

THE MISSION OF THE *Immaculata*

E-PUBLICATION OF THE MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA, USA

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Urgent Call to Prayer and Penance - II

By John W. Galten, MI National President

Dear Knights of the Immaculata,

Maria!

Last month, as you might remember, I called you as Knights of Our Lady to prayer and penance for the recent revelations of scandalous behavior on the part of members of the hierarchy and the equally serious matter of the concealing and subsequent promotion of such persons. Also troubling is the letter of Archbishop Viganò with personal testimony of who might be involved and allegations that implicate the highest levels of the Church. These allegations must be taken seriously and examined as to their truth. Perhaps, we are getting an unveiling of what Pope Paul VI referred to when he said, "The smoke of Satan has entered the Church." Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said even more precisely, "and the smoke of Satan has entered the 'Sanctuary' of the Church."

Even if some of these allegations prove to be incorrect, we all must face the fact that the Church is entering a phase of intense battle and purification. Clearly, the bishops of the world in concert with the Vatican must sort out the solution. As Catholics and Knights of the Immaculata, however, we must do our part. That part, in my estimation, is to commit ourselves to prayer and penance. We must have the faith that these efforts have great heavenly power especially with the Queen of heaven and earth. This power moves the Trinity to send the graces and strength throughout the Mystical Body of the Church to repair the damage of sin and to strengthen those who must direct action to remedy the grievous wounds to the priesthood, the Church, and the victims.

(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)

This direct action, as Christian action, must be charitable, wise, appropriate and have the prospect of solving the issue. We must keep in mind the Lord's response to the Apostles John and James who wished to angrily and precipitously punish sinners: He reminded them that the wheat and weeds must grow together lest the wheat be torn out with the weeds. This is not a recipe for falsely tolerating a correctable evil, but rather a discernment to approach the problem with a cool head and surgical precision. This is the goal of our prayer and penance.

Practically speaking, let us direct these spiritual actions to November's meeting of the U.S. bishops and the world-wide synod of bishops called by Pope Francis for February 2019 to address the issue. Without doubt, this synod is where the critical battle will ensue.

In what shall our knightly demeanor consist facing this critical situation? It is appropriate to feel the distress of the profound crisis of moral failure and the threat to the integrity of the Church. That being said, we must have trust and confidence in God's providence and the promise of Christ that the gates of hell would not prevail against His Holy Church. It is also a time to summon knightly courage in the form of the virtue of fortitude in what surely is a battle. We must keep in front of our eyes the evangelical goal of our total consecration to the Immaculata: "to help extend as much as possible the blessed Kingdom of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus." We are involved in a battle, yes, but we must recognize this current situation as a diversionary attack of the enemy and not take our eyes off the real goal—the new evangelization.

As a small aside—the last book of the New Testament as written by St. John the Evangelist details the protracted battle between the Dragon and the "woman clothed with the Sun" (Rev 12). Perhaps we should re-read this passage from the Bible but also the sections of the books by modern Christian writers, C. S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia* and J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, pointing out the chief axis of history, the battle between good and evil. We already know the outcome—Christ has overcome the Evil One. We, the Church, and Our Queen, with the power of God, must apply the final crushing of the head of infernal serpent. Until next month:

"Arise, let us be on our way."

John W. Galten
National MI President



**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



Which Prayer?

Among the most efficacious prayers that may be offered in reparation, after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, are the following:

- Eucharistic Adoration
- The Holy Rosary
- The Stations of the Cross
- The Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- Prayers for the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Let us humbly seek the powerful intercession of the Immaculata, Mother of the Church, of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr, and of all the Angels and Saints. Let us recommit ourselves to love the Church for which the Lord Jesus Christ shed His Precious Blood.

Blessed Veronica Antal

A young lay woman from Romania was declared Blessed on September 22. She was a member of the Militia of the Immaculata and a Secular Franciscan.



Veronica Antal was a young girl who exactly sixty years ago, in northern Romania, had the courage to give her life in defense of her faith and the vow of chastity she secretly professed. Fr. Marco Tasca, Minister general of the Conventual Franciscan Friars writes: “This beatification is even more beautiful because she was raised in the faith by our Conventual friars in Moldavia. They ministered at both the parish of Nisiporești where she was born, and the parish of Hălăucești, in whose territory she was martyred.

“Veronica Antal was born on December 7, 1935, in the village of Nisiporești, the first of four children of Gheorghe and Evei Antal. She was baptized the next day at the parish church of Hălăucești, run by our friars who have been present in that area since the 13th century. After attending the village school for four years, she stayed at home to help her parents doing housework and working in the fields—as was customary in those days.

“Around the age of sixteen or seventeen, she enrolled in both the Secular Franciscan Order and the International Association of the Militia of the Immaculata. In a short time, she became a fervent promoter of the spirituality of the Poverello of Assisi, as well as devotion of the Immaculata. She also wanted to consecrate herself to the Lord [as a religious], but this would not be possible for her, because at that time, all the religious orders in Romania had been suppressed by the Communist regime. She decided to offer herself to the Lord by making a private vow of chastity. She would pray for hours, especially for bishops, priests, our friars and the laity, whom the regime had already imprisoned

by the thousands, under the false accusation of hatred and subversion against the social order. She visited the sick of her village, tending to their needs and consoling those who were suffering. The source she drew upon for this life did not come from men, or from destitution, or persecution of the Faith, but rather, from the Eucharist which she never failed to receive. Every morning, at 4:00 a.m., she began walking in order to attend the 6:00 a.m. Mass

**Blessed Veronica Antal,
virgin and martyr,
is the first beatified
Romanian woman:
another Maria Goretti for
our times, blossomed within
the MI and nurtured by the
Franciscan spirituality.**

at the parish church of Hălăucești. She traveled with a group of friends. Veronica walked about fifteen kilometers [nine miles] round-trip, with the sole desire of communicating with her divine Spouse. Only after having refreshed herself with Jesus would she return and enthusiastically resume her prayers and her visits to the poorest of her town. She began and ended every day with Him.

“The day of her supreme trial came on August 24, 1958. She was returning from Mass with the rosary in her right hand, when she took a shortcut through some fields in the hope of getting home sooner. She had walked about halfway when a young man from the village, his passions inflamed, attacked her, intending to steal

the lily of her chastity. In her enormous effort to fight him off, she received forty-two stab wounds. She fell victorious on the battlefield. The killer placed another sign of victory upon her shoulders: a cross made out of corn stalks.

“Some villagers found her the following morning, bearing all the marks of her struggle, and everyone cried out: ‘The saint is dead!’ From then on, she was recognized in the minds and hearts of everyone as Saint Veronica.

“The dark days of Communism prevented any regular road to promoting her fame of sanctity. However, help came from another Servant of God, the great witness of faith, Friar Anton Demeter, a Conventual Franciscan from the Province of St. Joseph, Spouse of the B.V.M. in Romania. Although his persecutors left him confined to a wheelchair, he continued to carry out pastoral ministry for forty-seven years. During that time, he managed to keep Veronica’s memory alive among the people who had known her. He collected a great deal of testimony about her and presented her to the people as a model of faith and virtue. Many people, especially young people, have since visited her tomb, now kept in the parish church of Nisiporești [where the rite of beatification took place].”

Fr. Tasca concludes, “I like to think of this young saint as a little seedling that our friars have cultivated in the spiritual shade of our Seraphic Father St. Francis. She is the fruit of their fraternal and apostolic labors in Romania... Finally, I would like to conclude by giving a nod of gratitude to the many witnesses of the Faith, and of the Franciscan vocation, that the Romanian Province has given to the Church and our Order. Among them are Friar Iosif Petru Maria Pal, one of the co-founders of the Militia of the Immaculata; the Servant of God Friar Martin Benedict, a celebrated physician and a friar of holy life; and the Servant of God, Friar Anton Demeter. Let the Lord be praised and honored for all these true witnesses of the Gospel, and may their intercession and example of life inspire even greater desire for holiness among the Friars Minor Conventual,” and all the members of the MI!

Let Our Lady Continue to Visit You and Others through You!



Our times elicit an urgent call to be consecrated to Mary and to allow her to bring Christ to all people. Our Lady wants to continue “go in haste to visit” her children wherever they may find themselves to draw them closer to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, our Lord. She invites each of us to become visible signs and instruments of her presence, everywhere and in every stage of life.

In the Gospel of St. Luke we find the account of Mary’s visitation to her relative Elizabeth (Lk 1:39-56). After the Annunciation, Mary “went in haste” to the house of Zechariah and Elizabeth to assist her who was pregnant with John the Baptist. By her very presence, Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus, brought divine grace to both Elizabeth and her unborn child. Ever since, Our Lady has continued tirelessly to go in haste to visit her children so as to bring Her Divine Son into their lives! She wants to do so today, in our lives and through each of us. How? St. Maximilian Kolbe has this to say:

“Nearly two thousand years have passed since the day when the Immaculate Virgin paid her visit to Elizabeth, her relative. Actually, the Holy Mother’s visits have continued up to this very day and occur for every soul, much more often than the soul may imagine. Each grace, without exception, is the coming of the Mediatrix of all graces. Do you want her to come often to visit you? Do you want her to dwell per-

manently in your soul? Do you desire that she, she alone, may direct your thoughts, take possession of all your heart? Do you wish to live entirely for her? If you really desire all this, open your heart completely before her and give yourself to her without reserve and forever, even if only with the yearning of your soul. You may make use of any formula, for example, of the act of consecration of the Militia of the Immaculata. Have you ever thought what becomes of you when it is no longer you who acts, but she herself who loves God and men in you and through you? Are you aware of the fact that, in such a case, your actions are measured in proportion to her dignity? That in her hands they become pure, without blemish, just as she is entirely pure and immaculate?... Could you desire anything more?” (St. Maximilian Kolbe - KW 1216)

Step One: Open Your Heart and Give Yourself to Her

From the Cross on Calvary, Jesus Himself called His Mother to become our Mother and invited each of us to receive her as our own Mother, when He said to her, “Woman, behold your son,” and to the Apostle John, “Behold your mother” (Jn 19:25-27). We become her children at Baptism, as we are given the new life of grace in Christ and become members of His Body, the Church. Through consecration to her, as taught by many saints, including St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, St. John Paul II and St. Maximilian Kolbe, we embrace the gift we have received from Jesus and take her into our lives intentionally and completely, so as to journey with her toward our eternal destiny and to give authentic witness to the Faith in the world. You may do so by joining the Militia of the Immaculata (MI), founded by St. Maximilian Kolbe. If you are not an MI member yet, for more information please visit our website MissionImmaculata.com.

Step Two: Share the Gift with Others

Once we experience the powerful effect of Our Lady’s presence in our lives, we want to pass it on! St. Maximilian urges us to share the gift by example, words and actions. One of the simplest yet most effective ways is through the Miraculous Medal

by which we can introduce her to people we meet.

Step Three: Set out in Haste

Many people today have a very hectic schedule as they brave the challenge of raising their children, working and perhaps taking care of their elderly parents. They may find it difficult to carve out time for a relaxing walk with friends as well as for prayer and spiritual growth. Some people are homebound because of age or illness. St. Maximilian invites us to be creative in finding new ways for reaching out to others. For a start, consider some simple paths you may explore to set out on a mission in your own area:

Look at each person as Our Lady would: as a beloved child of God. At home, at work, in the store, on the road... we meet people all the time, everywhere. A friendly greeting, a smile and a simple act of kindness can bring a ray of God’s presence in their lives. Take the time to acknowledge and love Christ in every person He places in your life, as Our Blessed Mother does. Let yourself be surprised by the providential encounters you may experience, which sometimes may turn into opportunities for giving witness to the Faith.

Reach out to family and friends for “*a get-together with Mary*”: in the familiar setting of your living room or backyard, host a gathering during which you come together to enjoy each other’s company and to pray the Rosary, or at least a decade, for your families, the Church and the world. If possible, make it a regular simple event, and encourage your guests to invite others. Get the children involved in praying the Rosary! When appropriate, speak about consecration to Our Lady. Request brochures from the MI National Office and have them readily available for everyone.

Invite your friends to “*a walk with Mary*” at a nearby park! Start your stroll with a decade of the Rosary preceded by a reflection from the Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe and maybe close it with a snack. Be ready to share about your encounter with Our Lady and let her lead your conversation...!

(continues on pg. 7)

Reflection on October MI Intention

O Immaculata please intercede that prayer may be the source of unity and mission in the MI and the whole Church.

Now to Him who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine, by the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Eph 3:20-21)

Do you give adequate attention to prayer as MI groups? Certainly, we all pray, and possibly with some regularity. However, we might be called to take a step further. Prayer changes people who pray. St. Maximilian says that *“Prayer revives the world. Prayer is the indispensable condition for the regeneration and the life of every soul”* (KW 903). How do my personal life, the life of my MI Village, the life of the whole Movement, of the Church and of the world change through prayer? We ought to ask ourselves this question, otherwise we may run the risk of separating our “spiritual” life from our daily existence and the choices we make in what we call “real life.” The supernatural life is the *real* life! Prayer gives us the opportunity to test how true we are to our Catholic identity. If in prayer we discern that our relationship with God and others is maturing, our desire to build communion is growing, our apostolic action, simple as it may be, is animated by purity of intention and zeal, we may say, Thank you, Lord, for our union with You in prayer allows us to bear fruit.

We are to check the quality of our prayer, that is, our dialogue with the Lord. Prayer is to place ourselves humbly in the presence of the Lord, acknowledging that without Him we can do nothing.

When we do recognize sincerely our utter dependence on God, He accomplishes far more than all we ask or imagine. We then witness the wonders that the Lord works for and through us, for He gives Himself always, with unmatched generosity, when we truly surrender ourselves to Him, as Our Lady did.

By her total surrender, she participated in a unique way in the grand Plan of God and became His first missionary. Let

us pray, then, in union of spirit and in order to be united in our common ideal and mission.

Let us reflect often on St. Maximilian’s inspiring words, addressed anew to each of us: *“Prayer is a means that people do not know about, and yet it is the most effective way to restore peace in the soul, to give them happiness, because it serves to bring them closer to God’s love. Prayer revives the world. Prayer is the indispensable condition for the regeneration and the life of every soul... Let us pray, let us pray well, pray much, both with our lips and in our thought, and we shall experience in ourselves how the Immaculata will take increasing possession of our souls, how our belonging to her will deepen more and more in every respect, how our sins will vanish, and our flaws will weaken, how gently and powerfully we will come ever closer to God.... To the extent in which we burn more and more with divine love, we will kindle a similar love even in others... May the Immaculata hold you to her motherly heart in all your afflictions, temptations, and difficulties, instill in each and every one of you in particular, a great deal of peace, that inner peace of the soul utterly unfamiliar to the world. May she increase your courage, so that none of you takes anything back from the offering placed in front of her in the act of consecration, so that she herself may freely dispose of our whole life, death, and eternity and all the faculties of soul and body, of our whole being. Yours, Br. Maximilian M. Kolbe”* (KW 903)

(From the MI International Office)

MI Local News Annual MI Men’s Retreat in Malvern, Pennsylvania

A Man for All Seasons



He is known and beloved the world over for being a “straight shooter.” A “man’s man.” A fearless defender of the truths of our Faith ... and at considerable personal cost.

That man, Cardinal Raymond Burke, will come from Rome to lead the 36th Annual MI Retreat at Malvern on November 16-18. It will be the first time in Malvern’s 107-year history that a cardinal has directed one of its retreats.

This year’s theme is “The Call to Witness.”

We expect another overflow crowd. You may remember that last year we had to begin wait listing a full month out. If preliminary registrations are any indication, this year it could be even sooner.

So, if you are able to join us, please register at the site below as quickly as possible. Know that we look forward to having you with us for what promises to be a very special retreat.

WHO: Mid Atlantic Knights of the Immaculate

WHAT: Men’s Weekend Retreat

WHEN: November 16-18, 2018
(6:00 pm Friday - 12:00 pm Sunday)

WHERE: Malvern Retreat House,
Malvern, Pa. 19355

WHY: To prepare us to restore the family and build a culture of life

COST: \$245 suggested offering*

* 50% off for first timers at Malvern (applies only for those who have never attended a men-only retreat at Malvern).

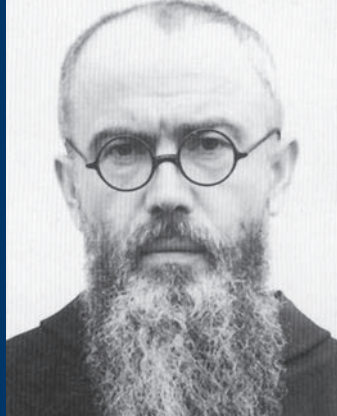
REGISTER at
malvernretreat.com/register/

For more information, call
Brian J. Gail: (484) 318-8685.

Registration questions:
tmurnane44@gmail.com or (267) 934-6127

“I Cannot Make It...”

Once again, St. Maximilian encourages us to be humble and confident as we walk with Our Lady on our faith journey. With her, we can...! An excerpt from St. Kolbe's Writings n. 1217.



MI Family Consecration to the Immaculata

O Immaculata, Queen of heaven and earth, our life, our sweetness, and our hope, on this day we the (Family Surname) family come before you to consecrate ourselves to you as your possession and property. We praise God because He has brought us together to give ourselves to you our Mother. We do this because Jesus said on the Cross, “Behold your Mother.”

We need you, Mother Mary, to help us to be a truly Catholic family. Enter into our family life. Repeat to us the words you spoke at Cana, “Do whatever He tells you.” Help us to overlook one another’s faults, to forgive as Jesus has forgiven us, and to love one another as Our Lord has asked us to love.

Please use our family to crush the head of the serpent. Ask your Spouse, St. Joseph, Protector of the universal Church, to keep us one in mind and heart with your Son’s Vicar, the Pope. Today you have become the Queen of our hearts and home. May our home be a “City of the Immaculata,” where the Sacred Heart of Jesus reigns forever. Amen.

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

R. Give me strength against your enemies.

How many times have these expressions of resignation or even despair reached our ears: I cannot succeed, I cannot make it, I lack the energy. Undoubtedly, our physical energy is limited: attempting to lift with one hand burdens weighing several tons would be vain.

Even in the moral dimension, however, we also happen sometimes to listen to the same lament: I cannot manage to get rid of this defect; I do not have the strength to decide to acquire this virtue; this is beyond my possibilities. But is it really true that we cannot do it in this case either? Yet St. Paul explicitly affirms, “I can do all things!...” However, he does not stop the sentence at this point, but continues, “in Him who strengthens me” [Phil 4:13]. Only “without Me,” affirms Jesus Himself, “you can do nothing” [Jn 15:5]. And why?

Because if God demands something from us, surely He also fills us with energies so that we may fulfill His will, on condition that on our part we do not neglect doing what depends on us. To act well, divine grace is indispensable, and the soul can confidently obtain this grace through prayer.

We have at our disposition a very easy and reliable means to obtain this: we have the Mediatrix of all graces. It is only necessary that we ourselves really want it, and so that we escape from her ever less, that we love her ever more ardently in our temptations, in our difficulties, in our adversities, acknowledging her power, her universal mediation before God, and that we turn to her with all our trust. We too, then, shall be able to do all things, but in Him who strengthens us through the Immaculata.

Here below is the voice of a soul, one among many, who confirms that everything is possible through the Immaculata:

“As a youth I was employed in a state office and, as I found myself among bad company, I forgot the good upbringing I had received at home and grew worse every day. That lifestyle led me to completely depraved moral behavior. On top of that, I gave myself to the habit of drinking. After some time, I changed my environment and made an effort to change my lifestyle, but I still did not find peace. During

this period, though very rarely and only in a routine way, I would go to Confession and to religious functions. Around a year later, I subscribed to *Rycerz Niepokalanej* [*The Knight of the Immaculata* magazine] in response to an invitation, but I would read it without reflecting much. Actually, sometimes I even forgot to pay the subscription, even though I had enough money for other expenses that were less indispensable, often just luxury goods and even sinful items. Living in this manner, I found myself at the bottom of moral degradation, and though I perceived the voice of my conscience within me, I did not turn back from that road.

“Some years later I experienced a serious misfortune, serious both in its effects and in its consequences, and with it came deprivations and misery. I nearly lost my job. Those misfortunes robbed me of any desire to live. There came upon me moments when I nearly believed that my life was hanging on a fine thread, and I was battered by a storm of desperation and by the thought of suicide.

“One day, finding myself in such a pitiful state, totally abandoned and ridiculed by men, sullied by human tongues, while sitting in my apartment I started to look through the back issues of *Rycerz*. It was as if a new life began to reawaken within me. Having still retained something of that good which my mother had taught me, while I read *Rycerz Niepokalanej*, particularly the thanksgivings, I thought that I could also still pray to the Most Holy Virgin Mary, who neither pushes back nor despises anyone. Maybe I could still obtain the grace of conversion and of distancing away from my life’s misfortunes. I decided to participate regularly in the devotions of the month of May and to make a novena to St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus. After some time I experienced a deep interior serenity and began a new life.... I have not been disillusioned in my trust, for the Most Holy Virgin and St. Thérèse had made me regain my interior serenity.”

If you are losing hope, seek to profit from this truth, and you will be convinced that you can also do all things through the Immaculata.



Worldwide: Twelve Stars in Mary's Crown

In his Message for the World Day of Peace in 2004, John Paul II made this appeal: "Humanity needs now more than ever to rediscover the path of concord, overwhelmed as it is by selfishness and hatred, by the thirst for power and the lust for vengeance." In a similar tone, Benedict XVI encouraged us to "offer new hope to the world" because "peace is not a dream or something utopian; it is possible."

Twelve countries from around the world will establish Peace Chapels – "Twelve stars in the Crown of Mary, Queen of Peace." Despite being separated by time and distance, the chapels will collectively form the World Prayer for Peace Center. Each chapel, protected by the Mother of God, will carry out perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

These "Prayer for Peace Centers" will be located on every continent. They will especial-

ly target areas affected by war, religious conflict and racial hatred. They shall be placed where people have the strongest hope for peace and reconciliation and where they seek Christ, the true source of these blessings.

Artists Mariusz and Kamil Drapikowski from Gdansk, Poland, have created special adoration altars for the Twelve Stars project. Each altar is fashioned as an icon, based on the work and prayers of the design team. The altars' high level of workmanship places them among the most beautiful works of modern sacred art. Among the twelve countries hosting Prayer for Peace Centers is Poland, and more specifically, Niepokalanów, the "friary-city" founded by St. Maximilian M. Kolbe.

In November of 2017, members of the "Queen of Peace Community" approached

Fr. Wiesław Pyzio, the Minister Provincial of the Friars Minor Conventual Province of the Immaculate Mother of God in Poland (Warsaw). They asked if they could establish the World Prayer for Peace Center in the Basilica of Niepokalanów. The request was accepted immediately. Niepokalanów is now the eighth star in Mary's crown. The Center's inauguration took place on September 1, 2018.

The Basilica of Niepokalanów has always favored perpetual adoration. The idea of creating the Prayer Center there has been a long term goal of the local Franciscans. The heart of the World Prayer for Peace Center is the basilica's perpetual adoration chapel. The Pastor, Fr. Andrzej Sasiadek, OFM Conv., talked about some of the special circumstances surrounding the chapel project: "The construction of the adoration chapel required a renovation of the basilica. I turned to our friary archives and asked for photos documenting how the construction of the church had previously been carried out. In addition to the photos, I also found a letter from St. Maximilian M. Kolbe, who, in 1934, wrote to a brother from his mission in Japan, about how he imagined the Niepokalanów basilica and... the adoration altar of the Blessed Sacrament! I was surprised that our project coincides with St. Maximilian Kolbe's own vision of the chapel! It's incredible, but it turns out that our project satisfies what St. Maximilian M. Kolbe had in mind almost 100 years ago."

(Source: Niepokalanow website)

Let Our Lady Continue to Visit You...

(Continued from pg. 4)

Visit a family member or a neighbor who is confined at home. Spend some time with them. Listen and engage in conversation. If possible, offer to assist them in some small ways. Seize the opportunity to offer a prayer to Our Lady for their needs and intentions. If appropriate, invite them to be consecrated to Our Lady as Knights at the Foot of the Cross. You may request the brochure from the MI National Office.

If you are an MI member, consider starting an MI Village in your area. In a Village those who have consecrated themselves to Jesus through His mother Mary come together, as the Apostles in the Up-

per Room did, and, with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, continue to pray, learn and give thanks to God a community of souls committed to a common effort. An MI Village is both a prayer and apostolic group of MI members inspired by, and meeting under the patronage of, St. Maximilian Kolbe, whom St. John Paul II called "A sign and prophet of the new era, the civilization of love." You may contact the MI National Center to find out the steps to be taken and to request a copy of the MI Village Kit.

Antonella Di Piazza, FKMI
MI National Coordinator



MI RESOURCES

Available from the MI National Center



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

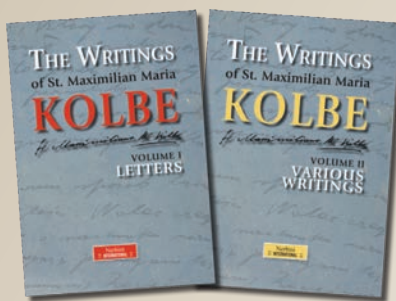
Miraculous medals and various MI brochures can be requested from the MI National Office at 331-223-5564 or via email: MINational@MissionImmaculata.com

The Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe

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 a full and fruitful life. The Polish-born Franciscan Friar 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. Now, at long last, devotees and scholars alike can find the entire wide-ranging array of those writings collected together in a two-volume compendium, published by Nerbini International.



Now Available in e-Book Format!



At long last the complete works of St. Maximilian M. Kolbe in English: accurate, readable and with explanatory introduction and footnotes. Both scholars and general readers will find this edition of the Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe an inspiring practical aid for learning what this Franciscan saint has contributed to the study of Mariology and living the consecration to Mary's Immaculate Heart. May the translators' work contribute to a renewal of Kolbean studies in the English speaking world.

— Fr. Peter D. Fehlner, OFM Conv

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Check regularly the MI website **MissionImmaculata.com** for updates, resources, 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