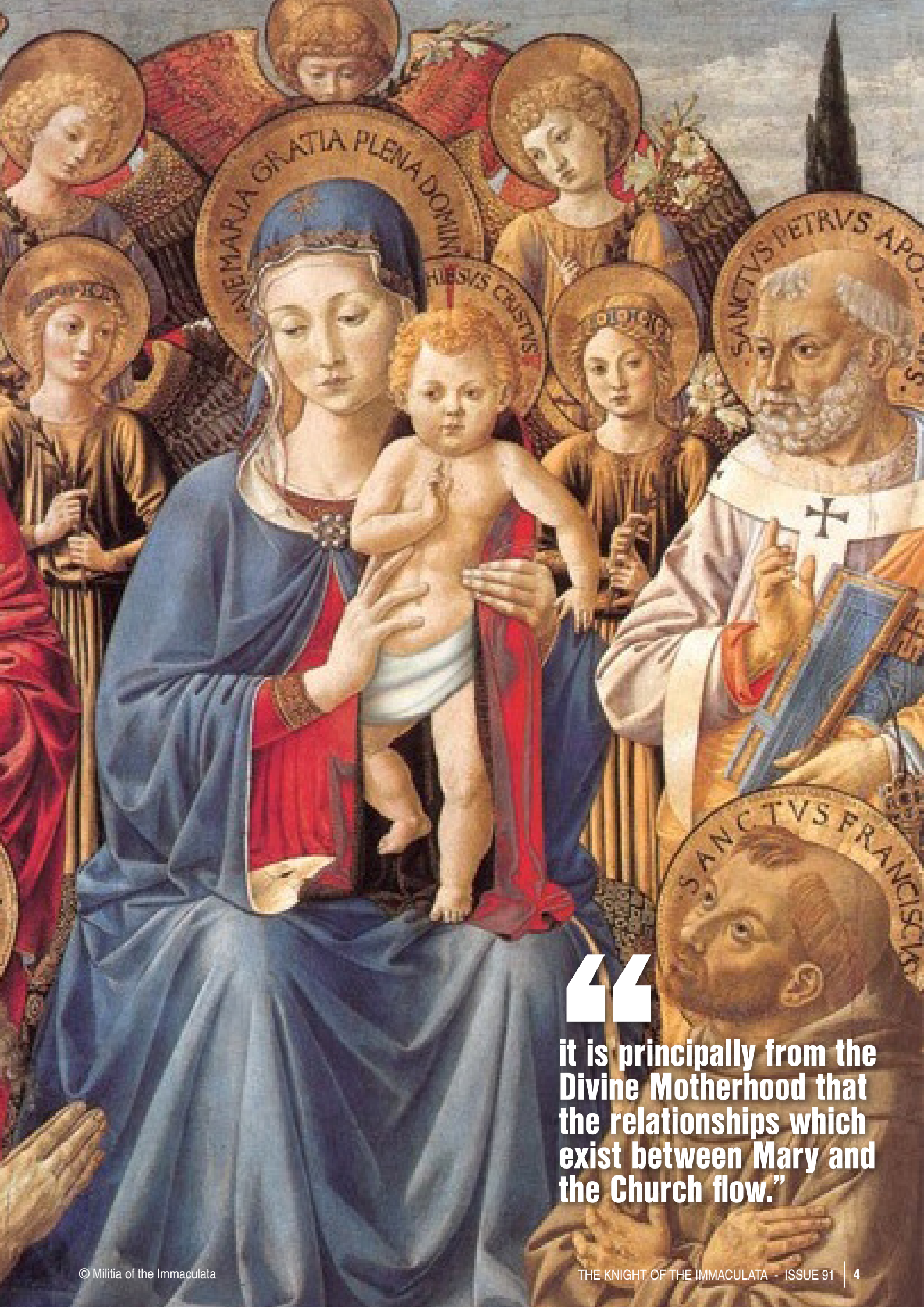
MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

**FROM THE ADDRESS OF POPE ST. PAUL VI, AT
THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRD SESSION OF
THE MOST HOLY SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL
(NOVEMBER 21, 1964)**

Taking into consideration the close ties by which Mary and the Church are bound together, to the glory of the Blessed Virgin and for our consolation, we declare Mary Most Holy to be Mother of the Church, that is, of the whole Christian people, faithful and Pastors alike, who invoke her as their most loving Mother; and we establish that by this sweetest of names the whole Christian people should henceforth give still greater honor to the Mother of God and offer her their supplications. Venerable Brothers, this concerns a title by no means new to Christian piety; indeed the Christian faithful and the universal Church choose to invoke Mary principally by the name of Mother. In truth, this name belongs to the genuine nature of devotion to Mary, since it rests firmly on that very dignity with which Mary is endowed as the Mother of the

Incarnate Word of God. Just as the Divine Motherhood is the basis both for Mary's unique relationship with Christ and for her presence in the work of human salvation accomplished by Christ Jesus, so likewise, it is principally from the Divine Motherhood that the relationships which exist between Mary and the Church flow. Mary is indeed the Mother of Christ who, at the moment he assumed human nature in her virginal womb, joined to Himself, as Head, His Mystical Body, which is the Church. Mary, therefore, as Mother of Christ, must also be regarded as Mother of all the faithful and Pastors alike, that is to say, of the Church. Herein lies the reason why we, though unworthy and weak, yet in a spirit of trust and with ardent filial love, raise our eyes to her. She who once gave us Jesus, the fount of heavenly grace, cannot fail to offer her maternal help to the Church, especially





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at this time in which the Spouse of Christ strives with greater zeal to fulfil her salvific mission. These closest of bonds between our heavenly Mother and the human race urge us, moreover, to foster and further strengthen this confidence. Even though she has been enriched with superabundant and wondrous gifts from God so as to be made worthy to be Mother of the Incarnate Word, nevertheless, Mary is very near to us. Like us, she is a child of Adam and so too our sister on account of our common human nature; she was preserved from the stain of original sin by reason of the future merits of Christ, but she added to these gifts received from on high the example of her own perfect faith and so merited the proclamation in the Gospel: "Blessed are you who have believed." In this mortal life she embodied the perfect form of a disciple of Christ, she was the mirror of all virtues, and in her manner of life exemplified fully those beatitudes proclaimed by Christ Jesus. Consequently, the universal Church, while she lives out the many facets of her life and in her active zeal, draws from the Virgin Mother of God the peerless example of how to imitate Christ perfectly.

MEMORIAL OF MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

O God, Father of mercies, whose Only Begotten Son, as He hung upon the Cross, chose the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother, to be our Mother also, grant, we pray, that with her loving help your Church may be more fruitful day by day and, exulting in the holiness of her children may draw to her embrace all the families of the peoples. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

In preparation for the
National Congress, join us
on this journey:

**"May with Our Lady, Mother
of our Eucharistic Lord"**

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NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

July 17-21, 2024

Indianapolis, IN

The Militia of the Immaculata will be present at the National Congress. Stop by the MI booth and say hello!



Eucharistic Revival Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who promised to stay with us always, until the end of the age.

Reawaken our wonder at His presence in the Most Holy Eucharist.

May our hearts burn within us as He opens the Scriptures and breaks the Bread.

Give us the eyes of faith to recognize His presence in our brothers and sisters, especially in the face of the poor and the suffering.

Nourished by the Eucharist, send us forth to walk faithfully as missionary disciples, proclaiming the Gospel to every heart and extending Your kingdom to every land.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

by Most Reverend José H. Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles

THE HOLY SPIRIT & MARY: LESSONS FOR PENTECOST

BY KATHLEEN BECKMAN

Mary is our sure path to a closer friendship with the Third Person of the Holy Trinity. At Pentecost the Blessed Virgin Mary received the Holy Spirit with unique fullness because hers is the freest human heart. The Lord promised to those who love Him: we will come to him and make our home with him (Jn 14:23). In Our Lady this promise is most fulfilled since she, the masterpiece of God is most prepared to be the living tabernacle of the Son of God and temple of the Holy Spirit. When the Angel greeted Mary: Hail, full of grace (Lk 1:28), she was already possessed by the Holy Spirit and filled with His grace. Yet, at Pentecost the Holy Spirit descended upon Mary and filled her soul in a new way. With God there is always more and ever-new grace for souls and the work of the Church. The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you (Lk 1:35). Redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son and united to Him by a close and indissoluble tie, she is endowed with the high

office and dignity of the Mother of the Son of God, and therefore she is also the beloved daughter of the Father and the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because of this gift of sublime grace, she far surpasses all creatures, both in Heaven and on earth. (*Lumen gentium*, 53)—The descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost prepared Mary and the Apostles for their respective post Ascension missions. The tongues of fire that appeared in the Upper Room infused their hearts and minds with charisms and gifts required for their vital mission of evangelizing the world: worshiping, preaching, teaching, healing, administrating, serving and unifying the people of God. The Holy Spirit effected their transformation into Christ. Christ did not send the Apostles forth immediately following His ascension. He directed them to the holy ground of the Upper Room where He had instituted two key sacraments for the birth of the Church: the sacrament of His body and blood—the Eucharist, and the sacrament of Holy Orders—the priesthood. Christ sent them to the Upper Room to be near Mother Mary who would pre-



pare them to receive and respond to the Holy Spirit in an altogether new way of holy conviction.

Heart of the Church: Mary & the Holy Spirit, Collaborators

We cannot separate what God has joined together—Mary and the Holy Spirit are mystically espoused and always work in communion for the sanctification of souls. From the birth of the Church up to our



own day all the good that has been done is the work of the Holy Spirit.

1. Evangelization of the nations
2. Conversions to Christ Jesus
3. Fortitude of the martyrs
4. Holiness of its members
5. Spiritual & corporal works of mercy
6. Sacramental fruitfulness.

St. Augustine teaches, "What the soul is to the body of man,

She, who at the start of the Redemption gave us her Son, now by her most powerful intercession obtained for the newborn Church the prodigious Pentecostal outpouring of the Spirit of the Divine Redeemer who had already been given on the Cross."

- Pius XII, *Mystici Corporis*, 29 June 1943

the Holy Spirit is in the Body of Christ which is the Church. The Holy Spirit acts in the Church as the soul acts in the members of a body (Sermon, 267)". The Church is Christ's living mystical body breathing with two co-dependent lungs: institutional and charismatic—as St. John Paul said at the

1998 Pentecost Vigil in Rome. The Hebrew name for spirit is "ruah" meaning both breath and wind. The necessity of breath to a living organism is obvious. The breath of God is the life of the Christian, the love that animates the soul and fills it with the splendor of truth. It is sublime to realize that the Holy

Spirit is in love with us first. To be possessed by the Holy Spirit is to be loved in an absolutely perfect divine way that frees us from the tyranny of false loves. Mary is the perfect model of full possession by the Holy Spirit and therefore she magnifies God alone. She can teach us to do the same—to abide





Mary is God's chosen vessel who assists in attuning our hearts to perceive the Holy Spirit prompting us."

with the same docility to the Holy Spirit's action in our soul. All our good works, every prayer that we offer, the promptings and desires which impel us to be better, the necessary help to realize the inspirations of God, is the work of the Holy Spirit, our sweet divine guest, comforter, and sanctifier. Our divine Teacher holds his school within the souls of those who ask him and who really want to have him as their Teacher. His action is preceded by the beaming rays of His light and knowledge. He comes with the truth of the real protector; for He comes to save, to heal, to teach, to counsel, to strengthen, to console, to illumine in the first place the mind of the person who receives Him, and through that person's works, the minds of others.

—St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Catechesis on the Holy Spirit, 1.

He who receives the gift of the Holy Spirit finds his soul full of light, and raised above natural reasoning, able to see that which he did not know formerly. There is quite a distinction between my human judgment of things and the divine discernment of God derived from the Holy Spirit. Mary is the model discerner. God

communes in various ways in the silence of a recollected soul, in the gentle whisper of a wind, or the shaking of the heart pierced by some truth. Mary is God's chosen vessel who assists in attuning our hearts to perceive the Holy Spirit prompting us, "Go this way, not that way" or "Arise and begin this work that I am calling you to do." The Holy Spirit never ceases to act within the Church: awakening new desires of holiness, new and at the same time better children of God. Our Lady, collaborating always with the Holy Spirit in souls, exercises maternal wisdom for all her children. Our Heavenly Father and Jesus have provided for us the very Gift of God—the Holy Spirit. It is consoling to remember that Christ, at the time when His Ascension was near, taught that it was better (better!) that He go to the Father so that His Spirit would come and be poured into our hearts. We are not able to see Jesus as did the Apostles but we have God with us through the abiding gift of the Holy Spirit.

Simple Marian Lessons for Pentecost

Luke 1:38 *I am the handmaid of the Lord.* Invoke the Holy Spirit to possess you more fully with His love and receive Him anew with docility and joy.

Luke 1:38 *Be it done unto me according to your word.* Desire to receive, respond, and retain an active love relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Luke 1:47 *The Mighty One has done great things for me.* Humbly pray for the Spirit's fire to set your heart ablaze and welcome the gifts and fruits of the Spirit.

Luke 1:46 *My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.* Acknowledge before God and man that whatever is good in you and your life is the gratuitous work of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 1:53 *He has lifted up the humble.* Stay in the middle of the collaborative action of Mary and the Holy Spirit so that you remain in the love that protects, sanctifies, equips you and empowers your mission.

Luke 1:48 *His mercy endures forever.* Contemplate the Upper Room and Christ's three interrelated initiatives for love and life: Eucharist, Priesthood & Pentecost.

John 2:5 *Do whatever He tells you.* With expectant faith daily invoke the Holy Spirit as your soul's best friend seeking loving companionship, counsel, courage, and direction.

Scriptural Prayer for Pentecost

(cf. **John 16:13-14** and **John 14:26**)

Christ said, "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth." Spirit of truth, guide me always, I pray. Christ said, "He will glorify me, for He will take what is mine and declare it to you." Holy Spirit, help me to glorify The Father and to declare with my life that Jesus Christ is Lord. Christ said, "The Counselor, the Holy Spirit will teach you all things and brings to your remembrance all that I have said to you." Divine Counselor, please enlighten my mind to the teachings of Christ, and help me to recall His words that are spirit and truth. Holy Spirit, please come anew; fill me with your love, life, joy, peace, and wisdom as I pray for my personal Pentecost through the intercession of your beloved spouse, the Virgin Mary. Amen

*Kathleen Beckman is a international Catholic evangelist, a prolific author, and President of the Foundation of Prayer for Priests. Often featured on Catholic TV and radio, Kathleen and her husband live in the Diocese of Orange, CA. This article was first published on CatholicExchange.com

Invite Friends to Be
Consecrated to Our Lady!



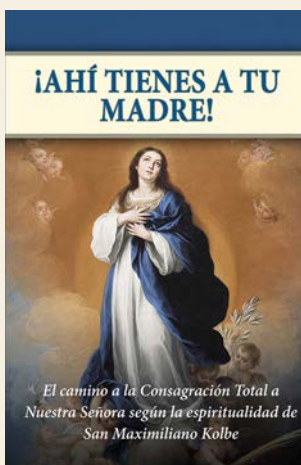
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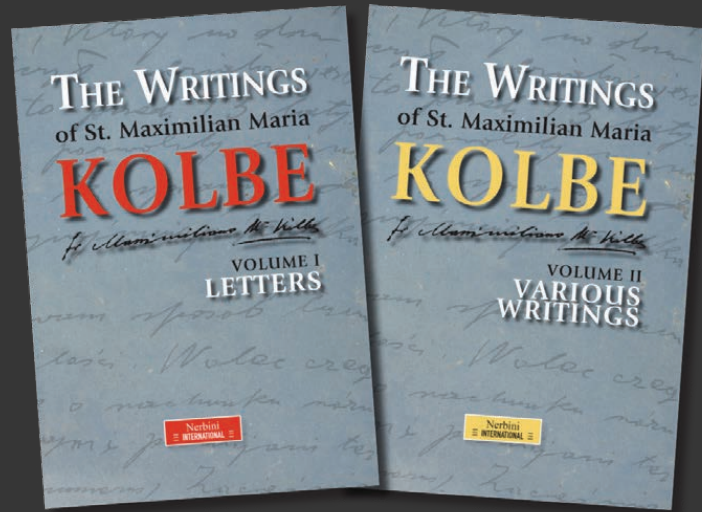
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VOLUME I: **LETTERS** • VOLUME II: **VARIOUS WRITINGS**

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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Introduction to The Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe"
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WHO IS MARY?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

She tells Jesus her Son that they are out of wine. He replies, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." (Jn 2:4) Since Mary is one with the Holy Spirit, her divine Spouse, she trusts Jesus will help this young couple and show His disciples a glimpse of who He is. Jesus called Mary "Woman." This was not a sign of disrespect but a sign of putting her on a higher level as someone of higher authority.

Was this a prelude or foreshadowing of what was to become of her? Did Mary know that she would become the Mother of the Church, the Queen Mother, the Mother of all of God's children? I believe Mary had to learn some things as her life and the life of Jesus progressed. Or was this a reminder that if His ministry began, hers was not far off? The wedding feast revealed that Mary is the new Eve. This calling her "Woman" came to full fruition when Jesus was on the cross. Finally, it became known to her, if she didn't already know, that she was to become the Mother of all of God's children, the Mother of us all. "When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, 'Woman behold your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Behold your Mother.'" (Jn 19: 26-27)

So, who then is this woman called Mary? A Queen Mother, as Bathsheba sitting at the right hand of Solomon? Bathsheba oversaw all the daily activities of the kingdom for King Solomon. Why not the wife of the King? The question would be: which one of the 300 wives or 700 concubines is the Queen...? It was customary in those days that the king's mother helped rule the kingdom and sat at the king's

right hand. Even Solomon's brother petitioned his mother for a request that she would bring to the king. St. Jacinta Marto told Lucia to "Tell everyone that our Lord grants us all graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary; that all must make their petitions to her." Mary is the Queen Mother who sits at the right hand of Jesus. We should ask Mary for what we need and bring our petitions to her; she will bring them to Jesus.

Who is Mary? She is none other than the Mother of God, the Mother of Jesus, the Spouse of the Holy Spirit, Our Mother, whom God so graciously gave us, the Woman with the twelve stars, the Woman we should place all our trust and hope in. She is the Woman who promised to lead us to Jesus Christ, who would be at our side to intercede for us at the hour of our death. Mary is our Mother, who loves us and will always love and care for us as only a mother can. "If anyone does not wish to have Mary Immaculate for his Mother, he will not have Christ for his Brother." (St. Maximilian Kolbe)

Pope Leo XIII said, "We may say that, by divine disposition, nothing can be conveyed to us of the infinite treasure of grace... except through Mary. So much so that, just as no one can approach the Supreme Father except through the Son, so ordinarily no one can approach Christ except through His Mother."

Mother 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 WRITES...

DURING THIS 170TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DOGMA OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, WE REFLECT ON HIS INSIGHTS. THIS MONTH, ENJOY THESE REFLECTIONS WRITTEN IN 1937-1939 (KW 1286 AND 1291)

Whatever exists is God or comes from God. In the Most Holy Trinity, God is the Father or comes from the Father. For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. The Father operates solely through the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ is the Son incarnate. The Immaculata is the Holy Spirit quasi-incarnate [quasi incarnatus]. In the Father, there is one person and one na-

ture. In Jesus Christ, there is one person and two natures. In the Immaculata, there are two persons and two natures, albeit united as closely as possible. The Holy Spirit dwells in a just soul. Therefore, in the Immaculata, who is the most just creature, the Holy Spirit is present in the most perfect way possible. The Immaculata is not only "conceived without sin" but is also the "Immaculate Conception" (Lourdes). Therefore, the Holy Spirit reigns in her the most perfectly

as possible. Every action starts from the Father through Jesus and the Immaculata, and comes to the souls. Every reaction starts from the souls and, through the Immaculata and Jesus, comes to the Father. Between the Father and Jesus, and Jesus and the Immaculata there exists perfect union. Between the Immaculata and the souls, instead, much needs to be perfected. Hence the MI; to speak of the Immaculata; often to think of her [and] to speak about her.

fr Maximilianus M. Kolbe



The Immaculata is the Mediatrix of all the graces of the Holy Spirit. By venerating the Immaculata, we venerate in a special way the Holy Spirit.”

The Immaculata is the Mediatrix of all graces, because she belongs to the Holy Spirit, by virtue of a most intimate and vital union with the Holy Spirit. That is why through her we come to Jesus and to the Father. The cause of the Immaculata is a veritable mystery, because she is the Mother of God and God is infinite, while our intelligence is limited. (KW 1286)

Every action [is] in view of a reaction. Reaction [is] the fruit of action. God the Father: First Principle and ultimate End. The Immaculata: full of grace; she does not lack anything that is grace. Grace [reaches the creature] along the same path: from the Father through the Son (Christ, “I will send”) through the Holy Spirit (the Immaculata). Reaction [occurs] the other way round: from the creature, through

the Immaculata (the Holy Spirit) and Christ (the Word), to the Father. Action and reaction = love = graces, good works. The Immaculata is a ship crossing infinity. At each instant (or rather forever) the Father begets the Son without a Mother (a Mother would entail the imperfection of the fruit) and from the Father through the Son (per Filium) and from the Son (et ex Filio) proceeds the Holy Spirit = divine life, model of every action, above all vital action. Let yourselves be guided. Acceptance of the word of God: “and she kept it” [cf. Lk 2:19, 51]. Mary herself does it all. Creation is a fruit of love. Jesus Christ is the fruit of God’s love toward the Blessed Virgin. Every “man-God” is the fruit of God’s love toward the Blessed Virgin. Everywhere love. Never trust in yourselves; rather, trust in the Immaculata. (KW 1291)

KOLBE DATES

May 4 - November 3, 1921

Friar Maximilian, after an extended stay at Zakopane hospital to be treated for tuberculosis, continues his convalescence in Nieszawa.



May 16, 1931

The editorial office of the *Kishi* [Japanese magazine] is transferred from the rented house in the Oura district of Nagasaki to the Hongochi suburb, at the foot of Mount Hikosan, where the Polish missionaries build a friary, which takes the name of Mugenzai no Sono (Garden of the Immaculata).

MI GROUPS IN THE US



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

In addition to MI Villages that meet in person, we have several Online MI Villages. Do you want to connect and pray with other MI members? Looking for support in deepening or preparing for your consecration? Join a virtual MI Village and live out your consecration with others. Email Moderators for information.

Moderator: Patti S
Email: cljm100@gr
Mtg Day: Wednesday
Mtg Time: 7:30 pm

Moderator: Joseph
Email: mi.la.adm@
Mtg Day: Friday (Last month)
Mtg Time: 8:00 pm
Weekly Consecration
Virtual Village Rosary
pm CST



schwartz
 mail.com
 day
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h Willis
 outlook.com
 ast Friday of each

h CST
 on Renewal &
 ary Tuesdays @ 8:30

Moderator: Douglas Eschbach
 Email: MI.village.marytown@gmail.com
 Mtg Day: Sunday (3rd Sunday of each month)
 Mtg Time: 5:00 pm CST

Moderator: Donna – 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: 8:00 pm-9:00 pm MST

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

Moderator: Lisa Fulgenzi
 Email: drlisafmi@gmail.com
 Write to request Google Meet join info
 Mtg Day: Mondays
 Mtg Time: 12-00-1:00 pm EST



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.

MAY MI INTENTION

BY FR. THOMAS CZECK, OFM CONV.

May

O Immaculata, please intercede...

That we may contribute to the renewal of the world by our Eucharistic devotion, our consecration to you, and praying the Rosary daily.

Reflection - During this month of May we finish the Easter Season with the celebration of Pentecost and we celebrate Our Blessed Mother. St. Maximilian, in his article "Who Would Dare to Imagine?," ponders the God of love who redeems us on the Cross "in this terrible but generous way! Who would dare to imagine?" That love continues to provide for us in the Most Blessed Sacrament. "You remain upon this miserable world in the Most Holy and exceedingly admirable Sacrament of the altar, and now You come to me and unite Yourself intimately to me as nourishment... Now Your Blood flows into mine, Your Soul, O incarnate God, penetrates

me, my soul, strengthening and nourishing it... What miracles! Who would dare to imagine?" (KW1145) St. Maximilian continues to ponder one more gift of Jesus from the Cross: "Your Heart, inflamed with love for me, suggested to You another gift, yes, yet one more gift!... Your goodness, Your mercy, therefore created for us a Mother, the personification of Your goodness and infinite love." (ibid.) Our devotion is a response to such great gifts from our loving God. We enter into the mystery of Jesus with Mary in every Rosary we pray. In our consecration we receive the gift of our Mother, the Mediatrix of all graces. Grace prepares us to unite with Our Lord in the Eucharist. Who would dare to imagine? Our love, responding to the love of God, renews the world and brings hope! "A single act of love makes the soul return to life." Saint Maximilian Kolbe

Prayer - Act of Total Consecration to the Immaculata.



MI News

Fr. Thomas Czeck, OFM Conv., the National Spiritual Assistant of the Militia of the Immaculata, went to the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, Ohio, and on April 9 and 10 offered two presentations on the life and mission of St. Maximilian Kolbe. In the first talk, he explored the events in the life of St. Maximilian Kolbe that made him “The Apostle of Our Difficult Age,” and participants gained insights from his life and his witness of sanctity on how to face the difficulties in our world. The second presentation focused on St. Maximilian as a Marian evangelist and addressed the question: How do you pass on the faith in a world that is indifferent or hostile to faith and the Church? This was the very question that led Maximilian Kolbe to form a mission to respond with hope and love. He established the Militia of the Immaculata to win all to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The participants (see picture) look forward to delving deeper into the treasure of St. Maximilian’s legacy.



TM

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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