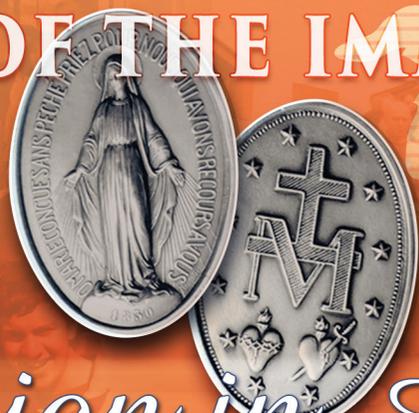


MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA



Mission in Action

The MI carries out its mission in the name of the Church through:

- Local monthly or weekly meetings for youth, families and adults, known as MI Villages
- Retreats (one day, weekend or week-long)
- MI leadership formation programs
- Pilgrimages to Kolbean sites in Italy and Poland
- MI Pilgrimages to World Youth Days
- Presentations on Our Lady and St. Maximilian for all age groups, in parishes and schools
- Ministry to the sick, the disadvantaged, and the incarcerated
- Participation in pro-life ministry
- Radio and television broadcasting promoting Marian consecration
- A monthly e-newsletter, *The Knight of the Immaculata*, as well as printed and online resources, available through the MI websites MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com and MIYouth.org

MI members, mindful of their call to evangelize, strive to give witness to the Faith everywhere. They seek to reach out to their own families, friends, co-workers, fellow parishioners, the sick and elderly, youth, adults, and whomever they meet, in order to lead every individual with Mary to Christ, Our Savior and Our Hope.

For more information on the MI or to request the MI to come to your area, please contact the MI National Center-USA at MINational@MissionImmaculata.com (see address on the back cover)



“The Knights of the Immaculata know that, in and through her, they shall soon and more easily become the property of Jesus and that this is the only way to achieve the easiest and most sublime holiness, to render the greatest glory possible to God.” - St. Maximilian Kolbe

MI PRAYER OF TOTAL CONSECRATION TO THE IMMACULATA

(Composed by St. Maximilian Kolbe)

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

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

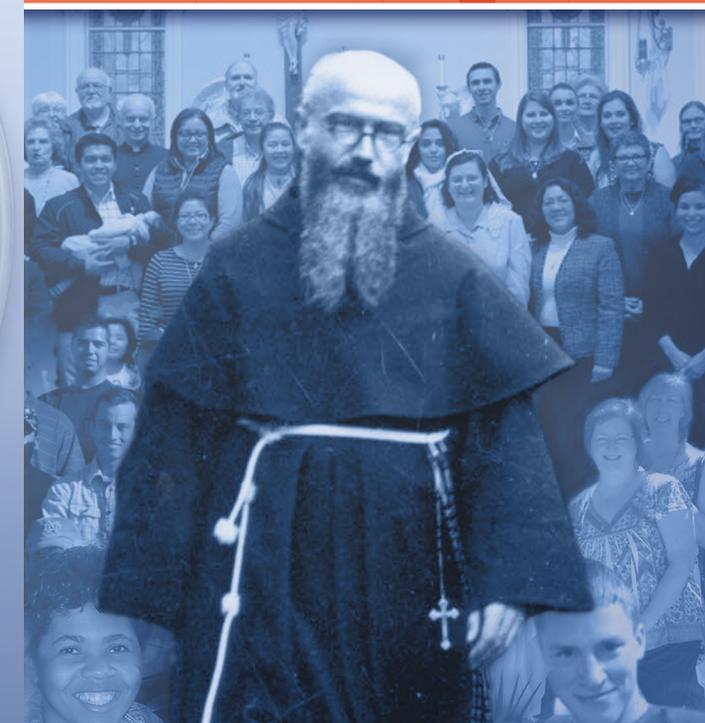
For daily recitation:

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you, and for all those who do not have recourse to you, especially the enemies of Holy Church and all those recommended to you.



Be Consecrated to Mary in the

MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA



MI National Center-USA

P.O. Box 5547, Peoria, IL 61601

331-223-5564 • MINational@MissionImmaculata.com

MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com

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MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com

MIYouth.org

BE CONSECRATED TO MARY!

To request more information about Marian consecration and membership in the MI, to join the MI, or to send a donation to support Our Lady's mission, please remove and fill out this form, place it in a stamped envelope and mail it to the MI National Center.

Members receive a frameable MI membership certificate, a Miraculous Medal and correspondence from the MI National Center-USA, including the monthly MI e-newsletter.

MI National Center-USA

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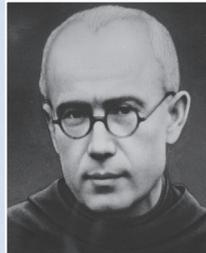




WHAT IS THE MILITIA OF THE IMMACULATA?

The Militia of the Immaculata (MI) is an International Public Association of the Faithful, erected by the Holy See. The MI was founded by St. Maximilian Kolbe, OFM Conv., in 1917. It is open to Catholics of all walks of life and promotes total consecration to Mary as a most effective way to live one's Baptism and Confirmation. The MI encourages all people of good will to welcome Our Lady in their lives and develop a trusting relationship with her. The aim of the MI is "to win the whole world for Christ through the Immaculata," Mother of God and of the Church.

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE was born in Poland in 1894 and at about the age of 10 had a vision of the Virgin Mary. She offered him a white crown and a red crown, representing purity and martyrdom. He chose both, a foreshadowing of his life of evangelical purity and sacrificial love. In 1910, he joined the Conventual Franciscan Order. He studied in Rome where, on October 16, 1917, with six other young friars he founded the MI. Ordained a priest in 1918, Father Maximilian returned to Poland and began his untiring missionary activity, starting a monthly magazine and establishing two evangelization centers dedicated to the Immaculate Virgin: Niepokalanów, the "City of the Immaculata," in Poland, and Mugenzai no Sono in Japan. He envisioned missionary centers worldwide. To better "win the world for Christ through the Immaculata," he utilized the most modern techniques, including short wave radio, and planned to build a motion picture studio.



During World War II, at Niepokalanów Father Maximilian welcomed thousands of refugees, especially Jews. In 1941, he was arrested by the Nazis and taken to the Auschwitz concentration camp. There he offered his life for another prisoner and was condemned to slow death in a starvation bunker. Father Kolbe died on August 14, 1941, from an injection of carbolic acid. Pope St. John Paul II canonized him as a Saint and Martyr of Charity on October 10, 1982. St. Maximilian Kolbe is considered a patron of journalists, families, prisoners, the pro-life movement, the chemically addicted and those with eating disorders.

St. Maximilian's insights into the Immaculate Conception anticipated the Marian theology of the Second Vatican Council and further developed the Church's understanding of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation. His thought is echoed in the Marian teaching of both St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI.



SPIRITUALITY & MISSION

"The MI is a global vision of Catholic life in a new form, consisting in the bond with the Immaculata, our universal Mediatrix before Jesus."
(St. Maximilian Kolbe, KW 1220)

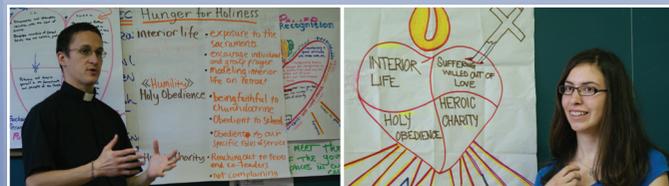
The MI is committed to providing its members with Catholic formation in the spirituality and mission of St. Maximilian Kolbe. Through total consecration to Mary, the Mother of the Lord and His most perfect follower, individuals respond with her to the universal call to holiness and are transformed into generous missionary disciples and instruments in Our Lady's immaculate hands for the coming of the Kingdom of the Most Sacred Heart in all hearts.

The MI offers programs that:

- ✦ *Impart formation in the teachings of the Catholic Church and foster love for Jesus in the Eucharist and for the sacramental life*
- ✦ *Offer a deep understanding of the Blessed Virgin Mary's role in the plan of salvation and of the gift of consecration to her in the spirit of St. Maximilian and St. John Paul II*
- ✦ *Ignite the zeal to become generous instruments of evangelization in one's own environment, giving witness to the Truth and promoting the sacredness of human life*

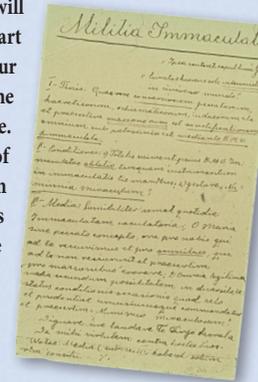
A special vanguard within the MI is the **Knights at the Foot of the Cross (KFC)**, consisting of Catholic men and women of all ages afflicted by suffering, whether physical, spiritual or emotional. As MI members, they consecrate themselves to Mary. As she did at the foot of the Cross of her Son, they also participate in redemptive suffering, by offering some of their daily prayers and trials to Jesus through Mary for the conversion and sanctification of all people and for the success of the MI's evangelizing mission. Read more about the KFC at MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com.

MI Youth & Young Adults is the youth movement of the MI. Through total consecration to Mary, the young are formed in their Catholic identity and transformed into instruments of "youth evangelizing youth," with a mission to transform the world with authentic and heroic love. Visit MIYouth.org for more information.



BEHOLD YOUR MOTHER (JN 19:27)

By consecrating yourself to Mary you will welcome the gift of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (cf. Jn 19:25-27), experience Our Lady's maternal care in your life and become a sign of her presence wherever you are. By joining the MI you will become part of her worldwide spiritual family, share in the daily prayers offered by MI members (laypeople, clergy and religious), and have access to MI resources on how to live out your consecration to Jesus through Mary.



How do I join the MI?

- Choose the date on which you wish to make your consecration and have your name recorded in the official register of the MI National Center, preferably a Marian feast day. Send the completed form to the MI National Center-USA or enroll online at MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com.
- Prepare for your consecration and enrollment by spiritual reading, the Rosary and the reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on or shortly before the day of your enrollment.
- Various novenas and other MI formation resources are available at MilitiaoftheImmaculata.com.
- On the day of your MI enrollment, attend Mass, if possible, and recite the official MI act of consecration, composed by St. Maximilian. Give yourself wholeheartedly to Our Lady so as to let the Holy Spirit guide you on the path to holiness with her! Subject to the usual conditions, a plenary indulgence is granted by the Church for enrollment in the MI. This special gift was bestowed on the MI by Pope Pius XI in 1926.
- Implore Our Lady and St. Maximilian to show you how you may serve the Lord as an instrument of love and mercy in your life and be ready to share with everyone the gift you have received.
- Enjoy being part of the MI Family and stay in touch by prayer and regularly visiting the MI websites.
- Wear a Miraculous Medal and pass it on to others! Get involved and attend MI local events, if possible.



TESTIMONIES

"My husband and I made our consecration to Mary and shortly after we discovered we could share the MI with other families. At our parish we have had MI meetings and we come together to pray and participate in discussions on Marian consecration in the Kolbean spirituality applied to daily life, followed by a potluck social. It is a wonderful blessing to encourage one another in our efforts to live our Faith and give witness to it."
Mary, MI Village Moderator

"Giving my life to Jesus through Mary has been the best choice I have made in my life. She has provided me with the guidance I needed to make the right choices in my life."
Andrew, MI Young Adult

"St. Maximilian is like a telescope bringing the Blessed Mother closer to me and then she, like a magnifying glass, makes me see Jesus more clearly. Neither gets in the way but rather they enhance the vision. When I see Jesus more clearly, I love Him and want to love Him in others."
Laura, MI Adult

"My life has changed drastically since I made my consecration. My prayer life has taken on a whole new dimension. I have received strength against temptations that I never received before. Everyday I re-consecrate myself to Jesus through Mary."
From an Inmate's Letter

"The mission of the MI - 'leading all to Christ through Mary' - gives me a great goal in bearing and offering my daily sufferings."
Peter, Knight at the Foot of the Cross

"I thank the MI for opening my eyes to the splendor of Truth, the Beauty of Mary, the universal mission of the Church. I thank the MI for my vocation to the priesthood."
Fr. Joseph, diocesan priest

"Since I am a convert and entered the Church at age 13, it has been very challenging for me, but the MI has made me feel very much at home and blessed to be around a group of people that believe the same thing as I do."
MI Teen



Return this form to the MI National Center-USA

YES, I would like to receive more information about Marian consecration and the MI. Mr./Mrs./Ms./Other _____ Address _____

YES, I would like to join the MI. I understand the conditions for membership as described in this brochure and I will pursue the purposes of the MI. Please enroll me as of this date: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

YES, I would like to enroll in the MI as a Knight at the Foot of the Cross. Please enroll me as of this date: _____ Phone _____ Cellphone _____

I wish to support the work of the MI with a donation of \$_____ E-mail _____ Date of Birth _____

*By providing your email address, you will be able to receive the MI monthly e-newsletter and other notices. Thank you.

Please make your gift payable to MI National-USA

"Membership in the MI means complete dedication to the Kingdom of God and to the salvation of souls through Mary Immaculate." - Pope St. John Paul II