

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

ROSARY COAST TO COAST

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The Great Prayer of Jesus

By John W. Galten, MI National President

Dear Knights of the Immaculata,

Maria! So, we find ourselves in the month of October, still locked in the embrace of the pandemic, yet we raise our eyes to, as Paul says, “heavenly things.” This is the month of the Immaculata’s gift to the Church, the holy Rosary, the Gospel prayer of pondering in our hearts, with her, all the things that Christ has said and done. It is also the month when we lift up our prayers to pray for an end to the incalculable tragedy of slaughter of the innocents—the scourge of abortion. Pray, pray the Holy Rosary, that this abomination might end and that we are moved to action to reverse this terrible sign of Satan in our time. Remember also this is a crucial election season. Leave aside personalities and the pumped up rhetoric; read the issues; and vote for the candidates who will best guarantee the protection of the unborn and vulnerable. Read the party platforms and by all means vote.

We will conclude in this column the consideration on the Holy Spirit so that we might better understand His role in our lives and how His Spouse, the Immaculata, cooperates with Him even now to bring all men into the Kingdom of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

We now come to St. John’s Chapter 17. Jesus is concluding His earthly mission. The time of teaching and working great signs is done. Now, He prays before the great concluding sign—the Paschal Mystery: His suffering, death and Resurrection. In the concluding words of the Last Supper He prays. The Promise of the Holy Spirit is made; now, the prayer is all that is left. It is one of the rare times in which we overhear His words and intentions. What does He pray for? He lifts His eyes to the Father and asks Him first that the Father give all men given to Him eternal life—the path to Trinitarian Communion. He prays that the

(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

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Father glorify Him so that all men may know that Jesus Himself is the Way to the Father. Jesus continues to pray for us that we know that we are in the Father and in Jesus, with the Holy Spirit, grafted into the eternal life which is to be “in” Heaven already. What cause for joy! Jesus prays that we have joy: the joy that comes from knowing the love and mercy of God which no one, not even Satan, can take away from us as we remain in Him.

Jesus prays that we not succumb to the persecution that will come to us. Why? Because the world that hates God persecuted Him, and will persecute us who are His Church, His Mystical Body in the world. He prays that we are sanctified, made holy, in the Truth—the Father’s word is Truth. The Spirit of Truth, which Jesus has promised in St. John’s Gospel, will come and confirm us in the Truth. That is the Gospel for which St. Maximilian was martyred and to which we give ourselves in faith. In imitation of Jesus, St. Maximilian goes to his death—a death for the Truth, but he goes as Christ did, filled with Divine Charity, witnessing that the Truth is not ideology but a living, loving Truth, laying down his life for love not just duty. This is the eternal sign of the Truth—that love conquers all.

Jesus concludes His prayer for us by asking the Father that we come to know the Father’s love, as Jesus, the only begotten Son, knows His love. And how shall we know this love? That is the gift of the Holy Spirit and the Bride, the Immaculata, Mother and model of the Church, who will plant by word, Sacrament and grace the very being and presence of the Holy Trinity. This promise of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and His Spouse, the Immaculata, can be found in the Gospel of St.

John and all through the New Testament, especially in St. Paul’s writings. But it is in St. John’s Gospel, that mystical testimony (John 19.26-27), that the Holy Spirit and the Immaculata are linked, both promised to us as gift/Gift. Praised be Jesus Christ!

Until next month, “Arise, let us be on our way.”

John W. Galten
MI National President

Announcement about the MI National Elective Assembly

At the request of the MI International President, the MI National Elective Assembly, scheduled for 2020, has been postponed due to the travel ban and other restrictions. No date has been set yet. As soon as plans are made possible, the MI National Office will promptly announce the date. All contributions and suggestions previously submitted by MI members have been recorded and will be passed on for consideration.



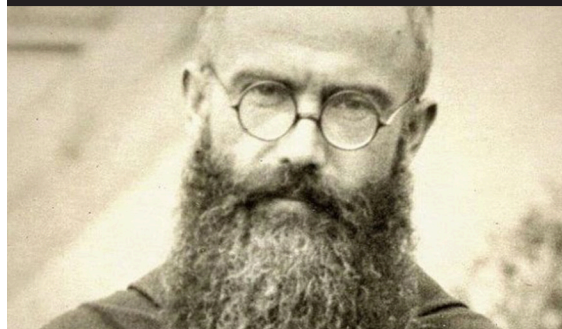
Daily Holy Mass

will be offered throughout 2020 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:

PrayerRequest@MissionImmaculata.com

See and Share the New MI Film!



This important
new short film, released on
the feast of St. Maximilian,
Friday, August 14,
beautifully and eloquently
captures the essence of the MI:
total consecration
to the Immaculata
in the evangelical spirit
of St. Maximilian Kolbe.

Watch the Film!

"Simply excellent!"

"Inspirational!"

Share the link
<http://militiaoftheimmaculata.com/mi-movie/>
to the MI Film with as many
people as possible!

Forward the link to your family
and friends or promote the
new film by posting on your
favorite social media platform!

*Let's reach
as many people
as possible
to win the world for Christ
through the Immaculata!*



The Chambers of the Heart

On a journey to living our total consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Part Four

Heroic Charity

“God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent His only Son into the world so that we might have life through Him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another” (1 Jn 4:8-11). Now we come to the core of our journey of transformation in Christ through total consecration to the Immaculata.

At the Last Supper, before His Passion, the Lord Jesus opened His Heart to the Apostles (cf. Jn 13-17). He spoke openly of who He is, what the Father sent Him to do, how Father and Son are one in love, and how we, His Mystical Body, are to share in this oneness through the Love who is the Holy Spirit, whom Father and Son give us to remain with us forever.

In light of His farewell discourse, we may contemplate the whole of Jesus’ life and ministry recounted in the Gospel: *He is the Son of God incarnate, Love made visible*. His preaching and teaching, His healing and feeding, forgiving and restoring to new life... *every detail is a revelation of His Heart*. As we contemplate Him with eyes of faith, we may exclaim with St. John that indeed we have heard and seen with our eyes, looked upon and touched with our hands Love made flesh (cf. 1 Jn 1:1-2).

We come to see the logical consequence: “If God so loved us, *we also must love one another*” (1 Jn 4:11). This is Jesus’ testament at the Last Supper: “I give you a

new commandment: love one another. As *I have loved you*, so you also should love one another” (Jn 13:34). This is the essence of who we are! The parable of the Good Samaritan (cf. Lk 10:25-37) and the account on the last judgment (cf. Mt 25:31-46) make it unmistakably clear. In fact, Jesus went so far as to say that *we love Him in loving one another*: “You did it to me.”

Mutual love became the distinctive sign by which the first disciples were recognized as the followers of Jesus (cf. Jn 13:35; Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35) and by which we are, or are not, identified with Him today. *Forgiveness of one’s enemies* (cf. Lk 6:27-38) is the ultimate sign of our identification with Him who spoke words of forgiving mercy even from the Cross. Saints, martyrs and teachers of the faith have plunged into the riches of our Faith and always found that *charity* stands at its source, at its core, and will last forever (1 Cor 13:1-13).

Unquestionably, *the Immaculate Heart of Mary*, filled with the Spirit of Love, is the human heart that most perfectly reflects her Son’s Heart. Moved by charity, she consented to become His Mother at the Annunciation, she went “in haste” to serve Elizabeth, she interceded with her Son at the wedding feast of Cana, she followed Him in the background during His public ministry, but stood at the foot of the Cross on Calvary. We picture her present with compassionate love amid the early Church, encouraging the disciples and displaying her maternal care. She never stopped! Until

the end of time, *she is in our midst*, reaching out to every one of her children and journeying with each of us as we strive to be conformed to her Firstborn Son, to build up His Kingdom on earth and finally to reach our heavenly Home.

St. John Paul II spoke of her maternal charity on many occasions. The homily he gave on May 13, 1982, at Fatima, is a timeless source of inspiration. “From the time when Jesus, dying on the Cross, said to John: ‘Behold, your mother’; from the time when ‘the disciple took her to his own home,’ the mystery of the spiritual motherhood of Mary has been actualized boundlessly in history. Motherhood means caring for the life of the child. Since Mary is the mother of us all, her care for the life of man is universal. The care of a mother embraces her child totally. Mary’s motherhood has its beginning in her motherly care for Christ. In Christ, at the foot of the Cross, she accepted John, and in John she accepted all of us totally. *Mary embraces us all with special solicitude in the Holy Spirit*. For as we profess in our Creed, He is ‘the Giver of life.’ It is He who gives the fullness of life, open toward eternity. *Mary’s spiritual motherhood is therefore a sharing in the power of the Holy Spirit*, of the ‘Giver of life.’”

St. Maximilian Kolbe saw in the Immaculata the “quasi incarnation” of the Holy Spirit, so united with Him as to be the human creature in whom Divine Love is almost embodied and made visible, the docile instrument through whom He carries out His sanctifying mission in souls. During his spiritual exercises, St. Maximilian kept short notes of his reflections and resolutions. The one dated October 6-14, 1937, states: “*Da teipsum aliis = amor* (Give yourself to others = love)” (KW 983). Even if he never spoke of them publicly, he certainly treasured the memory of the “two crowns” of purity and sacrificial love that Our Lady had offered him at the onset of his life.

(continues on pg. 4)



by Matthew Alderman ©Militia Immaculatae, Inc

Heroic Charity

(continued from pg. 3)

As a man, a Franciscan priest and a missionary, he let himself be led constantly by the Holy Spirit along the path of discipleship. In and through Our Lady, he allowed the Holy Spirit to make of him “another Christ,” a Eucharistic man. Day in and day out, Maximilian trained his heart for the greater measure of love, which is *giving one’s life for others*. In the summer of 1941, he was ready to hear the interior call to offer his very life for another Auschwitz prisoner condemned to death. In the dark bunker of starvation, he truly became “alter Christus.” “Fr. Maximilian did not die but gave his life for... his brother,” as St. John Paul II stated at his canonization, and thus became a sign and prophet of the civilization of love.

We stand on the shoulders of this humble giant. We might not be called to the martyrdom of blood, like St. Maximilian and many of our brothers and sisters in Christ have throughout the centuries, but we are called to the humble martyrdom (that is, witness) of heroic charity. Most likely, we will be called to the martyrdom of “the blood of our soul,” which results from

giving witness to the “charity of truth” in our secularized society. As we strive to be faithful to Jesus, to the Faith, we may experience rejection, isolation, ridicule, and suffering. If this prospect should make us fearful, Our Lady re-echoes the words of Jesus in our hearts: “Do not be afraid! I am with you always.” He nourishes us by His Body and Blood and strengthens us by the gift of the Holy Spirit so that we may be set free by the light of Truth and let it shine in the world.

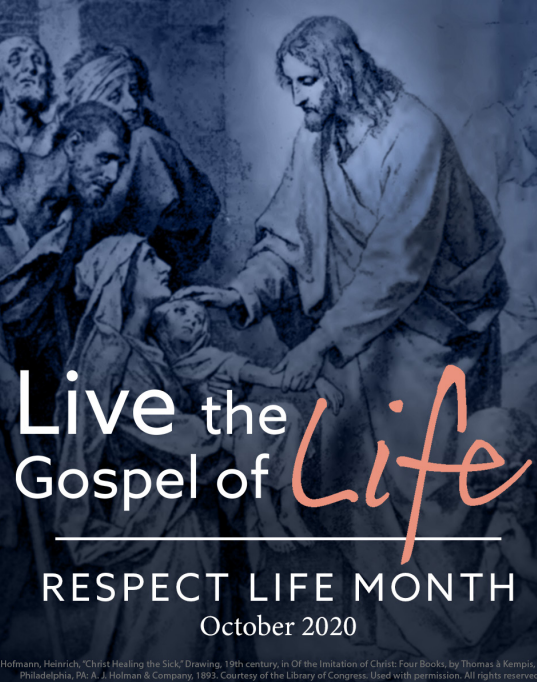
As we embrace St. Maximilian’s legacy ever more deeply, through our total consecration to the Immaculata, our hearts find the surest path to being molded by the Holy Spirit into the likeness of the Heart of her Son, Love made flesh. By her powerful intercession, Our Lady invites a greater outpouring of the Spirit of Love in our souls. The Holy Spirit, in turn, makes of us Eucharistic persons, who “become what we celebrate, eat and adore”—another Christ in the world. Through our union with her, Our Lady teaches us *to look at every person with God’s gaze, to see and love her Son in every person*. Thus, practicing the *corporal and spiritual works of mercy* becomes the practical way for experiencing one of the most beautiful goals of our total consecration: our “becoming like her,” letting her “live and love in us,” through our hearts. As our Mother, companion and leader, she walks with us every step of the way, encouraging and inspiring us, interceding for us, inviting us to become an extension of her presence and a reflection of her heart for every person we encounter. By the creative power of the Holy Spirit, in union with our Immaculate Mother, we become who we are: children of God, living members of the Body of Christ, living witnesses of that heroic charity which will ultimately transform the world into a civilization of love.

Antonella Di Piazza, FKMI
(to be continued)

Pray, Ponder, Propose

Take some time every day during this month to reflect on the fourth Chamber of the Heart – *Heroic Charity*.

- ✓ Invoke the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ As you re-read the paragraphs about Jesus and Mary’s heroic charity, consider the Gospel passages quoted. Feel free to recall other accounts that are implied. Look them up, ponder them in prayer, and let the Word of God speak to your heart.
- ✓ Read the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* nos. 826; 864; 963-970; 1822-1829; 1970; 2011; 2196; 2447; 2838-2845.
- ✓ Identify some quotations in *The Writings of St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe* that may inspire us in living heroic charity in our daily life: KW 884, 925, 983, 987 E and H, 991 R, 1075, 1205, 1238, 1295, 1296, 1318.
- ✓ **Questions for reflection:** First, I place myself under the loving and merciful gaze of Jesus and let gratitude fill my heart. From this standpoint, how do I understand “Heroic charity” in light of Scripture, the *Catechism* and the teachings and example of St. Maximilian? In which areas of my life and relationships should I grow in practicing kindness, sacrificial love, and forgiveness? How may I allow Our Lady to express her maternal presence through my words and actions?
- ✓ Take your journal and put down in writing what may be relevant for your journey at this time.
- ✓ Close with a prayer.



Hofmann, Heinrich, "Christ Healing the Sick," Drawing, 19th century, in *Of the Imitation of Christ: Four Books*, by Thomas à Kempis, Philadelphia, PA: R. J. Molesworth & Company, 1893. Courtesy of the Library of Congress. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Twenty-five years ago, Pope St. John Paul II wrote that the Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' saving message to the world (*Evangelium vitae* 1). In taking on human flesh, dwelling among us, and sacrificing His very life for our redemption, Christ reveals the profound dignity of every human person. This God-given dignity does not change with our stage of life, abilities, level of independence, or any other varying circumstance.

Rather, it is rooted in the permanent fact that each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, created to share in the very life of God Himself. The human person is a "manifestation of God in the world, a sign of His presence, a trace of His glory" (*EV* 34). And we must reflect this truth in how we act and how we treat one another.

The truth of the Gospel of life is at the foundation of who we are as followers of Christ. In His earthly life, Jesus provided the perfect model for how we are to love our neighbor and live out the Gospel call: "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt 25:40).

Jesus calls each of us to "care for the other as a person for whom God

has made us responsible" (*EV* 87). The Gospel of life is intrinsic to the whole Christian life and foundational to the decisions we make on a daily basis. For, "the Gospel of God's love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person and the Gospel of life are a *single and indivisible* Gospel" (*EV* 2, emphasis added).

In his encyclical on the Gospel of life, Pope St. John Paul II recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. He places particular emphasis, however, on threats to life at its beginning and end—precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers' wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the "least of these" in our world's estimation. Practices such as abortion and assisted suicide tragically reject the truth that human life is always to be cherished and defended with loving concern.

As the Church celebrates the 25th anniversary of Pope St. John Paul II's prophetic encyclical, let us reflect on how we personally live out the Gospel:

Do I talk about and act toward others as I would talk about and treat Jesus Himself? Do I inform myself of the Church's teachings and engage in the civic arena as first a follower of Christ? Do I support and advocate for laws and policies that protect and defend human life? Do I help pregnant and parenting mothers in need? Am I ready to support a loved one nearing death?

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may Our Lord grant us the grace to truly and courageously live His Gospel of life. (USCCB, Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities)

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Demand a COVID-19 Vaccine Free from Abortion

There is absolutely no reason why a vaccine for COVID-19 should be connected to abortion. But that is exactly what may happen in the coming months. Among the dozens of vaccines currently in development, some are being produced using old cell lines that were created from the cells of aborted babies.

There is NO NEED to further exploit the bodies of aborted children.

Other cell lines or processes that do not involve cells from abortions are available! In fact, they are regularly used for producing vaccines and are being used by some drug companies to develop a COVID-19 vaccine.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) along with leaders of many healthcare, bioethics, and pro-life organizations, is urging the federal government to make sure that vaccines for COVID-19 are developed ethically and are free from any connection to the exploitation of abortion. They express strong support for efforts to develop an effective, safe, and widely available vaccine as quickly as possible, but also strongly urge the federal government to "ensure that fundamental moral principles are followed in the development of such vaccines, most importantly, the principle that human life is sacred and should never be exploited."



An MI Village Evangelization Initiative

2020 has been a challenging year for the faithful. We have seen our churches closed for months. We have been prevented for the first time in our lifetimes from the Eucharist, from Confessions, from having Baptisms, Christian Weddings, Funeral Services, and Last Rites. Confirmation Masses and even Holy Orders had been delayed in 2020. Some of us are still unable to visit with family members because of coronavirus and the policies that seem to say that CHURCH is less essential than many other aspects of society.

As Knights of the Militia of the Immaculata, we are called to evangelize. We ought to partake in some form of communal and individual apostolates. One way to do that is literally to wear your devotional sentiments on your chest. One MI Village is helping us do that.

JESUS IS ESSENTIAL long-sleeved T-shirts are being worn by MI Knights and they are garnering the attention of many admirers. Americans appreciate the message that Jesus is more essential now than ever before. We have a national election coming very soon and

we pray that Americans all over this nation re-embrace Christ and His Gospel message. Let's pray for a conversion of the United States of America. Let's together, as Our Lady's Militia, evangelize all we meet and introduce them to Jesus. We sometimes shall use words, and we sometimes wear our sentiments on our chests!

Please contact Joe Cascone at: casconejoe@outlook.com with sizes of men's and women's long-sleeve T-Shirts for your Village Knights. This is NOT a fundraiser of any sort. Donations are \$10 per shirt and shipping is extra.

Joe Cascone

Cell phone: (708) 560-7767



Invite Friends to be
consecrated to Our Lady!



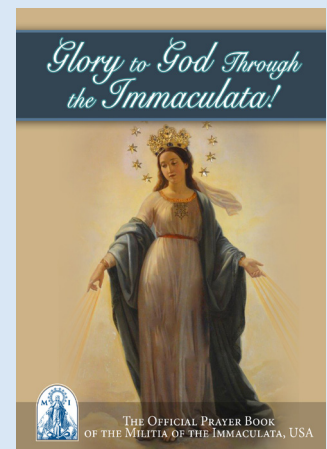
Behold Your Mother: The Path to Total Consecration to Our Lady in the Spirit of St. Maximilian Kolbe

This beautiful 56-page booklet may be used individually or as a group activity (in a home or 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!

Now available in audio book form.

The suggested donation for multiple copies of the booklet is \$1.00/ea. plus shipping; for a single copy, the suggested donation is \$3.75 shipping included.



Order copies of both today from the
MI National Office:
MINational@MissionImmaculata.com
Or call: 331-223-5564

MI

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



St. John Paul II to Youth

As we continue to honor the 100th anniversary of St. John Paul II's birth, we recall how he proclaimed the Gospel call to penance and reconciliation with God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

In his 1984 Apostolic Letter on the subject, he stated that over the course of generations, the Christian mind has gained from the Gospel as it is read in the ecclesial community a fine sensitivity and an acute perception of the seeds of death contained in sin, as well as a sensitivity and an acuteness of perception for identifying them in the thousand guises under which sin shows itself. This is what is commonly called the sense of sin. This sense is rooted in man's moral conscience and is, as it were, its thermometer. It is linked to the sense of God, since it derives from man's conscious relationship with God as his Creator, Lord and Father. Hence, just as it is impossible to eradicate completely the sense of God or to silence the conscience completely, so the sense of sin is never completely eliminated. Nevertheless, it happens not infrequently in history, for more or less lengthy periods and under the influence of many different factors, that the moral conscience of many people becomes seriously clouded.

The Eclipse of Conscience and Loss of Sense of Sin

Is it not true that modern man is threatened by an eclipse of conscience? By a deformation of conscience? Too many signs indicate that such an eclipse exists in our time. This is all the more disturbing in that conscience, the most secret core and sanctuary of a man, is strictly related to human freedom. For this reason conscience constitutes the basis of man's interior dignity and of his relationship to God.

Why has this happened in our time?

A glance at certain aspects of contemporary culture can help us to understand the progressive weakening of the sense of sin, precisely because of the crisis of conscience and crisis of the sense of God.

Root Causes

Secularism is by nature and definition a movement of ideas and behavior which advocates a humanism totally without God, completely centered upon the cult of action and production and caught up in the heady enthusiasm of consumerism and pleasure seeking, unconcerned with the danger of losing one's soul. This secularism cannot but undermine the sense of sin. At the very most, sin will be reduced to what offends man. But it is precisely here that we are faced with the bitter experience that man can build a world without God, but this world will end by turning against him.

Historical and Moral Relativism

Another reason for the disappearance of the sense of sin in contemporary society is to be found in the errors made in evaluating certain findings of the human sciences. Thus on the basis of certain affirmations of psychology, concern to avoid creating feelings of guilt or to place limits on freedom leads to a refusal ever to admit any shortcoming. A certain cultural anthropology so emphasizes the undeniable environmental and historical conditioning and influences which act upon man, that it reduces his responsibility to the point of not acknowledging his ability to perform truly human acts and therefore his ability to sin. The sense of sin also easily declines as a result of a system of ethics deriving from a *certain historical relativism*. This may take the form of an ethical system which relativizes the moral norm, denying its absolute and unconditional value, and as a consequence denying that there can be intrinsically illicit acts independent of the circumstances.

The restoration of a proper sense of sin is the first way of facing the grave spiritual crisis looming over man today. But the sense of sin can only be restored through a clear reminder of the unchangeable principles of reason and faith which the moral teaching of the Church has always upheld. There are good grounds for hoping that a healthy sense of sin will once again flourish, especially in the Christian world and in the Church. This will be aided by sound catechetics, illuminated by the biblical theology of the covenant, by an attentive listening and trustful openness to the Magisterium of the Church, which never ceases to enlighten consciences, and by an ever more careful practice of the Sacrament of Penance.





Reflection on October MI Intention

O Immaculata, please intercede that we may proclaim and give witness to the Gospel with all our resources and complete dedication.

“Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.”
(Mk 16:15)

During the month of October, we celebrate Mission Sunday. On this occasion, popes have offered special messages to help us understand the implications of our Christian identity as baptized and confirmed members of the Mystical Body of Christ. In his 2020 Message the Pope reminded us that “the missionary journey of the whole Church continues in light of the words found in the account of the calling of the prophet Isaiah: *Here am I, send me* (6:8). This is the ever new response to the Lord’s question: *Whom shall I send?* (ibid.). In this context, the call to mission, the invitation to step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbor presents itself as an opportunity for sharing, service and intercessory prayer. The mission that God entrusts to each one of us leads us to a renewed realization that we find ourselves precisely when we give ourselves to others. In the sacrifice of the cross, where the mission of Jesus is fully accomplished (cf. Jn 19:28-30), God shows us that His love is for each and every one of us (cf. Jn 19:26-27). He asks us to be personally willing to be sent, because He Himself is Love, love that is always *on mission*, always reaching out in order to give life. Out of His love for us, God the Father sent His Son Jesus (cf. Jn 3:16). Jesus is the Father’s Missionary: His life and ministry reveal His total obedience to the Father’s will (cf. Jn 4:34; 6:38; 8:12-30; Heb 10:5-10). Jesus, crucified and risen for us, draws us in turn into His mission of love, and with His Spirit which enlivens the Church, He makes us

His disciples and sends us on a mission to the world and to its peoples.”

St. Maximilian Kolbe providentially started the Militia of the Immaculata precisely in the month of October. Our Founder points out the secure path that we must follow, that is, to draw closer to Our Lady, who was the first missionary as she set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah (cf. Lk 1:39). He stated that the purpose of the MI is *“commitment for the conversion of sinners and of non-Catholics, and for the sanctification of all. In other words, love toward all people, regardless of differences of faith and nationality, with a view to drawing them closer to the happiness that only closeness to God, the source of all happiness, and concrete love for God, that is, sanctification, can afford. And all that under the protection and through the mediation of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary Immaculate, who was established by God Mediatrix of all graces. In fact, no one converts or is sanctified without the grace of God, for it is the grace of God that brings about conversion and sanctification, provided that the soul wishes to collaborate with such grace. For this reason, therefore, one can speak neither of conversion nor of sanctification without the help of the Immaculata, the Mother of divine grace. Indeed, the closer one comes to this Dispenser of divine graces, the more graces one obtains, the more easily one is made holy and contributes to the sanctification of others. It is logical, then, that we should be committed to the work of conversion and sanctification of souls under the protection and through the mediation of the Immaculata.”* (cf. KW 1226).

(from the MI International Office)

Act of Total Consecration to the Immaculata

(Prayer composed by St. Maximilian Kolbe)

O Immaculata, Queen of Heaven and earth, refuge of sinners and our most loving Mother, God has willed to entrust the entire order of mercy to you. I, (name), a repentant sinner, cast myself at your feet humbly imploring you to take me with all that I am and have, wholly to yourself as your possession and property. Please make of me, of all my powers of soul and body, of my whole life, death and eternity, whatever most pleases you.

If it pleases you, use all that I am and have without reserve, wholly to accomplish what was said of you: “She will crush your head,” and, “You alone have destroyed all heresies in the world.”

Let me be a fit instrument in your immaculate and merciful hands for introducing and increasing your glory to the maximum in all the many strayed and indifferent souls, and thus help extend as far as possible the blessed Kingdom of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. For wherever you enter, you obtain the grace of conversion and growth in holiness, since it is through your hands that all graces come to us from the most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

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

R. Give me strength against your enemies.



Witnessing God at Work

MI Member and MI Film producer shares his story.

Hello MI members!

My name is Cliff Azize. I would love to take a moment to share with you my story of how I learned about this fantastic establishment, was consecrated to Our Lady, and eventually led to creating the documentary “Militia of the Immaculata.”

God had His hand in this journey the entire way.

In 2017, My wife Chelsey and I were invited to the Catholic Radio station Relevant Radio’s annual fundraising banquet. We were looking forward to a night away together, as we have two small children and excited to raise money for this amazing cause. So, upon arrival, my wife and I set off to find the wine (wife) beer (me) and raffle tickets and decided to purchase 2 for the drawing. I asked my wife to fill out the tickets, as her luck was better than mine, and we would need it if we wanted to win the grand prize of a Spiritual Pilgrimage to a location of our choosing. And it worked; we won.

I want to digress here to mention briefly that I have witnessed Christ

work through my wife before. Her birthday is October 13, the same day anniversary Our lovely Lady decided to bless Fatima, Portugal, with Her presence.

The night ended, and we were thrilled. We spent the drive home discussing the options explained to us, trying to decide where we wanted to go! Ultimately, I wanted to leave the decision up to Chelsey, because, like I mentioned, this was her win through God, and it only felt right that His grace would continue through her. Chelsey wanted to go to Italy, so we did.

After working with the representative to book the trip, we learned this pilgrimage was a little different. Those joining will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the MI (we had no idea what that meant at the time), but gladly agreed. When we arrived at the airport, we were greeted by the most friendly faces and learned the majority of the travelers were part of this organization as well.

We spent the next ten days traveling Italy, learning about the MI, Saint Maximilian Kolbe, and praying. What I didn’t mention to the group was that, in those ten days, I was managing a transition in my career. A few years prior, I had left Brooklyn, NY, where I had a successful documentary business to move to Minnesota to start a family. I was working to re-start my film business from Minnesota (Azize Films), and trying to get some more work that would allow me to continue sharing Catholic stories.

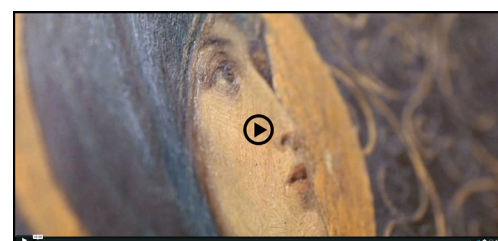
On the last day on the trip, I casually shared some of my work at our morning breakfast with Antonella and John. We discussed the possibility of a film and prayed together for the funds to allow.

It was amazing. We were witnessing God at work. From winning the trip to choosing the Italy Pilgrimage (thanks to my wife... I would have been in the Holy land, if left up to me) to the consecration, it was all pointing me in the direction of this documentary. In the end, the funds were donated by an anonymous benefactor, and we were on our way. The film would happen.

Clifford Azize



[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE MI MOVIE](#)





by William H. Mary Hale

The MI and Our Time

Written in 1939, this short article offers a very timely message (KW 1237).

“The heart of man is restless until it rests in Thee, O God,” asserted St. Augustine many centuries ago. With no exaggeration, the years that we are living may be called restless. And the reason for that is not at all different. Communist atheism seems to be raging on always more rowdily and does everything in order to sow, wherever it can, its reactionary prejudices. At its origin, we may easily locate that criminal mafia called Freemasonry.

That does not mean that even among subscribed atheists there are only foolish people; or that among the supporters of the inane fashion of the fist raised against one’s neighbor or against the Creator there are solely careerists with nothing but a feeling of protest in the depths of their souls. In this regard, I am reminded of a fact that occurred a few years ago. An agitator was telling me about his boldness as an unbeliever when he made pronouncements during the rallies; in the end, however, he added: “Yet I did not think that way.”

In short, the real villains, the ill-intentioned who sin with full knowledge, are relatively few. The Savior Himself

forgave before the Heavenly Father even those who were crucifying Him, because—just as Jesus said—they did not know what they were doing [cf. Lk 23:24].

These poor people, therefore, need light, a great deal of supernatural light, of supernatural energy. They are unhappy, discontented, because they take as their ultimate goal what is only a means and therefore, after reaching the happiness to which they aspire, cannot find what they were looking for. And they continue to search with a dejected heart, with bitterness in their souls.

How can we fail to reach out to them? How can we not help them placate their hearts, lift their minds above all that passes toward the one ultimate purpose, God. Love for one’s neighbor pushes those souls who have already found the true ideal of life not to forget their brothers and sisters around them.

One of the many associations that practice this love of one’s neighbor is the Militia of the Immaculata. It is called “of the Immaculata” because its members have given themselves without restrictions to the Most Blessed Virgin Mary Immaculate, that she herself may work in them and through them and, through them, shower other souls with the graces of supernatural light, strength and happiness. Moreover, it is called “Militia” because it cannot afford to rest, but rather intends to conquer hearts for the Immaculata by way of love, and through her, for the Divine Heart of Jesus and, ultimately, for the heavenly Father.

Are you already a member of the hosts of this Militia? Would you like to give a helping hand to your neighbors?

Offer yourself up to the Immaculata as well! Let her work through you and you shall disseminate much happiness on earth even during this our time. To many a restless soul, you will give peace and serenity in God.

Maximilian Kolbe

ATTENTION MI MEMBERS!

Would you share the MI Film
with your local TV station?



Members of the MI, specifically in the United States, can use their local community access media organizations to share the film. Public access cable television stations, as a platform to share the speech and ideas of the community they serve, generally welcome submissions of programs by the public.

To share the MI film with your community, all you need to do is to contact your local station and find out what rules they have for submitting a program - nearly all stations will allow you to submit your program for free, but some may require that you fill out agreements or record short videos to be included as part of the film.

**Please contact
the MI National Office
to obtain permission and
the MI Film file
for TV viewing.
Thank you!**

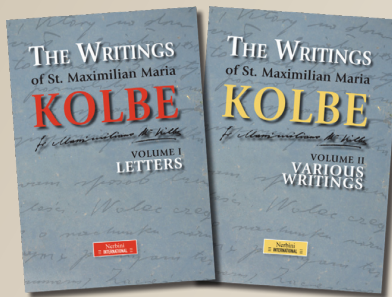
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"If you love the Immaculata, if your heart burns with gratitude to her, offer your contribution to this work, according to your capabilities! It is worth making such an effort! The Immaculata will not forget it! May all MI Knights be zealous in winning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

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