

A LETTER FROM FR. ISAIAH MARIE HOFMANN, CFR

“Christ’s peace! I hope this note finds you doing well. I am writing to thank you for the recent shipment of *Ahi Tienes a Tu Madre* along with the holy cards and resources you sent. We are presently in the midst of a month-long preparation for Marian consecration which we will celebrate on the Vigil of the Assumption (8/14/2023) with our Spanish-speaking community in Newburgh, New York. We would be grateful for your prayers for this day. Your generous assistance and recommendations with regard to MI resources while I was planning this event was a tremendous blessing. More personally, I wanted to let you know that *Behold Your Mother!* has been a unique gift to my own vocation in these last few months. Praying with this preparation has brought a real deepening and renewal in my own relationship with Mary and awareness of her role in my spiritual life, particularly as a Franciscan. I found the book very readable, a great synthesis of St. Maximilian’s thought, and a font for prayer and meditation. I was particularly grateful for the wide variety of sources the book draws from, between Scripture, Church teaching, and St. Maximilian’s Writings. I think those familiar with St. Maximilian’s Mariology will enjoy it as a summary, and for those not familiar with him, it’s a great introduction. I was also grateful for the unique Franciscan reflection *Behold Your Mother!* offers among other preparations for Marian consecration. The path of six ‘steps’ (or chapters of Marian themes) for preparation allows for a flexibility of pace and a certain contemplative posture in preparing for consecration. It’s definitely a book to be read again so I hope to continue to ‘mine’ the riches of it in future years. In the meantime, I just want to say thank you for making the book available so generously and affordably to our community. May God bless you for the good work! Know of my grateful prayers for you and the good work of the MI. God bless you, and thank you again.”