



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

“The goal of the MI (the abbreviation comes from the Latin *Militia Immaculatae*, or Militia of the Immaculata) is, in fact, to make sure that all become saints. In all this activity, what strikes the eye most of all is its Marian thrust. This is a consequence of a precise understanding of the mission of the Immaculata.” (KW 1220)

July 2017

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IN THIS ISSUE

Whisperings of the Holy Spirit: The Word of God’s Advice on the Scriptures and Praying Them

By John W. Galten, MI National President

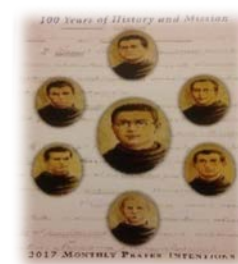
Dear Knights of the Immaculata, Maria! You might remember that last time we spoke of the need to be familiar with Holy Scripture particularly by means of meditation prayer. We spoke a good deal about references from Church documents on this. This month we want to listen intently to what the written Word of God says about itself. I write this meditation in the spirit of St. John Paul II who writes that the documents of the Second Vatican Council on the Church asked the question: “Who are you, O Church?”, or put another way: “What do you have to say for yourself, O Church?” Let us pose this question to the Holy Scriptures, “What do you have to say for yourself, O Holy Scriptures?” Every word in the Old Testament and New Testament bears witness one way or another to Jesus, either preparing the way for Him or speaking directly of Him. We hear the Word proclaim that God’s Word is a lamp unto our feet. As the light is to seeing, so is the Word the gift of understanding of God and His ways. This description of the importance of Holy Scripture clearly reveals God’s Word as a map to know Him and to make our way home to the Father’s house. Enough said about that. We see the prophet Elijah retire to the mountain to listen to God. He finds a cave and makes his home there awaiting God’s speech. He sees and feels the earth tremble in a mighty earthquake but God is not in the trembling; he hears a mighty wind, but God is not speaking in the roar; and finally he hears the voice of a gentle breeze and the prophet covers his face with his mantle because God as Lover speaks with gentleness to the beloved. Listening is paramount in meditation on Scripture—God’s Word.

(continues on pg. 7)

Save the Dates!
MI Centennial Celebrations
& National Pilgrimage to Italy



News from MI Villages



Reflection on July MI Intention

PERMANENT MI NATIONAL SITE BEING SOUGHT



Now that the MI National has settled into a temporary space at Santa Maria del Popolo Parish in Mundelein, Illinois, the MI National Council has

discussed and determined some specific needs in terms of moving to a permanent site.

Placing our trust in the Immaculata, following the example of St. Maximilian Kolbe, the Council is seeking approximately 1,500 square feet of space. That would allow for an administrative office, workroom/meeting area, kitchenette, storage space and perhaps a small chapel. Overnight accommodations on-site or very nearby, as well, would be ideal.

If you – or someone you know – have a property, a house or a building you are

able to donate to the MI, we would like to discuss such a tax-deductible gift with you. Please call the MI National Office at (331) 223-5564 or email us at

MINational
@MissionImmaculata.com

Please continue to pray for this very special intention during the month of July. Thank you!

For info about the MI Youth & Young Adults visit:

MIYouth.org
Listen to the MI Youth Podcast on iTunes!

Check the MI official Facebook page: Mission of the Immaculata



The National Center of the Militia of the Immaculata in the United States in collaboration with MI leaders around the country is sponsoring Centennial Celebrations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Militia of the Immaculata movement by St. Maximilian Kolbe on October 16, 1917 - three days after the last Fatima apparition.

SAVE THE DATE! MI Centennial Celebrations throughout the U.S.A.

These special events are open to MI members and all Catholic faithful who wish to deepen their Marian spirituality and to find in Our Lady guidance and inspiration in living the Faith and giving authentic witness to it in the world.

We are grateful to acknowledge that **OUR SUNDAY VISITOR Institute** is helping to underwrite the MI Centennial Celebrations.



On the West Coast:

Date: Saturday, August 12, 2017
Time: 10:30 am -4:00 pm
Where: St. Christopher Parish, West Covina, CA

On the East Coast:

Date: October 2017
Where: Philadelphia, PA (location TRA)

The MI Co-founders Enrico Granata and Joseph Peter Maria Pal

As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Militia of the Immaculata, we continue to be acquainted with the young Franciscans who joined St. Maximilian on October 16, 1917, to start our MI Movement.



Father Enrico Granata

He was born in Lettere (Naples) on August 8, 1888, the son of Giuseppe and Giuseppa D'Antuono. He entered the Order of Friars Minor Conventual in 1914, when he had already completed his high school studies with the Redemptorists. He began his novitiate in Montella, but completed it in Santa Anastasia, to where the College and the novitiate had been transferred, and where he made his simple profession on November 23, 1915. He began his theological studies in Barra, but completed them in Rome (1916-1918) at the Seraphic College, where, on November 21, 1917, he made his solemn vows. On April 28, 1918, he was ordained a priest by Cardinal Vicar Basilio Pompilj in the Church of Sant'Andrea della Valle. Father Granata was assigned first to St. Anastasia and then to Ravello. As in those years the Province of Naples helped the Province of Abruzzo, he worked as pastor in Lanciano and Pettorano. Having survived the martyrdom of Saint Maximilian, Father Granata, on March 12, 1962, testified at the Padua apostolic process for his beatification. With evident emotion, he showed the Miraculous

Medal around his neck received by Father Pal along with Father Maximilian on the evening of October 16, 1917.

He was hospitalized in the Retirement Home "S. M. Immaculata" of Bagnoli di Tivoli, near Rome, where he endured the infirmities of age with peace and contemplation. He died on January 24, 1964, at the age of 75.



Father Joseph Peter Maria Pal

Joseph Peter Pal was born on October 6, 1889 in Zapodia, Moldova (Romania), the son of Rose and Michael Pal. At age 16, in 1905, he entered the Seminary of the Friars Minor Conventual of Halaucesti. Having completed his novitiate, on October 31, 1909, he made his simple profession. In 1912 he came to Italy to continue his studies in philosophy in the College of Montottone (Marche region, Italy), where he met with Friar Głowiński. He made his solemn vows in 1913 at the College of Montottone. On October 18, 1913, he was transferred to Rome at the International Seraphic College, becoming a friend and advisor of Brother Maximilian. On April 22,

1916, with a singular dispensation of Pope Benedict XV, he was ordained a priest in his first year of theology, with the requirement that he continue his studies, without exercising offices or pastoral services. On April 23, Easter Sunday, he celebrated his first Mass at the tomb of St. Peter.

In 1919, after seven years spent in Rome, Father Pal returned to Romania, where he was appointed guardian and pastor of the parish church in Liuzi-Calugara. He was later elected Provincial Minister of the Province of St. Joseph, and he maintained this position for 15 years, until his death.

In 1941 Father Pal published the first volume of his work *The Catholic Origin of Moldova*; the following year he published the second volume. Through this work of high historical and apologetic value, he saved the Moldovan Catholics from sure deportation. In 1947, during the novena in honor of St. Anthony of Padua, while visiting a typhus patient who wanted to be reconciled with the Lord, Father Pal contracted the disease. On June 21, 1947, Father Joseph Peter Pal, singing the *Salve Regina* and the *Sub Tuum praesidium*, died staring at the image of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

(to be continued)

St. Maximilian's Rule of Life

During this summer month, as we enjoy some time of rest whether from school or from work, let us take a look at St. Maximilian's own Rule of Life (KW 971). He drafted it during his spiritual exercises in February 1920 and kept it until the end of his life. May his words inspire us on our journey with the Immaculata!

(To be read each month)

- 1—I must be a saint, the greatest saint possible.
- 2—The *greatest* possible glory of God through salvation and the most perfect sanctification of oneself and of all those who live now and shall live in the future, by way of the Immaculata.
- 3—Exclude mortal sin or willful venial sin a priori.
- 2 —Serenity about the past. Make up for wasted time with fervor.
- 4—I shall not let through
 - a. *any evil* without reparation (destroying it) and
 - b. *any good* that I may do, increase or contribute to in any measure.
- 5—Your rule is obedience. = the Will of God through the Immaculata.
You are an instrument.
- 6—*Do what you are doing*; and pay heed to no other things, either good or bad.
- 7—Ever peaceful and love-filled action.
- 8—Preserve order, and order shall preserve you.
- 9—Preparation, action, conclusion.
- 10—Remember always that you are absolute, unconditional, unlimited, irrevocable *possession and property* of the Immaculata; whoever you are, whatever you

have, or can do, all the “actiones” (thoughts, words, deeds) and the “passiones” (pleasant, unpleasant, or indifferent things) *belong entirely to her*. Consequently, let her dispose of them according to her (not your) wish. So also *all* your intentions belong to her; therefore let her transform them, add others, take away some as she pleases (for she is incapable of violating justice).

You are an *instrument* in her hands, therefore do *solely* what she wants; accept each thing from her hand. Have recourse to her *in all things, like a child* to his mother, entrust all things to her. Take interest in *her*, in her *devotion*, in *her things*, and *let her* take care of you and your things.

Acknowledge that you received everything *from her* and that *nothing* comes *from yourself*.

The whole fruit of your work depends on your union with her, just as she is the instrument of God's mercy.

My *life* (each of its instants), my *death* (where, when, and how), and my *eternity*, all that is *yours*, O Immaculata. Do with all that *whatever you please*.

11—I can do all things in Him who strengthens me through the Immaculata [cf. Phil 4:13].

12—*Inner life*: “*First of all, be dedicated completely to your own spiritual life, so that you may give yourself completely to all.*”

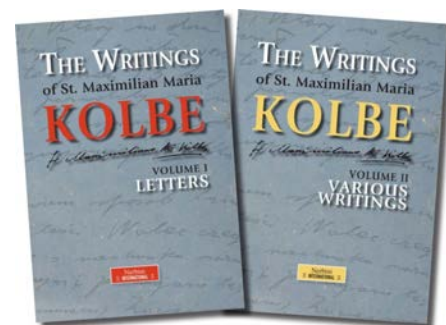
Not a member yet?

Consider making your Marian consecration in the MI during this 100th anniversary of the Fatima apparitions and of the founding of the MI!

Visit MissionImmaculata.com for more information.



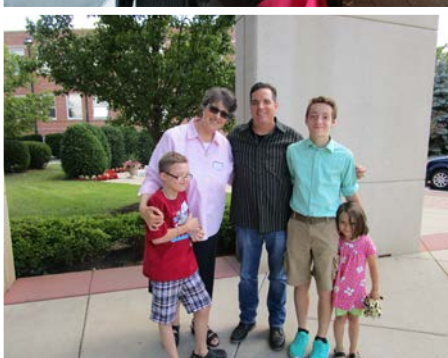
**Call us
for information about
the English critical
edition of
*The Writings
of St. Maximilian
Maria Kolbe***



**MI National Center
331-223-5564**

Midwest Centennial Celebration in Pictures

On Saturday, June 24, 2017, the Midwest MI Centenary Celebration was held at Santa Maria del Popolo Parish in Mundelein, Illinois. People from at least five states attended this event marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Militia of the Immaculata by St. Maximilian Kolbe. The MI National President, John Galten, shared his vision for the Movement and met personally with long-time and new MI members. Truly a blessed day!



October 10-19, 2017
MI 100th Anniversary
National Pilgrimage
to Italy
Register TODAY!

With participation in the
100th Anniversary
MI International Celebrations

Be part of this once-in-a-lifetime experience and travel to Italy during this MI Centenary Year!

Join **John Galten**, the MI National President, **Jason Jones**, producer of the pro-life movie *Bella*, and other MI members from around the country.

Walk in the footsteps of St. Maximilian Kolbe and visit churches, shrines and other sacred places in Assisi, Siena and Rome.

Our **Pilgrimage Chaplain** will be **Fr. Stephen Boyle, O.Praem.**

As part of the pilgrimage we will participate in the three-day 100th Anniversary MI International Celebrations organized by the *Militia of the Immaculata International*.

The MI National Centenary Pilgrimage departs from Chicago-O'Hare airport on a direct flight to Rome. Flight, taxes, accommodations and a number of meals are included in the price. Space is limited so make plans to join us soon.

Contact Mater Dei Tours TODAY
to obtain more information
and to register 1-800-515-2632.
Visit MissionImmaculata.com
to download the complete itinerary.



Reflection on the July MI Intention

O Immaculata please intercede

That the MI may be the home of all who seek the love of Christ and your tenderness.

The MI is called to be the home of all those who are searching for the love of Christ and the sweetness of the Immaculata. St. Maximilian felt, in a very particular way, the urgent mission to make known to everyone in the world the love of God, manifested in Jesus, and the maternal care of Mary. To pursue this mission he dedicated everything to its goal. The course of our movement is in this same direction. Below are some expressions of St. Maximilian found in a letter to a reader of the Polish publication, *Rycerz Niepokalanej*, September 1924. “Please do not be discouraged by the fact that coldness and malice prevail, because the grace of God, through the Immaculata, is stronger. If they do not want to pay for *Rycerz*, then we will gladly send it for free, and the Immaculata will provide for finding the offerings for that place from somewhere else. The purpose of the Militia of the Immaculata is to conquer the whole world, all hearts and each person individually, for the Queen, not only of Heaven, but also of the Earth. To give true happiness to those poor unfortunates who seek it in the ephemeral pleasure of this world, this is our aim.” (KW 97, response to a reader of the *Rycerz Niepokalanej* magazine in Polish).

The MI must be characterized by hospitality/a spirit of welcome. Each member of our association is obliged to create an exceptional climate of fraternity and sharing, so that whoever is searching for God may find Him even in our lives. Following the example of St. Maximilian, each member of the MI transmits to others the happiness he or she finds in his or her communion with Christ and invites others to embrace the Kolbean ideal. MI members who are welcoming and prayerful can offer important answers to those who seek to pursue a path of discernment.

“We must fight with our prayer, good example, and cordiality, with great gentleness and kindness, as a reflection of the Immaculata’s goodness. Those people who seek happiness outside of God are unhappy people who, wrapped up in sins and vice, are chasing happiness, looking for it where there is none and where they cannot find it.” (*Ibid.*)

Every member of the MI is called to feel responsible for the happiness of others by way of his or her authentic witness in daily life.

“In addition, the Medal of the Immaculata is the weapon or rather the bullet that serves every Knight of the Immaculata. Someone could be the worst of all creatures, but if he agrees to wear the medal, it must be given to him. We gladly send as many as are needed for free. You must pray for him and at the right opportunity, through a kind word, try to bring him slowly to love the Immaculate Mother with all his heart, to take refuge in her in all his difficulties and

temptations. He, who begins to pray sincerely to the Immaculata, after a short time, especially on her feast day, will be persuaded to go to confession. There is much evil in the world, but let us remember that the Immaculata is more powerful and ‘she shall crush the head of the serpent’ [cf. Gen 3:15] (*Ibid.*).

To discover the love of Mary is the most beautiful experience a person can live and this can come about through the mediation of whomever already experiences her maternal protection. By presenting to others the beauty and importance of welcoming the Immaculata in their lives, we, in fact, invite them into a path of continual conversion. One who knows the Immaculata cannot but help perceive the urgency to follow Christ with serious commitment.

For Reflection

Every member of the MI is called to ask himself or herself about one’s spirit of welcome and ability to accompany others. Every member of the MI, in every gathering of our movement, must transmit a contagious love, which brings others to desire to live a Christian life. This will give them meaning in life. We need to be aware of this special mission, to be a welcoming home for whomever searches for the love of God and the protection of Mary. Following Fr. Kolbe we seek to walk in his footsteps. This calls us to communicate the beauty of the Christian life in our lives. Our lives can become a reference point for others.

(From the MI International Office – Translated by Ann O’Donnell, FKMI)

Editorial

(Cont. from pg. 1)

The prophet Isaiah in chapter 55 speaks of the need to listen to the Word of God as the most valuable thing in the world. The prophet writes, “Why spend your money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live.” How clear and consoling is the message from God!

In the New Testament we see the final revelation of God the Father in the form of the Son made flesh Who dwelled in our midst and continues to do so. The Father at Jesus’ Baptism reveals that Jesus is His beloved Son and that we should listen to Him. So, now we have the particular and personal invitation, if not command, to listen to Jesus as the Scriptures bear witness to Him.

After Jesus reveals the gift of the Holy Eucharist, the eating of His very Body and Blood, many of His disciples abandon Him and He poses this question to His apostles, “And will you too abandon Me?” Peter makes his great act of faith for us, “Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe that you are the Holy One of God.”

St. Jerome, the great translator of the Scriptures into the common Latin tongue of his time, tells us, “Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.”

There is an ancient philosophical dictum, “You cannot love what you do not know.” God’s Holy Word reveals Jesus and God’s

plan. How can we not listen each day to the Gospel to learn about and love Him Who is our Beloved? See paragraphs 2653, 2654, 2659, and 2670-2672 in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. So, you have your marching orders.

“Arise! Let us be on our Way.”
Until next time...

In the Immaculata,

John W. Galten
MI National President

MI Village of the Immaculata in Milwaukee, WI



May Crowning of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima during their regular First Saturday meeting on 5/6/17.

Daughters of Mary MI Village of the Immaculata, West Haven, UT



With a theme of "Joyful in Christ" the *Daughters of Mary* Village of the Immaculata at St. Mary Catholic Church in West Haven, Utah, hosted its third annual women's retreat during the month of June. Forty-six women from across the state gathered June 9 through June 11 to pray and to experience fellowship. Under the direction of pastor Father Gustavo Vidal, and assisted by Father Kolbe Missionary of the Immaculata Ann O'Donnell, women were invited to make their total consecration to the Immaculata and join the MI.

UPDATE ABOUT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MI VILLAGES

Riverside, CA

Padre Pio MI Village

Michael Prosser
at mykeprosser@yahoo.com

or 951-321-0425

Small home gathering every 23rd of the month

Holy Cross MI Village

Downtown Riverside / Mount
Rubidoux

Freddy Solorio

at fresol139@hotmail.com

MI Perpetual Help MI Village

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic
Church

5250 Central Ave, Riverside, CA
92504

Every 13th of the month at 6:30pm

Freddy Solorio

at fresol139@hotmail.com

Holy Face MI Village

St. Francis de Sales

4268 Lime St, Riverside, CA 92501

Every 24th of the month

Outside of Church on the side near

the statue of the Immaculata

Parish office: 951-686-4004

Guasti, CA

MI Miraculous Medal Village

MI Miraculous Medal Village

San Secondo d'Asti Catholic Church

250 N Turner Ave, Ontario, CA 91761

Every 18th and 30th of the month at
7pm

Outside of Church in the front, near

Our Lady of the Miraculous

Medal statue

Parish office: 909-390-0011

**Please find MI locations in the
US posted on the MI website
MissionImmaculata.com**

Attention MI Members!
**We look forward to hearing from
YOU or from your local
groups/villages.**

**Send news and pictures by
the 20th of the month. Thank you!**

West Coast MI Centennial Celebration: One Hundred Years of Mission

**Saturday,
August 12, 2017
St. Christopher Parish
West Covina, CA**

10:30 am Welcome

11:00 am *The New Evangelization with the Immaculata in the Footsteps of St. Maximilian Kolbe*
—John W. Galten, MI National President

1:00 pm Veneration of a First-class relic of St. Maximilian

2:00 pm **Holy Mass** and consecration to the Immaculata, followed by a light reception

For more information or to collaborate in this event, please contact the Fr. Kolbe Missionaries of the Immaculata:
FKMissionaries@gmail.com
626-917-0040



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www.MissionImmaculata.com
minational@missionimmaculata.com

Prayer for the MI Centenary Year

May you be praised, Immaculate Virgin! You have been the light and soul of the MI during the first one hundred years of its life. In order to follow Christ faithfully, like St. Maximilian, we have contemplated your splendid virtues. In you we have found the strength to love and have brought the charity of your Son everywhere. You still are our consolation in the trials of our lives. You are our light in our work of evangelization. You are our strength in our journey of faith, communion with the Lord and discipleship.

Into your hands we place again today the journey of the MI present throughout the world, so that it may bring to all

people the love of the Lord and the beauty of your compassionate and maternal presence.

May our MI apostolate radiate to our brothers and sisters the mercy of God reflected also in your tender care toward each person.

We shall let ourselves be led by you, most sweet Mother, certain that with your protection we will live according to God's will. May the MI centenary year spur us on to be valiant apostles of God's Kingdom and to experience your support in our ecclesial mission. O Immaculata, we let ourselves be led by you! Amen.

Check regularly the MI website
MissionImmaculata.com
for updates about the MI Centenary Year.
Find reflections, the lyrics and music of the
theme song, special events and more!

“If you love the Immaculata, if your heart burns with gratitude to her, offer your contribution to this work, according to your capabilities! It is worth making such an effort! The Immaculata will not forget it! May all MI Knights be zealous in winning the world over to the Immaculata!”

St. Maximilian Kolbe

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