

# THE MISSION OF THE *Immaculata*

E-PUBLICATION OF THE MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA, USA

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## Urgent Call to Prayer and Penance

By John W. Galten, MI National President

Dear Knights of the Immaculata,

Maria!

My message usually follows a theme to a conclusion but, on occasion, important events in the Church or in the world demand a commentary or a stand. We are all aware of the recent revelations of sexual abuse by a prominent member of the hierarchy; cover-ups of these contemptible deeds; and startling news of abuse in the Dioceses of Pennsylvania going back to the 1940s.

Scandals such as these, particularly involving members of the hierarchy, are a blight in the honor of God's holy Church. They weaken the faith of many, cause members to leave the Church, and cause many outside the Church to draw the wrong conclusions about the Church as the true Church of Christ. It is not too much to say that this is an outrage.

What is done is done and, sadly, there may be more disclosures in the future. Something must be done to overcome this. The very credibility of the hierarchy is at stake and therefore of the Church herself. Two of the best commentaries and suggested solutions on this matter come from Cardinal DiNardo of Houston and Grand Knight Carl Anderson of the Knights of Columbus whose letter to the Knights of Columbus can be found at [www.KofC.org](http://www.KofC.org). I recommend that you read the Grand Knight's letter.

(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)

What can we as the Knights of the Immaculata do to repair the damage caused to the victims of the abuses and the reputation of the Church, and the affront to God's Truth and Majesty? I am moved to call you all to prayer and penance.

The Blessed Virgin called for penance at Lourdes—"Penance, Penance, Penance!" The angel at Fatima who held the flaming sword of God's justice called for "Penance, Penance, Penance!" St. Maximilian talked of penance in numerous talks, conferences and writings. In reference to the Immaculata's message at Lourdes, St. Maximilian writes this: "Prayer, therefore, in particular the recitation of the Rosary, and penance. Here are the two recommendations that the Immaculata gives to all of us" (KW 1049).

I enjoin all Knights of the Immaculata to dedicate each day a Rosary of Reparation for these sins and to examine their lives to see where and when penance could be done. I am not suggesting heroic penances that would injure health or disturb the place of our state in life. Could we not do as St. Maximilian suggests—performing our duties with particular solicitude and dedication? Might we consider freely observing the ancient Catholic practice of abstaining from meat on Friday or limiting our entertainment, particularly the noisy practice of mindless surfing the web or television. Use your freedom and conscience to ask yourself about an appropriate penance for yourself.

In this way, we can do reparation for these sins and strengthen the resolve of the Church to apply appropriate solutions to prevent this

abomination from occurring again.

As loyal Knights of the Immaculata and as Catholics, this is our duty. Let all hear and answer this call.

Arise in penance and prayer.

Let us be on our way!

John W. Galten

National MI President

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**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](mailto:PrayerRequest@MissionImmaculata.com)

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**Daily Holy Mass will be offered throughout 2018 for the MI-USA and all MI Members at the City of the Immaculata established by St. Maximilian Kolbe near Warsaw, Poland.**



## 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.



# The Little Garden of the Immaculata

On August 14, the new National Home of the Militia of the Immaculata was blessed, consecrated to Her and officially inaugurated.



*“Heavenly Father, we your children gather on this feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe and the vigil of the Assumption to give You thanks and praise and to call down Your blessing on this house now dedicated to the mission of the Militia of the Immaculata founded by St. Maximilian Kolbe.*

*“Through his intercession may this Little Garden of the Immaculata be guarded by Angels and flourish under the protective mantle of Our Lady. Make this place a spring of graces for the diocese of Peoria and for all the members of the Militia of the Immaculata in this nation. We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen!”*

With these words, Fr. William Miller led the blessing and dedication of the Little Garden of the Immaculata, in the presence of MI members from the area, as well as from the Chicago area and Wisconsin, in addition to new acquaintances and friends, including religious sisters and Franciscan friars.

The MI National President, John Galten, introduced this solemn dedication recalling the providential unfolding of events that brought the MI National Home to be established in the Diocese of Peoria, the home diocese of the great 20th century evangelizer, Archbishop Fulton Sheen. He invited all present to renew their MI total consecration in union with all members throughout the country and to recommit themselves to carrying out St. Maximilian’s work of winning as many hearts as possible for the Most Heart of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary with generosity and enthusiasm in these difficult times. In the near future, the MI National Council will meet with the local Ordinary, Bishop Daniel Jenky, who has graciously welcomed the MI in his diocese and given his paternal blessing.

John extended a heartfelt *Thank You* to all MI members, especially those from the Chicago area, who have backed the work of the MI National office during the time of transition, by

**“The U.S. National Home of the Militia of the Immaculata as founded by St. Maximilian Kolbe, named Little Garden of the Immaculata, is totally dedicated to Our Lady’s mission”**

*John W. Galten, Natl President*

prayer and the generous gift of their volunteer work and financial support.

In small and big ways, everyone contributed not only to the uninterrupted carrying out of Our Lady’s mission but also the development of the MI presence in new areas across

the country. Special gratitude goes to Carol, from Indianapolis, Indiana, for her multiple generous gifts, to MI members from the MI Kolbe Village in Mundelein and beyond for the surprise gift of a 27-inch statue of our Patron, St. Maximilian, and to one of our new neighbors, who donated an outdoor 3 ft. statue of the Immaculata. Thankfully, local MI members and acquaintances have already stepped up to offer help and support in different capacities! The journey ahead looks promising.

Now, enjoy this collection of picture of our new MI National Home, where each and every MI member is remembered in prayer before the relic of St. Maximilian Kolbe and our Immaculate Mother and Queen.





# The Little Garden of the Immaculata





# Reflection on September MI Intention

O Immaculata please intercede that with St. Maximilian Kolbe's creativity we may transmit everywhere the dynamism of the Gospel.

*Some people God has designated in the church to be, first, apostles; second, prophets; third, teachers; then, mighty deeds; then, gifts of healing, assistance, administration, and varieties of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work mighty deeds? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts. But I shall show you a still more excellent way.*

(1 Cor 12:28-31)

In the past few months, we have emphasized frequently the creativity which characterized St. Maximilian Kolbe. As we start a new school and apostolic year and look forward to planning our work, maybe it is time not only to renew our enthusiasm but also to embrace new challenges in order to participate in the mission of the Church in the world. Fr. Kolbe would encourage us to consider once again our God-given gifts and talents so as to place them wholeheartedly at the service of the Immaculata, that is, of the Kingdom of the Most Sacred Heart.

In prayer, we ask to cultivate a creativity that may be conducive to transmitting the strength of the Gospel. We do not ask for the strength of power. The strength of the Gospel manifests itself in littleness and total surrender to God. It is a total overturning of the world logic. The Gospel logic, instead, summarized in the Beatitudes, has to be our sole guiding motive.

St. Maximilian was very well aware of worldly dynamics, present even in the Church, and reminds us that solely true, supernatural charity is creative. Motivated by Christ-like love, each one has to find his or her place in the

Body of Christ because, as St. Paul tells us, we have different gifts to contribute.

With both our limitations and our talents, we are to make ourselves available to serve and cooperate with the Lord in His work of salvation. We are to *strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts and yet to let ourselves be led*, as St. Maximilian suggests. Are these opposite directions? Not really. We belong to the Immaculata and therefore our greatest and most beautiful call is to act as instruments in her hands, to seek God's glory and to surrender ourselves to Him. She will then be free to continue her maternal mission through us, giving birth always anew to her Son in the hearts of men and women of our time.

The Lord does not need worldly protagonists in His vineyard. The humble giving of one's talents, as Our Lady herself did, will open ways for the Gospel. A *creative humility*, like Mary's in her Fiat, which moved her to visit in haste her cousin Elizabeth and to intervene at Cana, just as a *humble and obedient creativity* like Maximilian's: these are the qualities we are to look for. May the Immaculata lead us to find our place in the work of evangelization.

(From the MI International Office)

**PRAYER IN HONOR OF  
ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "Greater love than this no man has that a man lay down his life for his friends," through the intercession of St. Maximilian Kolbe whose life illustrated such love for all men, a love that was inspired by our petitions ... (mention special requests.)

Through the Militia of the Immaculata movement, which Maximilian founded, he spread a fervent devotion to Our Lady throughout the world. He gave up his life for a total stranger and loved his persecutors, giving an example of unselfish love for all men, a love that was inspired by true devotion to Mary.

Grant, O Lord Jesus, that we too may give ourselves entirely without reserve to the love and service of our Heavenly Queen in order to better love and serve our fellowman in imitation of your humble servant, Maximilian. Amen.

(Three Hail Marys and a Glory Be.)



**MILITIA OF THE  
IMMACULATA**  
MI NATIONAL CENTER - USA  
P.O. Box 7043 Libertyville, Illinois 60089 - 815.commiusa.com  
311-229-5164 - 815.229.5164

MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA

The MI Journey:  
Evangelizing in Communion



2018 Monthly Prayer Intentions

## MI Local News Special Event in Fond du Lac



**Holy Family Catholic Community  
to host**

**Very Reverend Richard Heilman**

Author of  
"Special Forces Training for the Life in Christ"  
to speak on

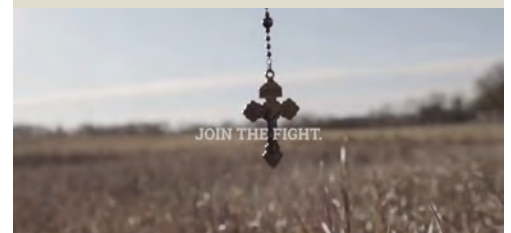
### Spiritual Warfare

**Where: Holy Family Hall**  
271 Fourth Street Way, Fond du Lac

**Date: Saturday, September 15, 2018**

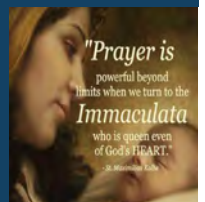
**Time: 9:00 am to 10:30 am**

**Sponsored by the Militia of the Immaculata  
Mother of Mercy Prayer Village**



**Draw your  
strength from the  
Lord and his  
mighty power. Put  
on the armor of  
God so that you  
may be able to  
stand firm against  
the tactics  
of the devil."**

**Eph 6:10**



# From Recently Enrolled MI Members

May these testimonies from some of the thousands of new MI members inspire us on our journey!



During this Lenten journey, I decided to read about the MI movement. My son was enrolled and I wondered if it was something I could do in memory of him. On Ash Wednesday 2016, our son was admitted to the hospital and stayed for 7 months with 11 surgeries. He fought hard and suffered greatly. He went to our Lord on September 22, 2016, of complications from an auto accident about 15 years prior when a drunk driver hit him head on and caused major injury to his aorta. They didn't expect him to live at that time. He survived long enough to enjoy the gift of two beautiful boys, now age 8 and 9. His wife stood by his side through all of the trials and is a wonderful mother to the boys.

I work at a Catholic Church and my pastor gathered many parishioners in prayer, Rosary, and Benediction for my son while he was struggling. I mentioned to my son that he has brought many people to prayer from his illness. He seemed to know that. He touched the lives of many doctors and nurses as well. Some of whom attended his funeral and are still in touch with my daughter-in-law. After scriptural reading and prayer, I decided to enroll in the MI Movement. I apologize for the length of this message, however, I felt a little background was important, especially since my son brought some in prayer to St. Maximilian Kolbe asking for his intercession during his struggles. Thank you and God bless you.  
-K. Z.

*Being part of the Militia of the Immaculata has greatly affected my faith, and I'm happy to continue to support it! I always look forward to reading the monthly newsletter and learning about more ways to increase my devotion! Thanks for all that MI does!*  
- A. C.

I am excited to serve God, Jesus, Mary, and Holy Mother Church as a member of the MI and the KFC.  
-Fr. E. P.

*St. Maximilian's story made me cry even though it was good. He was awesome to do that*

*for that man at the concentration camp. His story is my favorite. He is so blessed to be able to see Mary in heaven right now and watch over all of us. Pray for us St. Maximilian Kolbe!*  
-W. B., 9 years old

I first heard about the MI years ago in reference to St. Maximilian Kolbe. More recently, when two representatives of MI were being interviewed on EWTN. Mary has been an important helper to me in my spiritual life for many years. I pray my consecration to Her through MI will deepen my love for Her, for Jesus and for all of the people in my life.  
-D. F. R.

What a beautiful day Sunday, May 13th of this year was when I made my Marian consecration. I turn to Mary for help with everything and on this day, this Mother's Day, not only did I make my consecration but my son, who seldom comes to Mass anymore, came to Mass as a Mother's Day gift to me. It was the only gift I asked him for and I was blessed with the gift. I was glowing with love for Our Lady and for blessing me with my son. I faithfully every morning recite my consecration prayer to unite me closer to Jesus through Mary.  
-T. L.

*Thank you so much! The men are enthusiastic and have said things like, "I've been looking for something like this for a long time." I will share this with our Priest. We hope to spread this movement here in Mid-Michigan, following his example. Mary is at work here!*  
-L. C.

I desire to be a Knight at the Foot of the Cross because I am legally blind since birth. I have thought for as long as I can remember, since being a young child, that my blindness was a blessing from God, though it comes with many difficulties, pains, sorrows, and problems. Since converting to Catholicism, I am glad to finally understand how God can use such suffering for the benefit and blessing of others.  
-L. L. N.

## 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.





## A Lake County Fireball

“What do you need? Don’t buy anything. Tell me!”

These are the first words from Sue as she greets me, greets you, greets everyone in her path. A slender diminutive woman, Sue has an energy and passion that would easily rival that of someone half her age.

This little fireball from Lake County, Illinois, was one of my coworkers, who I met about a dozen years ago. After working together for six years, life tore us apart and we went separate ways. We reconnected through mutual friends; it was at this time that Sue learned of my unemployment status.

“I can help you. I can give you a boost.” With those words, Sue opened the door to a new world for me – a world filled with people who were in true need for all kinds of reasons.

I became one of Sue’s clients at her food pantry.

I was blessed to get a job, but continued to help Sue every chance I got. It was my way to pay back by helping her move forward. I found people who were in need; many at my parish. With great discretion, I was able to connect them with Sue and we were able to provide basic necessities for more people.

In time, Sue and I each developed our own primary focus so that we might better serve more people. Sue’s focus is providing food and necessities for families in need. She goes to the local bakery to pick up whatever hasn’t been sold that day and delivers her treasures to the families who visit on the weekends as well as a local community outreach. She also goes to a local grocery store where she gets fresh fruits, veggies, and sundries. Sue shares everything

she has with everyone who graces her doorstep. My friend truly is a small, modern day version of Blessed Dorothy Day.

I make various types of hygiene packets. With extremely few exceptions, each packet must have a soap and washcloth as well as a treat; this, along with hair care, dental, or shaving products. For special occasions, I make little packets with cards and treats. I am constantly on the lookout for travel sized products and welcome donations with open arms. My hygiene packets as well as select articles of clothing (hats, gloves, new socks, new undergarments) and food supplies, go to a Franciscan-based soup kitchen in Chicago’s Uptown neighborhood.

At this time, Sue’s food pantry serves 70 families each week. Last year, we provided in excess of 700 packets and goods to the Uptown neighborhood. We’re off to a great start this year, too.

I am a Knight at the Foot of the Cross; I, along with Sue, do my part to fight against poverty. Sometimes I feel like I’m only providing droplets, but then I am reminded that oceans are made of droplets. What are droplets to some, are big cups to someone else. Can you imagine what it would be like if everyone provided droplets?

Read Matthew 25:35-40 for a perspective.

Karen Sue Kasprzycki

## MI Consecration Celebrations

*During the month of August MI Consecration Ceremonies were celebrated in different areas.*

*Congratulations to the 37 people who were consecrated to the Immaculata after the August 14 Vigil Mass of the Assumption at Nativity of the Lord Church in Cudahy, Wisconsin. Fr. Carmelo Guiffre presided. The Ceremony was prepared and sponsored by the Milwaukee Village of the Immaculata.*





# MI RESOURCES

Available from the MI National Center



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

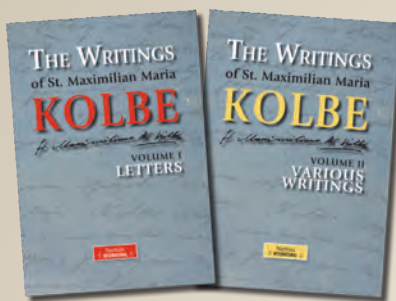
Miraculous medals and various MI brochures can be requested from the MI National Office at 331-223-5564 or via email: [MINational@MissionImmaculata.com](mailto:MINational@MissionImmaculata.com)

## 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!**



"I heartily welcome this first English critical edition of The Writings of St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe. Its pages are suffused with Christian hope. Under the general editorship of Antonella Di Piazza, the text has meticulous footnotes, comprehensive indices, and a brilliant introduction by Fr. Giuseppe Simbula, OFM Conv. Because the frenetic pace of St. Kolbe's active ministry afforded him no time to compose a theological Summa, this edition assembles together the wide scope of his extant writings into a unified synthesis. It represents a virtual magnum opus of Kolbean thought at one and the same time pastoral, anthropological, philosophical, spiritual, ascetical and mystical. "These two volumes give vigorous new life to the prophetic voice of truth of one of the greatest saints of our times."

— Fr. James McCurry, OFM Conv

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**MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA**  
MI NATIONAL CENTER - USA  
P.O. Box 5547, Peoria, IL 61601  
331-223-5564  
[MissionImmaculata.com](http://MissionImmaculata.com)  
[missionnational@missionimmaculata.com](mailto:missionnational@missionimmaculata.com)

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

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

*"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