

100th Anniversary of the Militia Immaculatæ



St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe (1894–1941)
the founder of the Militia Immaculatæ

Chronicle of the life of St. Maximilian

1894, January 07 — Raymond Kolbe was born in Zduńska Wola (Poland).

1906 — He had a vision of the Virgin Mary who showed him two crowns: red (martyrdom) and white (purity). He accepted both.

1907 — He entered the seminary at Lwow in Poland.

1910 — He became a Franciscan novice and took the name of Maximilian.

1912 — He was directed to the International Seraphic College in Rome.

1917, October 16 — He founded the Militia Immaculatae.

1918, April 28 — He was ordained priest and celebrated his First Holy Mass in the church of S. Andrea delle Fratte in Rome.

1919 — He returned to Poland.

1922, January 01 — The first issue of “Knight of the Immaculata”.

1927, November 21 — He founded Niepokalanów (“City of the Immaculate”), near Warsaw in Poland.

1930, April 24 — He arrived to Japan. He founded Mugenzai no Sono (“Garden of the Immaculate”) and started publishing “Seibo no Kishi”, the Japanese “Knight”

1930 — He returned to Poland.

1939, September 19 — German soldiers arrested him.

1941, February 17 — German soldiers arrested him again.

1941, August 14 — He died in a starvation bunker in Auschwitz concentration camp after offering his life for another prisoner.



Militia Immaculatae

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