

THE MISSION OF THE *Immaculata*

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Going Deeper into the Heart -III

By John W. Galten, MI National President

Dear Knights of the Immaculata,



Maria!

We have been speaking in these latest newsletters of the prayer path to the Sacred Heart of Jesus—especially in this month of June—the month dedicated to the Pierced Heart of the Savior. This path of prayer passes through the Immaculata's Heart by way of our Total Consecration. We are reminded by the Catholic Catechism of the Church that prayer is a battleground. This arduous trek is beset by the devil and our own weakness. Do not be afraid! Our Lady accompanies us on this prayer journey to His Heart.

Besides sin, which is enemy number one, there are other obstacles on our pilgrimage. I want to dwell on one more of these potholes in the road. It may surprise you as to its identity—what the ancient tradition called “acedia.” It was identified by the early desert Fathers of the Church as a sadness that resulted in spiritual listlessness, boredom, dejection, leading to sloth, laziness. It results in an “I don't care” attitude, leaving our prayer, slackening on our spiritual exercises, and drifting away from the Sacraments. We, even as lay people, living in a terribly superficial age, typified by the search for material “kicks,” addicted to thrill seeking, fascinated by all that is “new” or “progressive,” may experience feeling bored unless we are entertained, and sad, sad, sad because none of these things delivers in the long run.

We see people abandoning religion, religious life, married life for something “new” and “stimulating.” This spiritual illness manifests itself by tiring of spreading the Faith or tiring of doing good.

(continues on pg. 2)



“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)

Editorial

(cont. from pg. 1)

A very important book was published by Ignatius Press and authored by Dom Jean-Charles Nault, *The Noon-day Devil—Acedia*. In a very insightful passage the author reveals the malicious heart of this sinful temptation and condition: “A sin against the joy of charity, it is sadness about what ought to gladden us most, the participation in the very life of God. On the other hand, acedia is a sin against charity when it crushes or paralyzes activity, namely charity, the participation of the Holy Spirit.”

Joy is mentioned numerous times by Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis in his encyclical letter *The Joy of the Gospel*.

Saints are not sad. Even the difficulties, setbacks and defeats of our daily lives are short-lived, but the bedrock of joy in Jesus remains and will remain according to His promise.

The remedy? Perseverance, not with grimness but always with the trust of a child; a relentless dedication to the Immaculata and our daily renewal of our consecration to her; deepening gift of ourselves to the Sacred Heart, particularly in the Holy Eucharist. Against these, even if all hell is unleashed against us, it will fail to overwhelm our stronghold. She will crush the head of the adversary—the enemy of God and all His good creation.

One of my MI Village members had a wonderful quote on a T-shirt—“When the devil reminds you of your past, remind him of his future. St. Teresa of Avila.” So resist his temptation to sadness, rejoice in the Immaculata and her spouse the Holy Spirit who lead us to the intimate depths of love—the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

So until next month, dear Knights, continue the good fight for the Kingdom. “Arise, let us be on our way.”

John W. Galten
MI National President

P.S. “Restore to me the joy of Your Salvation and uphold me with a willing spirit.” Psalm 51:12

P.P.S. Don't forget to promote our MI Newsletter! Use it for your ongoing formation and for your MI Villages reflection!

Daily Holy Mass
will be offered
throughout 2019 for
the MI-USA and all
MI Members 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:**

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**Invite Everyone 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 may be used individually or as a group activity (in a 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.

Many people have expressed the desire to promote total consecration to Mary in their parish and local area. **The Path to Total Consecration** offers you an effective tool for making that possible!

The suggested donation for multiple copies of the new booklet is \$2.00/ea. plus shipping; for a single copy, the suggested donation is \$3.75 shipping included.

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The Secret of Priestly Holiness



An ardent love for the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary: this will be the secret for the growth in holiness of all priests.

St. John Paul II instituted the Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests to be observed on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart. Let's pray fervently for all priests. Let's invite them to be consecrated to Our Lady, who embraces each priest as she did St. John at the foot of the Cross, when Jesus said: "Behold your son!" (Jn 19:25-27). The following act of consecration was composed and recited by Pope Benedict XVI on May 12, 2010, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima.

Immaculate Mother, called together by the love of your Son Jesus the Eternal High Priest, we, sons in the Son and his priests, consecrate ourselves to your maternal Heart, in order to carry out faithfully the Father's Will.

We are mindful that, without Jesus, we can do nothing good (cf. Jn 15:5) and that only through Him, with Him and in Him, will we be instruments of salvation for the world.

Bride of the Holy Spirit, obtain for us the inestimable gift of transformation in Christ. Through the same power of the Spirit that overshadowed you, making you the Mother of the Savior, help us to bring Christ your Son to birth in ourselves too.

May the Church be thus renewed by priests who are holy, priests transfigured by the grace of Him who makes all things new.

Mother of Mercy, it was your Son Jesus who called us to become like Him: light of the world and salt of the earth (cf. Mt 5:13-14).

Help us, through your powerful intercession, never to fall short of this sublime vocation, nor to give way to our selfishness, to the allurements of the world and to the wiles of the Evil One.



Fr. Richard Nguta, parochial vicar of St. Mark's Parish, Peoria, Illinois, made his consecration to Our Lady and enrolled in the MI on April 25, 2019.

Preserve us with your purity, guard us with your humility and enfold us with your maternal love that is reflected in so many souls consecrated to you, who have become for us true spiritual mothers.

Mother of the Church, we priests want to be pastors who do not feed themselves

but rather give themselves to God for their brethren, finding their happiness in this. Not only with words, but with our lives, we want to repeat humbly, day after day, our "Here I am."

Guided by you, we want to be Apostles of Divine Mercy, glad to celebrate every day the Holy Sacrifice of the Altar and to offer to those who request it the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Advocate and Mediatrix of grace, you who are fully immersed in the one universal mediation of Christ, invoke upon us, from God, a heart completely renewed that loves God with all its strength and serves mankind as you did.

Repeat to the Lord your efficacious word: "They have no wine" (Jn 2:3), so that the Father and the Son will send upon us a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Our Mother for all time, do not tire of "visiting us," consoling us, sustaining us. Come to our aid and deliver us from every danger that threatens us. With this act of entrustment and consecration, we wish to welcome you more deeply, more radically, for ever and totally into our human and priestly lives.

Let your presence cause new blooms to burst forth in the desert of our loneliness, let it cause the sun to shine on our darkness, let it restore calm after the tempest, so that all mankind shall see the salvation of the Lord, who has the name and the face of Jesus, who is reflected in our hearts, for ever united to yours! Amen!

Radio Station KMMK: Carrying Catholic Programs in the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Area and Beyond

By Dan Russo, The Witness Editor, updated by Tony May, MI Member.



Tony and Susan May station leaders of KMMK, Cedar Rapids, Iowa area (Photos by Tony May/KMMK)

It came down to the wire the day KMMK 88.7 FM went on the air.

Volunteers were working on connecting cables, readying computers and perfecting other technical matters on April 8, 2018, until the last possible second before the radio station began broadcasting on Divine Mercy Sunday.

“We could not get that signal up before that Divine Mercy Hour,” recalled Tony May, president of Pro-Life Unity and Support (PLUS) Charities, the non-profit behind the station. “It was a quarter to three. For us, it was very symbolic.”

KMMK is the latest radio station to be established within the boundaries of the Archdiocese of Dubuque that



A Murphy Tower climber installing the KMMK 88.7 MHz FM antenna and coax on a cellular tower

carries Catholic programming, joining others in Dubuque, Charles City and Marshalltown. The effort is an all-volunteer lay evangelization project that involved almost three dozen volunteers from the various parishes of the Cedar Rapids area.

Having approached their one-year anniversary, the Mays reflect on the journey to bring KMMK, a radio station named for Maximilian Mary Kolbe, the patron saint of amateur radio, from dream to reality. (The Polish Franciscan

friar was a trailblazer in communications, which is why they chose his initials as part of their call letters.)

“Catholic radio is an excellent means of evangelization because through the airwaves people can hear the message of Christ through all these beautiful programs ... and every day it changes so something new can be learned every day,” said Sue May.

The retired teacher spent years teaching music and theology at Regis Catholic Middle School and Xavier Catholic High School in Cedar Rapids respectively. She got the idea to start the station while hearing Catholic programs on stations in Nebraska and North Dakota on trips to visit relatives. She then enlisted the help of her husband whose professional engineering background and experience as a ham radio operator came in handy.

Over a decade ago, the Federal Communications Commission opened up a window for community groups to apply for applications for Non-Commercial Educational (NCE) stations, in the lower part of the FM band. The Mays, under the name of the nonprofit, applied and began the push to raise \$55,000 for the cost of getting the station up and running. A change in FCC policy kept them and other applicants tied up in litigation for about seven years, but with the help of a high-powered Washington, D.C., attorney named Dennis Kelly who has a passion for radio and Catholic evangelization efforts, they won their case.

In 2016, they were issued construction permits, but a few more curve balls caused more delay. Finally, in 2018, they were able to lease tower space from a cellular phone company in Coggon, Iowa, twenty miles north of Cedar Rapids.

“All things work out in God’s timing,” said Tony May. “I don’t know what I would have done back then (over a decade ago if we were approved) because I was still in the middle of raising kids and my career.” Now Tony is “nearly retired” and his wife, Sue, is part-time music director at St. Patrick Parish, Cedar Rapids.

In the past year since KMMK has been on air, the station has broadcast syndicated Catholic programs from EWTN and Relevant Radio, two national Catholic networks. The 25-kilowatt station can be heard for a 100-mile stretch around Interstate 80, including the cities of Cedar Rapids, Marion, Tama, Iowa City and parts of Waterloo. Tony May estimates the signal can reach up to 400,000 people.

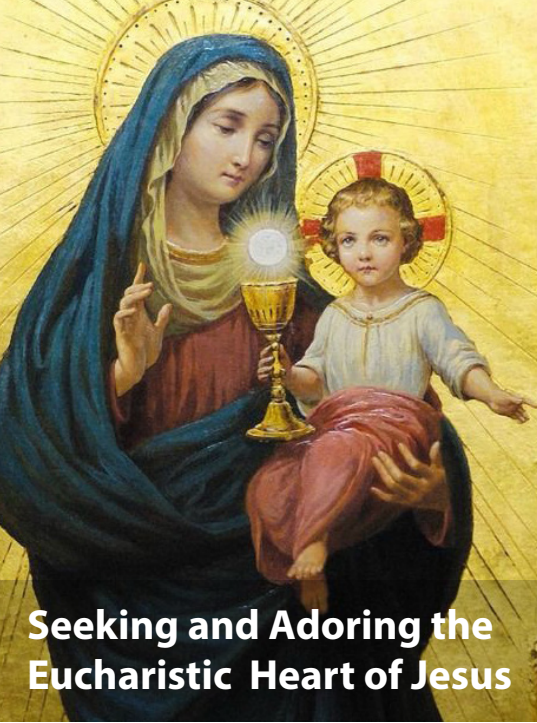


Transmitter communications shelter, “Mary’s House”, in Coggon, Iowa, 20 miles north of Cedar Rapids

“This is listener supported and lay driven,” said Sue May. “We’re still working to get the word out.” Their website is KMMK-FM.org, which includes live streaming. Tell people you know in the listening area to tune in to 88.7 FM. *The station is holding a banquet Sept. 21. More information is at the website.*

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Seeking and Adoring the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus

A collection of prayers for you to use in preparation for and thanksgiving after Holy Mass as well as for Eucharistic Adoration. May love for the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus be the prime fruit of our consecration to His Immaculate Mother.

St. Thomas Aquinas' Prayer Before Holy Mass

Almighty and ever-living God,
I approach the sacrament
of Your only-begotten Son
Our Lord Jesus Christ,
I come sick to the doctor of life,
unclean to the fountain of mercy,
blind to the radiance of eternal light,
and poor and needy to the Lord
of heaven and earth.

Lord, in your great generosity,
heal my sickness,
wash away my defilement,
enlighten my blindness,
enrich my poverty,
and clothe my nakedness.
May I receive the Bread of angels,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
with humble reverence,
with the purity and faith,
the repentance and love,
and the determined purpose
that will help to bring me to salvation.
May I receive the sacrament
of the Lord's Body and Blood,
and its reality and power.

Kind God,
may I receive the Body
of Your only-begotten Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ,
born from the womb
of the Virgin Mary,
and so be received into
His mystical body
and numbered among His members.

Loving Father,
as on my earthly pilgrimage
I now receive Your beloved Son
under the veil of a sacrament,
may I one day see Him
face to face in glory,
who lives and reigns with You for ever.
Amen.

St. Bonaventure's Prayer After Holy Mass

Pierce, O most sweet Lord Jesus, my
inmost soul with the most joyous and
healthful wound of your love, with true,
serene, and most holy apostolic charity,
that my soul may ever languish and melt
with love and longing for you, that it may
yearn for you and faint for your courts,
and long to be dissolved and to be with
you.

Grant that my soul may hunger after
you, the bread of angels, the refreshment
of holy souls, our daily and supersubstan-
tial bread, having all sweetness and savor
and every delight of taste; let my heart
ever hunger after and feed upon you, upon
whom the angels desire to look, and may
my inmost soul be filled with the sweet-
ness of your savor; may it thirst after you,
the fountain of life, the fountain of wisdom
and knowledge, the fountain of eternal
light, the torrent of pleasure, the richness
of the house of God; may it ever compass
you, seek you, find you, run to you, attain
you, meditate upon you, speak of you, and
do all things to the praise and glory of
your name, with humility and discretion,
with love and delight, with ease and affec-
tion, and with perseverance unto the end;
may you alone be ever my hope, my en-
tire assurance, my riches, my delight, my
pleasure, my joy, my rest and tranquility,
my peace, my sweetness, my fragrance, my
sweet savor, my food, my refreshment, my
refuge, my help, my wisdom, my portion,

my possession and my treasure, in whom
may my mind and my heart be fixed and
firm and rooted immovably henceforth
and for ever. Amen.

Cardinal J. H. Newman's Prayer

Dear Jesus,
Help me to spread Your fragrance
everywhere I go.
Flood my soul with Your spirit and life.
Penetrate and possess my whole being
so utterly, that my life may only
be a radiance of Yours.
Shine through me,
and be so in me that every soul
I come in contact with may feel
Your presence in my soul.
Let them look up and see no longer me
but only Jesus!
Stay with me and then
I shall begin to shine as You shine,
so to shine as to be a light to others;
The light, O Jesus will be all from You;
none of it will be mine;
It will be you shining on others
through me. Amen.

St. Maximilian Kolbe's Eucharistic Prayer

Who would dare to imagine that You,
O infinite and eternal God, have loved me
for ages, and more than that, from before
the ages? In fact, Your love for me exists, as
long as You exist as God, so it follows that
You have loved me and will always contin-
ue to love me!... even before I existed, You
already loved me, and precisely because
You loved me, O good God, You brought
me to existence from nothingness!... For
me You created the heavens adorned with
constellations of stars, for me the earth,
the seas, the mountains, the rivers and
the many, many beautiful things here on
earth...

As if this was not enough, to show me
that You really love me tenderly, You de-
scended from the pure delights of heaven
to this degraded world full of tears. You
led a hard life in poverty and suffering; fi-
nally, despised and derided, You chose to
be hung up on a base scaffold in terrible
pain between two thieves. O God of love,
You have redeemed me in this terrible but
generous way!

(continues on pg. 6)



Who would dare to imagine?... Alas, You were not content with this, knowing that I would appear here on earth 19 hundred years after this moment of the effusion of Your revelations of love, You have provided even for this! Your heart did not consent that I would be nourished only by the memory of Your immeasurable love. 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 already flows into mine, Your Soul, O incarnate God, penetrates my soul, strengthening and nourishing it...What miracles! Who would dare to imagine?... What could You have given me more, O God, after having offered Yourself to me to become mine?... Your Heart, inflamed with love for me, suggested to You another gift, yes, yet one more gift!...

You asked us to become children, if we wish to enter the heavenly kingdom [cf. Mt 18:3]. You well know that a child needs a mother: You Yourself established this law of love. Your goodness, Your mercy, therefore, created for us a Mother, the personification of Your goodness and infinite love. From the cross, on Golgotha, You offered her to us and us to her... Furthermore, You, O God of love, arranged to make her the omnipotent Dispenser and Mediatrix of all Your graces: You refuse nothing to her, but neither is she capable of refusing anything to anyone...

St. Francis' Prayer in Praise of God

You are holy, Lord, the only God,
and your deeds are wonderful.
You are strong.

You are great.
You are the Most High.
You are Almighty.
You, Holy Father, are King of heaven
and earth.
You are Three and One,
Lord God, all Good.
You are Good, all Good, supreme Good,
Lord God, living and true.
You are love.
You are wisdom.
You are humility.
You are endurance.
You are rest.
You are peace.
You are joy and gladness.
You are justice and moderation.
You are all our riches,
and You suffice for us.
You are beauty.
You are gentleness.
You are our protector.
You are our guardian and defender.
You are our courage.
You are our haven and our hope.
You are our faith,
our great consolation.
You are our eternal life,
Great and Wonderful Lord,
God Almighty, Merciful Savior. Amen.

Pope Benedict XVI's 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,

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 has
not the ardent invocation of the Psalmist
resounded 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!



The Immaculata and the Holy Spirit

At the urging of his superiors, St. Maximilian Kolbe began to draft a book on Our Lady. He dictated this last reflection (*KW* 1318) to Br. Arnold Wędrawski on the morning of February 17, 1941, the day Fr. Maximilian was arrested by the Gestapo.

... Who are you, O Immaculate Conception? Not God, for He has no beginning; not an angel, created directly out of nothing; not Adam, formed with the mud of the earth; not Eve, taken from Adam; and not even the Incarnate Word, who existed from eternity and is “conceived” rather than “conception.” Prior to conception, the children of Eve did not exist, so they may be better called “conception.” Yet you differ from them also, for they are conceptions contaminated by original sin, while you are the only Immaculate Conception.

All that exists outside of God, by virtue of the fact that it comes from God, totally and in every aspect from God, carries in itself a semblance to the Creator, and nothing exists in creation that does not bear in itself such a semblance, for everything is an effect of this prime cause.

The truth is that the words that define created realities speak to us of divine perfections only in an imperfect, limited, analogical manner. They are a more or less distant echo of divine attributes, just like the various creatures that they define.

Would conception then possibly represent an exception? That is not possible, for in this area there are no exceptions whatsoever.

The Father generates the Son, while the Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son. In these few words is contained the mystery of the life of the Most Holy Trinity and all the perfections existing in creatures, which are nothing more than a different echo, a hymn of praise in multicolored tones about that first wonderful mystery.

We still have to use words taken from the vocabulary of creatures, since no others are available to us. Yet we must keep in mind that they are but very imperfect words.

Who is the Father? What is it that constitutes His being? Begetting, because He begets the Son from eternity, and from all eternity he always begets the Son.

Who is the Son? He is the begotten One, because He is always and eternally begotten of the Father.

And who is the Spirit? He is the fruit of the love of the Father and of the Son. The fruit of created love is a created conception. Thus, the fruit of love, of the prototype of this created love, is nothing but conception. The Spirit, therefore, is an uncreated, eternal conception. He is the prototype of any conception in the life of the universe.

So, the Father begets, the Son is begotten, and the Spirit proceeds, and that is Their essence, whereby They differ from each other. What joins Them, instead, is the same nature. Divine existence in its essence.

The Spirit, therefore, is a most holy conception, infinitely holy, immaculate. In the universe, we encounter everywhere an action and an equal but opposite reaction, a going-to and a coming back, a distancing and a coming closer, a division and an unification. Division, however, is always in view of unification, which is creative. That is nothing but an image of the Most Holy Trinity in the activity of creatures. Unification is love, creative love. The activity of God outside Himself does not proceed otherwise: God creates the universe and this action is in a sense a separation.

Through the natural law received from God, creatures, for their part, perfect themselves, becoming similar to God, and return to Him. And rational creatures love Him consciously and unite themselves to Him more and more through such love: they make their way back to Him. In addition, the creature totally filled with this love, with divinity, is the Immaculata, without the slightest stain of sin, the One who never deviated from God’s Will in anything. She is joined in an ineffable manner with the Holy Spirit, because she is His Bride, but she is so in a sense incomparably more perfect than that word can convey in creatures.

Of what kind is that union? It is above all inner union; it is the union of her being with the being of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit dwells in her, it lives in her, and that from the first moment of her existence, always and eternally.

What does this life of the Holy Spirit in her consist of? He Himself is love in her, the love of the Father and of the Son, the love with which God loves Himself, the love of the whole Most Holy Trinity, fruitful love, conception. In created semblances the union of love is the closest union. The Scriptures assert that they

will be two in one flesh [cf. Gn 2:24], and Jesus emphasizes: “Therefore now they are not two, but one flesh” [Mt 19:6]. In a way incomparably more rigorous, more interior, more essential, the Holy Spirit lives in the soul of the Immaculata, in her being and makes her fruitful, and that from the first moment of her existence for her whole life, that is forever.

This Uncreated Immaculate Conception immaculately conceives in the womb of her soul [Mary’s] divine life, that is her Immaculate Conception. Even the virginal womb of her body is reserved to Him, who therein conceives in time—for all that is material occurs in time—also the divine life of the God-Man.

And so the return to God, the equal and opposite reaction proceeds in the opposite way to that of creation. In the case of creation [all comes] from the Father through the Son and the Spirit, while here, through the Spirit, the Son becomes incarnate in the womb of her and, through Him, love returns to the Father. She then, woven into the love of the Most Blessed Trinity, becomes from the first moment of her existence, forever, eternally, the complement to the Most Holy Trinity.

In the union of the Holy Spirit with her, not only does love unite these two Beings, but the first one of them is all the love of the Most Holy Trinity, while the second is all the love of creation. Thus, in this union heaven meets earth, all of heaven with all of the earth, all Uncreated Love with all created love; it is the highest expression of love. Also, in Lourdes, the Immaculata did not define herself: “Conceived without sin,” but, as St. Bernadette herself recounts:

“At that moment the Lady was standing above the wild rose bush in the same attitude in which she is depicted on the miraculous medal. Upon my third question Her face took on an expression of gravity and at the same time of profound humility... Joining the palms of Her hands as if in prayer, She lifted them up to Her chest... turned Her gaze toward heaven... then, slowly opening Her hands and bowing to me, She said in a voice in which you could notice a slight tremor: *‘Qué soy ér’ Immaculada Councepsiou! I am the Immaculate Conception.*”

If, among the creatures, a bride receives the groom’s name, because she belongs to him and joins him, is made similar to him and, in union with him, becomes the creative agent of life, all the more so, the name of the Holy Spirit, “Immaculate Conception” is the name of the One in whom He lives with a love that is fruitful throughout the whole supernatural order.

Maximilian Kolbe

Reflection on June MI Intention

O Immaculata please intercede that the entire People of God may be engaged in the missionary and charitable work of the Church.

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.” (Mt 28:19)

The Gospel according to St. Matthew concludes with the sending of the disciples on mission. The friends of Jesus went with Him to Jerusalem, the great city where Jesus died and rose. Afterward, they returned to Galilee, to the place where Jesus had begun his mission. Unlike the other Gospel accounts of the disciples’ encounters with the Risen Lord, now no one doubts! The certainty of His presence and proximity is so unreserved that mission is shown as the natural journey of a faithful disciple.

In chapter 10 mission was to be directed to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Now, in chapter 28 its universal scope is made clear. The Church is the community of Jesus’ missionary disciples, whom He sends to proclaim the Gospel to everyone.

As we look at our world in light of Jesus’ mandate, we should ask ourselves: To which people is the Lord Jesus sending us today? How are we to be missionaries in our own families and workplaces, in our culture and society? How are we to reach out to those who do not know Christ and those who are indifferent, to those who profess the Faith but do not embrace it in practice?

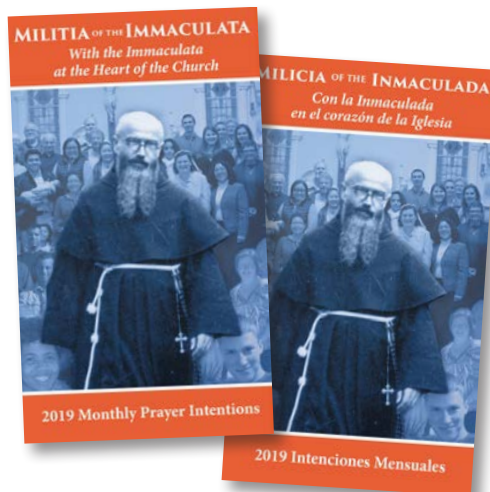
We have been entrusted with a mission of love, and of “the charity of truth.” St. Maximilian reminds us: “In looking around us and in seeing so much evil all over the place, we would sincerely like, especially as members of the Militia of the Immaculata, to put an end to this evil by leading humanity, through the Immaculata, to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. In so doing, we make eternally happy, from this life onward, our brothers who live in this world” (KW 1160). We are to wage a relentless war on evil and carry it out in love. Our lives are to speak more loudly than our words. “Hatred divides, separates and destroys, while, to

the contrary, love unites, brings about peace, and is constructive. It is not strange then that only love manages always to render men perfect and, therefore, that only the religion that teaches love of God and neighbor can perfect men. The religion of Jesus Christ is really this religion of love, of perfect love, and this is evident in the holy words of Jesus Christ.” (KW 1205).

The Militia of the Immaculata is missionary by its very nature and prolongs the witness of love of its founder. The action of MI members, consecrated and lay people as well as clergy, effectively fulfills the missionary mandate of Jesus in various areas of society. In the Lord’s vineyard there are many unknown workers and countless heroic acts of gratuitous love.

Let’s be among those who humbly and generously give their hands and hearts in response to the missionary call of Jesus, certain of His unfailing presence.

(From the MI International Office)



**2019 MI Intentions leaflets
are available in
English and Spanish**

**Request them from
the MI National Office**

Official Act of Total Consecration to the Immaculata

(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.

MI RESOURCES

Available from the MI National Center

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



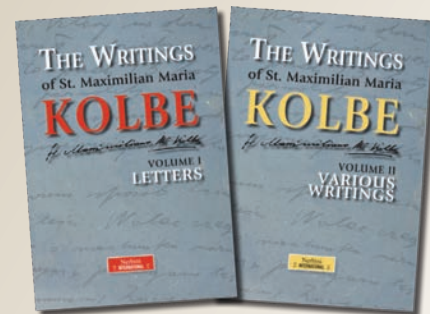
Miraculous medals and various MI brochures can be requested from the MI National Office

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— Fr. Peter D. Fehlner, OFM Conv.

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Check regularly the MI website MissionImmaculata.com for updates, resources, special events and more!



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"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