

Knight

No. 17 July — September 2019

of the Immaculata



"Do you want
to serve me?"



Militia Immaculatae Traditional Observance

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Vocations for the Immaculata



More information on pages: 9-21

Dear Knights of the Immaculata!

There is no doubt that we are currently living in a time of deep crisis. Vocations have been in drastic decline throughout the whole Church for the past 50 years. It could be expected that the Holy Mass of all times, together with the traditional teaching of the Church, and the examples of the Saints, and the Catholic schools with their proven discipline, and the atmosphere of a thoroughly Christian family would be a prosperous garden in which more flowers of religious life and holy priesthood would grow. However, there is an imbalance between, on the one hand, today's relatively high growth of Catholic faithful who are becoming convinced about the need to uphold Tradition, and on the other hand, new vocations, which are becoming fewer and fewer. Why is a burgeoning corps of Traditional Catholics yielding fewer vocations?

There are many reasons alleged for the reduction in vocations: the destructive attacks of the prince of this world, the corruption of morals through the mass media, the instability of contemporary man and the difficulty of making a lifetime decision and sticking to it even in face of obstacles, the liberal spirit and the atmosphere of materialism, the concentration on goods and affluence in this world etc.

But in fact, all these reasons are more or less the same if we consider the menace of the modern world on each Christian. And we have very often seen that it is the special privilege of Our Lady who, in these latter times of apostasy and support for the Masonic "new world order", has received the grace to "vanquish all heresies all over the world" and, if there seems to be no way left to save souls, HER IMMACULATE HEART is always and for everybody of good will "the refuge and the sure way that leads to God".

But if she will protect "anybody who has recourse to her", the more she will grant success to all those whom her divine Son called into His exclusive service. Are vocations not the "apple of her eye", her calling of choice?

This Issue of the "Knight of the Immaculata" intends not only to recall the teaching and especially the proper example of the Founder of the M.I., but also to foster the conviction that the success of any vocation today depends entirely on her, as well as on the love, trust and devotion of the person called.

A vocation is an immense grace, and because all graces come from the Sacred Heart only through her immaculate hands, the grace of God's call comes the same way. Generally a young man becomes aware of being called according to the measure of his devotion and love of her. How many understood this touch of God's finger in their soul meditating on Our Lady's words in Fatima: "God wants to use you to make me known

and loved!" To understand the call from God, one must understand deeply the mysteries of our faith and specially the immense grandeur of the Eternal King who deigns to call even the poorest sinners into his service. Only the Immaculata, "seat of wisdom", will open their eyes and hearts and dispose them to become more fascinated by the eternal light of God than by the brilliance of the false pleasures of the world.

She alone is able to protect a vocation from all devilish attacks, the temptations of the world, and the subtle suggestions of close acquaintances who often want to convince the would-be religious "not to exaggerate", and "to choose instead the normal way". In the life of St. Maximilian there exists a very striking example of a "noble argument against vocation": as he wanted to serve Our Lady as a soldier, he began to think that he rather should become an actual soldier in his country's army. He was on his way to inform his superior of this decision to leave the convent, when he was called to the parlour. It was his own mother, who had come to visit him and share her immense joy that after having given all their children to God, her husband Julius and herself had decided to consecrate their lives to Our Lord in the religious life. Upon hearing this news, Maximilian immediately became aware of the subtle temptation, saying to himself: "God disturbed all the devil's plans... I think about it still with fear and gratitude to the Immaculata, instrument of divine mercy. What would have happened if she had not stretched out her hand at that time...?"

Once the person has entered the consecrated life by the sacrament of Holy Orders or the vows of religion, Our Lady will be the hidden, but most important and efficient, instrument of God to conserve this grace, to renew it, to avoid routine and indifference, and finally to bring the call of God to its perfection. If we pray: "Lord grant us holy Priests", it is only by Our Lady that this state of holiness can be attained. The words of Father Kolbe can be considered as the key of perseverance to persevering in the holy vocation: "I take care of the Immaculata's affairs, and she takes care of me".

Perhaps the most beautiful gift of Our Lady to her faithful priests and religious is to make them understand deeply that all riches of the world are nothing in comparison with the eternal life, where she reigns as a Queen. If God will not forget "a glass of water given to the neighbour for God's sake", what will be the reward of those who have given their whole life exclusively for His glory and the salvation of souls?

"What a feeling of gratitude will fill the hearts of each one of us, when, after our death, we will see her, the Immaculata, who, without any merit on our part, called us to work for her in such a sublime way."

Fr. Karl Stehlin

Warsaw, on the 13th of June 2019



St. Maximilian on the Religious Vocation

Upon reading the title, some parents will automatically think: it is something beautiful, sublime, excellent, great, holy, as long as none of our children... takes it to heart and starts thinking seriously — God forbid — about joining a religious house.

But why? What?! Bury yourself within gloomy, damp, dark, thick walls... in a real tomb, when you are still alive? And fast, afflict yourself with mortifications, recite long prayers!? *Etc., etc.* I myself heard the following utterances: "there, you will not be given food and you will be forced to pray, and perhaps to do heavy work!..."

Although the majority does not imagine the religious house as a harsh prison, it is still common to hear a parent say: a brilliant career awaits my son, my daughter, he/she is exceptionally gifted, good-looking, healthy (thank God!). And perhaps it is true that the family's abundant resources will bring this beloved child all the honours, wealth, and happiness dreamt of by the parents: how, therefore, can they allow the thought of joining a religious house to pass through the child's head?

Others desire to keep their beloved child as close to them as possible; they are convinced that the child can find happiness only at home.

Still others turn their thoughts to the years in which they bore many expenses for their child and worked hard and therefore argue: "isn't it right that this son, this daughter, should work to pay the parents back for all they spent on his or her behalf!?"

Then there are others who, yes, are ready to offer their child to God, but upon the condition that he might have a career. So let him join a seminary so that he may become a priest! He will then be appointed assistant parish priest, then parish priest, canon, and, why not?... bishops are not eternal... who knows?...

But that this son should radically renounce everything of the world, and for the love of God, for the love of the Immaculata, to become the least of the lay brothers who work in that Niepokalanów! God forbid! Moreover, to allow him, in that place, with his eyes fixed on the Immaculata, to be despised, to work hard, to suffer and maybe even to go to some pagan country and be consumed with hard labour or even shed his blood for the Faith, for Jesus; that is, die: all of this is unthinkable to some parents, even though they may be very pious and honest. "It is too great a sacrifice!", they say.

Consequently, they put obstacles before that son who is preparing his flight into religious life. They plead, threaten, and in certain cases they even curse and

strike him, forgetting, in their blindness, that their behaviour is gravely sinful. They forget that God, Who created both them and their son from nothing, is their Lord and the



Lord of their son, Who alone gives existence to all at all times. They forget that if God wants, He can give their child the great, extraordinary grace of religious vocation. Therefore, if He grants this great honour to a family, the parents who do not appreciate it insult His Majesty, as if they were saying to Him, "It is only us, not You, who are capable of making our son happy."

There may also be cases like the one I once witnessed — I will not disclose the place and names. There was a promising young man who worked for the Immaculata in the "Knight" publishing house (before it moved to Niepokalanów). He wished to join the Order to consecrate himself to the Immaculata, offering himself to her forever. But his parents did not give him permission to do this. I tried to persuade his father in vain. As time went by our superiors decided that only lay brothers were to be assigned work at "Knight", so this boy stopped working there. Once he went for a walk with his schoolmates and, jumping over a ditch, he fell into the water. He caught a mild cold and cough. Some days later he took to his bed and, as his condition worsened, he said to the priest who brought him the Viaticum (and who perhaps spoke to him about getting better): "I do not want to live, I want to go to the Immaculata."

He passed away some days later. He was fortunate enough that the Immaculata took him "by force" for herself, for what would he have encountered along his path in life? Would he have been able to preserve his innocence? One cannot be certain *a priori*. Would he have been saved?... God prepares particular graces for everyone only in the course of a life He predestined. And his parents? They voluntarily chose to deprive themselves of a great merit here on earth and of a still greater reward in heaven. Why? For what reason?



"Do you want to serve me?"

"Do you want to serve me?" — This is what the Immaculata asks each of us. During their enrolment ceremony all Knights say: "Yes. I want to become thine instrument. I want to work for thee." The Immaculata calls all Knights for this.

But from some of them she calls for more, that they should serve her and her Son in the manner of a consecrated person, such as a priest, or a religious (i.e. a brother or a sister). The Immaculata chooses people for the consecrated life. Who and why? This is a mystery of God. But each chosen person should be answerable to her call.

St. Maximilian tells us: “I still recall how as a young boy I had bought a small statue of the Immaculata for five kopeks. And in the minor seminary, where we attended Masses in the choir, with my face to the ground, I promised the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, whose image overlooked the altar, that I would fight for her.



Priestly spirit: the celebration of Holy Mass every day; in the picture: Holy Mass in the Seminary of Zaitzkofen (Germany)



A Sister of the Society of St. Pius X in St. Dominic Savio School in Sydney (Australia)

But how? I did not know. Yet, I envisioned a fight with material weapons. For that reason, when time came for me to enter the noviciate, I confided to the Father Master, Fr. Dionizy, of blessed memory, that difficulty of mine in entering the religious life. He transformed my decision into a commitment to recite the "*Sub tuum præsidium*" every day. I have continued to recite that prayer to this day,

even though I now know what type of battle the Immaculata had in mind".

The Immaculata was calling St. Maximilian since his childhood. **And you?** Could she be calling you also to the consecrated life? We need to listen to the voice of God. For St. Maximilian it was like this, as revealed in a letter to his mother: "Before the noviciate it was mostly I who



Brothers of the Priestly Society of St. Pius X can often be seen "working near heaven"; in the picture: br. Klaus painting a new school's chapel in Józefów (Poland)

did not want to ask for the habit, in fact I wanted to distract my brother Franciszek too... and then an unforgettable thing happened. As I was going to see the Fr. Provincial to tell him that we did not want to join the Order, I heard the sound of the bell call-

ing me into the parlour. Divine Providence, in its infinite mercy through the Immaculata, had sent you, Mother, at such a critical time to visit us. And so God disturbed all the devil's plans. It has been nearly nine years since that time. I still think about it with fear and gratitude to the Immaculata, the instrument of Divine Mercy. What would have happened if she had not stretched out her hand at that time...?"

What is the consecrated life like? Let St. Maximilian answer: **"The difference between a priest and an honest lay person is like comparing Heaven and earth".**

Saint Maximilian knew that the consecrated life is a special call from the Immaculata. He wrote to his brother who had taken the habit: "Blessed be the Lord for all that He has done in you, and also our Mother

Immaculate, through whose hands we receive all the graces from Heaven. Offer yourself entirely to her, who is our heavenly good Mother, and in this way you can easily overcome all the difficulties and... become a saint, a great saint: this is the only thing that I wish for you with all my heart. It can be said that all the saints are the work of the Blessed Virgin and that special devotion to her is one of their common characteristics."

Religious persons leave their family, their country and renounce their own ideas. Why? To find God, to be saints, to save souls. They forget about themselves in order to serve others. Each moment and action, each day, all the future they give entirely. They serve God selflessly for the salvation of souls. It is the Holy Mother Church who calls them in the following ways. **M**



Holiday games with children (the Missionary Sisters of Jesus and Mary of Kenya)



Gardening (a postulant in the Novitiate) and painting things for a new chapel in the Philippines (the Oblates of the Priestly Society of Saint Pius X)

...as a Priest

— *The Priestly Society of Saint Pius X*

Here we need more hands, many more; perhaps the Immaculata will send vocations. (St. Maximilian Kolbe)

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, instituted at the same moment as the Holy Priesthood, holds the central place in the life of every priest and member of the Society, along with the Sacraments and the Divine Office which are as a halo surrounding the principal act of the Sacred Liturgy.

At the priory the duties of a priest are to provide the true Mass and Sacraments, as well as religious instruction for the faithful of the area, and

to preach the retreats and the spiritual exercises.

Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre wished the spirit of the Society to be, above all, a priestly spirit: “We wish to continue the priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church according to its Statutes”. Archbishop Lefebvre insistently reminds his spiritual sons that the Holy Mass is indeed the *raison d’être* of the priest, from which source alone his apostolate will draw its efficacy.



SSPX Seminaries

St. Pius X Seminary, Switzerland (French language)

chemin du séminaire 5

Ecône

CH – 1908 RIDDES

SUISSE

www.econe.fsspx.org/fr

St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary (English language)

1208 Archbishop Lefebvre Avenue

Dillwyn, VA 23936

USA

www.stas.org/en

Priesterseminar Herz Jesu (German language)

Zaitzkofen 15

D-84069 Schierling

DEUTSCHLAND

www.zaitzkofen.fsspx.org/de

Holy Cross Seminary (English language)

Postal address:

P.O. Box 417

Goulburn, N.S.W. 2580

AUSTRALIA

www.hcs.fsspx.org/en

Seminario Nuestra Señora Corredentora (Spanish language)

Dirección Postal:

CC 308 (1744)

Moreno, Pcia. de Buenos Aires

ARGENTINA

www.lareja.fsspx.org/es

...as a Brother

— *The Brothers of the Priestly Society of Saint Pius X*

We welcome aspiring brothers. In effect, it means allowing the greatest possible number of souls to consecrate themselves to the Immaculata to the point of donating their entire lives completely to her. (St. Maximilian Kolbe)

The Brothers are the members of the Priestly Society of Saint Pius X with simple vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Their duties include different activities which depend on the needs of the priory and their aptitudes. They can be in charge of the sacristy, laundry, cleaning, cooking, building, gardening, playing the church organ or teaching the catechism at school.



SSPX Brothers' Novitiates

Holy Angels Novitiate (English language)

St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary
1208 Archbishop Lefebvre Avenue
Dillwyn, VA 23936
USA

www.stas.org/en/community/vocation-brotherhood

St Bernard Novitiate (English language)

Purok 7, Brgy. Daga, Santa Barbara, Iloilo City,
PHILIPPINES 5002

www.sspxasia.com/Countries/Philippines/St._Bernard/Main-Page.htm

Priesterseminar Herz Jesu (German language)

Zaitzkofen 15
D-84069 Schierling
DEUTSCHLAND

www.zaitzkofen.fsspx.org/de

Séminaire international (French language)

Saint-Curé-d'Ars
Maison Lacordaire
21150 Flavigny-sur-ozerain
FRANCE

www.laportelatine.org/seminaires/Flavigny/flavigny.php

...as a Sister

— The Oblates of the Priestly Society of Saint Pius X

The Immaculata aroused in our hearts love towards herself, such love as led us to consecrate ourselves totally to her cause, that is, the conquest of a growing number of souls to her love, or more precisely helping all souls to know and love her and making them come closer, through her, to the Divine Heart of Jesus. (St. Maximilian Kolbe)

The Oblates is a congregation of common life without vows in the strict canonical sense of the word. Its members strive to practise the three evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience, like the priests of the Society.

The Oblates are to relieve the priests in the ordinary actions in running a priory where they will help and complement the priestly apostolate by various works: catechism, sacristy, making and repairing priestly vestments as well as daily duties such as cooking, cleaning, washing, etc.

Noviciat Sainte-Thérèse (English and French languages)

Fraternité Saint-Pie X

La Combe, 22

CH — 1922 Salvan

SWITZERLAND

Our Lady of Sorrows Novitiate (English language)

Oblate Sisters of the SSPX

Villuenza Street No. 9

Carpio Subdivision, Buhangin

Davao City 8000, Davao del Sur

PHILIPPINES



Work of the Oblates of the Priestly Society of Saint Pius X; on the left and above: in the Novitiate of Sainte Thérèse in Switzerland; below: novices working in the kitchen and laundry in Our Lady of Sorrows Novitiate in the Philippines



...as a Sister

— The Sisters of the Society of Saint Pius X

The soul is safer in the friary. There is always obedience and vows are kept more easily, especially chastity. Therefore I want to come back, even now. I am not afraid of hunger, cold, or even of suffering — because all that is for Mary — in fact, I desire them. I wish to keep turning my vows fully into practice: That I may become a fit instrument in your immaculate and most merciful hands... (extracts from the letters of brothers who remained outside of Niepokalanów during the war)

This is a semi-contemplative congregation with simple vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, dedicated to the apostolate in the parish of the priory.

From the kitchen and the sacristy to the sewing room, it is in offering themselves to do these humble tasks that they assist the priests in the rescue of souls, relieving the priests from mundane tasks so that they can give themselves more to their priestly duties. Very often the Sisters teach in schools and work in houses for the elderly. They also help by works of charity in visiting the sick; by working in retreat houses and seminaries.



A Sister of the Society of St. Pius X making vestments

SSPX Sisters' Novitiates

Sacred Heart Novitiate (English language)

540 8th Street West
Browerville, Minnesota 56438
USA

Noviciat Notre-Dame de Compassion Prieuré Saint-Martial (French language)

3, route de Belâtre
36300 Ruffec-le-Chateau
FRANCE

Noviziat St. Pie X (German language)

Biberacher Strasse 2/1
D-88527 GÖFFINGEN
ALLEMAGNE

Noviciat Santa-Teresita-del-Niño-Jesus (Spanish language)

Quinta Santa Margarita
Calle Leandro Alem, 2061, Country "Los Robles del Monarca"
Ruta 8, Km. 47,5 | Ruta a Pilar
La Lonja (Pilar), Buenos Aires 1629
ARGENTINA



...as a Sister

— The Missionary Sisters of Jesus and Mary of Kenya

If someone in Niepokalanów was considering whether he has a vocation for the missions or not, let me remind him that those who have truly and unconditionally consecrated themselves to the Immaculata cannot possibly impose restrictions on a self-donation of that kind. (St. Maximilian Kolbe)

The Missionary Sisters of Jesus and Mary is a congregation with simple vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, dedicated to the apostolate in the mission countries. Nowadays in Kenya, in the active life their main apostolate is running a primary school.

Our Lady of the Angels' House

19, Link Road — Karen

(PO Box 852)

00502 Karen

EAK — Nairobi — Kenya

e-mail: ourladyofangelsnoviciat@gmail.com



Information about other Vocations in the Catholic Tradition can be found here:

www.fsspx.uk/en/vocations-GB

The longer my time outside the friary, the more I love it, the more I yearn to return to it. Only now do I see and feel deep in my heart that it is the realm of the Immaculata. And from there her loving protection fills my soul with peace. I live by hope in and love of her.

extracts from the letters of brothers who remained outside of Niepokalanów during the Second World War



St. Maximilian said many times that Knights should be like brooms for Our Lady: if the Immaculata wants to use us for any work, we should do just that work. We should work according to the will of the Immaculata and all merit is to be attributed to the Immaculata, not to ourselves, because the broom, of itself, is nothing.

“Ave Maria” – a new section on the General House website

There is a new section on the General House website called "Ave Maria" which is dedicated to the Immaculata. It was inaugurated on the 13th of May, the anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady in Fatima.

During this the year we celebrate the 35th anniversary of the consecration of the Society of Saint Pius X to the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, which Abp. Marcel Lefebvre performed in Ecône on the 8th of December 1984.

Every Saturday and on every feast day of the Blessed Virgin, you

will find a new text to help you along these lines. Be generous and faithful in reading them and meditating on them so as to put them into practice. Only she who is without sin can preserve us from error, blindness, and discouragement. If we think that we are strong, we will fall. But if, convinced of our weakness and fragility, we turn to her, then she will open her motherly Heart to us, she will take us under her protection and will lead us safe and sound to the harbour of salvation. — wrote Don Davide Pagliarani, the Superior General of the Society of St. Pius X.



You can find all Marian texts here:

www.fsspx.news/en

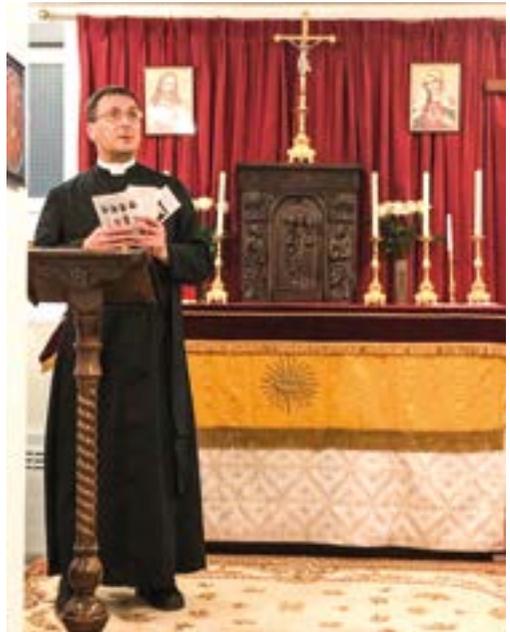
A fruitful visit to Russia for the M.I.

Russia has been blessed with 19 new Knights of the Immaculata! These new Knights of our Lady are the wonderful fruits of a recent visit of the Director of the M.I., Father Karl Stehlin, to three Russian cities: Kazan, St. Petersburg and Moscow.

On the 3rd of May 2019, Fr. Karl Stehlin visited Kazan for the very first time, celebrated a Mass and gave a public conference on the Militia Immaculatæ and St. Maximilian Kolbe. In this tremendously historical city where the miraculous icon of Our Lady of Kazan is kept and venerated, and where the Society of St. Pius X has recently begun an apostolate, Fr. Shane Pezzutti received 4 new Knights at the end of this encouraging first visit of the M.I.'s Director.

The next day Father Director went to the imperial city of the Czars, St. Petersburg, where he also celebrated a Mass and gave a public conference on the spirituality of St. Maximilian Kolbe and the M.I. The faithful were truly inspired by this noble ideal of working as our Lady's instruments in Russia. Afterwards, 8 people decided to consecrate themselves to our Lady and join the Militia Immaculatæ.

The next day (the 5th of May), Fr. Stehlin visited the current capital of Russia, Moscow. There, in Moscow, as in the two previous cities, Fr. Stehlin celebrated Mass and gave a conference on the Militia Immaculatæ. The most important concept of the conference was that the Blessed Virgin Mary needs instruments for the conversion of sinners. We cannot do anything without the help of God and Mary, but even the best artist cannot paint a painting without a brush. In this way, Fr. Karl Stehlin encouraged the faithful to



work for the Immaculate Mary, and warned them against an inordinate spirit of independence and trust in their own efforts. He reminded the faithful of the sound principles of a true and effective apostolate rooted in Catholic teaching.

After the conference in Moscow, 7 people decided to become



The Russian publications prepared by the International Headquarters of the M.I. These publications were sent to Russia for the visit of Fr. Stehlin

Knights. One of the faithful spoke about these events: "For many years I had a great devotion to St. Maximilian Kolbe. Before joining the Tradition, I was a Novus Ordo parishioner. And now, I am so happy that I have entered the Militia Immaculatæ. I am unable by mere words to express my profound joy that the work of the Immaculate Mary and St. Maximilian Kolbe will live and develop in Russia".

The apostolate in Russia is very important because of the request of Our Lady of Fatima to consecrate this country to her Immaculate Heart. For the Knights of the M.I., the work of the conversion of Russia is also important because of the words of St. Maximilian in February 1937 during the Congress in Rome on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the M.I.: "We do not believe this glorious day is far ahead or only a dream when the statue of the Immaculata will preside over the very heart of Moscow, thanks to her missionaries".

He repeated that several times, especially to Father Pignalberi. As the latter recalls, "he [St. Maximilian] assured everyone that in the centre of Moscow the statue of the Immaculata would be erected, but beforehand a bloody trial would be

necessary. (...) He repeated this hint of a bloody trial several days later. (...) I remained distressed at such a definitive statement, but he insisted saying that it was better this way and even necessary."

On the 6th of May, when Fr. Stehlin left Russia, it was the 19th anniversary of the renewal of the M.I. in its traditional form. Truly, it was another blessing and grace from the hands of Our Lady. There are 19 new Knights in Russia. Let us earnestly and fervently pray for them that they work zealously for the cause of the Immaculate in this country so deprived of the Catholic truth.

Knights of the Immaculata from Russia



One of the faithful reading some of the M.I.'s publications in Kazan



Holy Mass in St. Petersburg



The enrolment into the M.I. in St. Petersburg



The enrolment into the M.I. in Moscow

New Knights and M.I. Conferences in Poland

At the end of a Lenten Retreat, Fr. Karl Stehlin enrolled 89 new Knights in Poland.

He enrolled 29 teachers and students in St. Aquinas School in Józefów.



The retreat in the school's chapel

A few days later Fr. Stehlin preached a retreat in Olsztyn and he enrolled 20 new Knights.

At the end of a Montfortian retreat (3rd–7th of April 2019), also directed by Father Stehlin, four people joined the M.I. and the remaining participants renewed their consecration to the Immaculata.

At the end of a Lenten Retreat in Poznan's chapel of St. Joseph Fr. Karl Stehlin enrolled 36 new Knights.

M.I. Conferences

On the 7th of May 2019, on the feast of Our Lady the Mediatrix of All Graces, the director of the M.I., Fr. Karl Stehlin gave a conference in Katowice about *The Immaculata — Salvation in our times. The Message of Fatima today*. The lecture was attended by about 100 people. The beautiful culmination of Father Stehlin's lecture was the acceptance of 14 new Knights into the ranks of the M.I.

The Schools of Aquinas in Józefów hosted a meeting of Fr. Karl Stehlin with the Knights of the Immaculata. Father Stehlin emphasized that Knights should not only wear the Miraculous Medal, but also systematically broaden their knowledge of the truths of the faith. He warned against the dangers faced by Catholics: the fear of ridicule and the temptation of stagnation that makes some M.I. members "sleeping Knights". For the purposes of the Knighthood — the conversion of sinners and the sanctification of all under the care and through the Immaculata — St. Maximilian recommended the use of all available means. These include prayer and the distribution of the Miraculous Medal, but also the mass media: the press, radio and the Internet.



The conference in Katowice

At the end of the meeting, each of the Knights received the latest issue of the magazine "Triumph of the Immaculata", in order to gain knowledge and encouragement for a deeper spiritual life, as well as to pass the magazine on to others, according to the will of St. Maximilian. As a holiday task, the Knights were ordered to pray the No-

vena according to the instructions described in the booklet "Consecration to the Immaculata", which the M.I. members

also received.

On the 13th of May, the anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady in Fatima, Fr. Karl Stehlin, the Director of the M.I., gave a lecture in Gniezno entitled: "In the face of the current moral and spiritual threats, the Immaculata — our last hope". The rented room could hardly hold all who came to listen to the lecture.

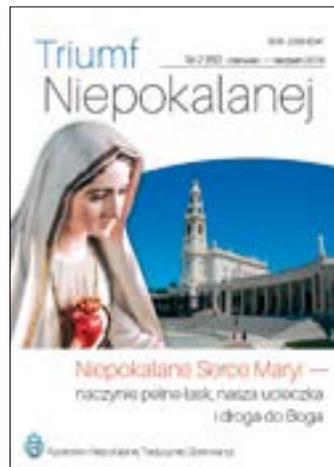
A new issue of "Triumph of the Immaculata"

Polish Knights have published a new issue of the M.I.'s bulletin, called "Triumf Niepokalanej" ["Triumph of the Immaculata"]. It is only the second issue and it is published in a new design.

It concerns the Immaculate Heart of Mary as the way to God. There is an article about Our Lady of Guadalupe and apologetic texts. This issue also has much information from the M.I. worldwide.

It can be downloaded from the Polish part of the M.I. Library:

www.militia-immaculatae.org/polski/



Five new Knights in Great Britain

Five new Knights have been enrolled into the M.I. in District GB & Scandinavia by Fr. Robert Brucciani in parishes where the M.I. already exists. These range from the Dis-



Distributing M.I.'s literature in Leicester (Great Britain)

trict HQ at Wimbledon in London, through Gateshead in the North of England to West Lothian in Scotland.

These enrolments show the important part played by Local Co-ordinators in handing out Miraculous Medals and informative flyers, and doing their best to ensure that their M.I. Corners are well-stocked and zealously promoted to the faithful.

May there be many more enrolments to follow as the Immaculata's graces flow through the channels opened up by the Knights, and as the apostolate of the M.I. is introduced into the remaining parishes in the District.

Over 445 new Knights in France

Father Karl Stehlin, the Director of the M.I. enrolled over 445 new Knights in France.

During the morning of the 16th of March, Fr. Stehlin enrolled 27 new Knights in Belfort. That evening he also enrolled 80 new Knights into the M.I. in Mulhouse. The following day, on Sunday, he enrolled 156 new Knights in Colmar.

On the 19th of May, in Clermont Ferrand, he enrolled more than 100 new Knights and on the 2nd of

June — 85 Knights in Reims.



The M.I. in the Netherlands

A short time ago, the Militia Immaculatae was launched in the Netherlands. It all began with a member of the modern version of the M.I. who wanted to move to the traditional observance of the M.I. Father K. Huysegems, responsible for the chapel in Leiden, was asked to do the consecration ceremony in April 2018 at St. Clement's Church in Gerwen.

Then, in all three chapels of the Fraternity in the Netherlands, the priests and the new members became acquainted with the M.I. through leaflets, emails, and two conferences on this theme, presented by a young member and Father Huysegems.

The consecrations were not long in coming: the first in Leiden on the 8th of December, when seven new Knights, including Father Huysegems himself, joined the ranks of the M.I.; they were followed by three others on the 2nd of February; and finally on the 25th of March, 31 faithful joined the ranks with the prior, Father C. de Beer. In total, there are 45 new members for the moment.

In order for the Knights to keep their ardent fervour and zeal and

the torch of devotion to Our Lady, the M.I. obtained a column in the Society's newsletter in the Netherlands, called the "Informatieblad". In addition, a Dutch-speaking M.I. website has been launched, on which you can find, for example, the history of M.I., general information, or news.

In this way we try to reach out to other people, hoping that the number of Knights in the Netherlands will continue to grow.



M.I.'s apostolate in South America

The tireless apostle of the Immaculate in Central and South America, Fr. Miquel Boniface, on the last days of several ceremonies, has received over 100 people into the Knights of

the Immaculata Traditional Observance. There are now 218 Knights of the Immaculata in Costa Rica.

Father Miquel Boniface also enrolled 28 Knights in Quetzaltenango (Guatemala) and 32 Knights in Esteli (Nicaragua).

He began efforts to establish the Militia Immaculatæ in one of the diocesan schools in Nicaragua, a high school in the diocese of Esteli with over 100 students.

All students eagerly came to the meeting with the priest and listened to the lecture on M.I. and the spirituality of St. Maximilian. The first Knights from the school will be admitted to the M.I. in the near future. Let us pray to the Immaculate that all the students join the ranks of her knighthood and diligently work for the salvation of souls.

M.I. Conference in a high school in Nicaragua



*Above: new Knights in Costa Rica;
below: new Knights in Quetzaltenango in Guatemala*



Prayers for Sri Lanka

On Easter Sunday at least six suicide bombers were involved in six attacks — three at churches celebrating Easter and three at luxury hotels — across Sri Lanka. Combined, the attacks killed 310 people and injured at least 500 more.

The faithful and the Knights of the Immaculata pray very intensively for our faithful in Sri Lanka and for all Catholics, especially those who have been personally touched by these terror attacks. Here is a short report from Fr. Fabrice Loschi who is

working in Negombo in Sri Lanka: “For the past three days, Negombo has become a ghost town. I never saw this during the war 20 years ago. People are in a state of shock.

The shops are closed. The police and the army are everywhere: in front of the churches and in front of the hotels on Sea Street. Many hotels are not accepting any customers from outside and the restaurants are either closed or empty. How sad for a country that was developing so well!



St. Sebastian Church in Sri Lanka after the attack

The collective funeral was led by the Cardinal in Negombo. We went there. The security was very tight. For the moment, there is pain, I hope that afterwards there will be no revenge. As for us, we are fine."

Dear Knights, please pray for our faithful in Sri Lanka and for all Catholics. Christianity is a minority religion in Sri Lanka, accounting for 7.4% of the total population of 21.4 million.

The 3rd Annual Pilgrimage in Chennai (India)

On the 6th of April 2019, the Knights in Chennai (India) visited 7 Churches as a Lenten Pilgrimage in honour of the 7 times Our Lord was moved, when He was in the Garden of Gethsemane to His arrival at Calvary.

At each Church we prayed in silence contemplating the event

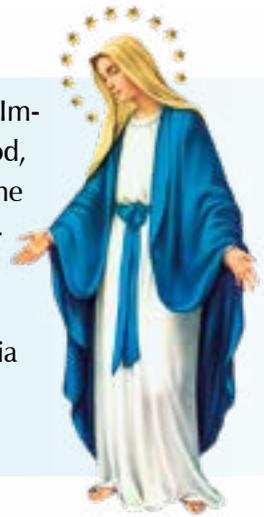
we commemorated at that Church, praying 2 Stations of the Cross and one decade of the Holy Rosary. It was a day well spent in prayer contemplating the Passion of Our Lord.

Pilgrims prayed very specially for the Society, our Bishops and priests.



The Militia Immaculatæ is an army of Knights of Mary Immaculate which works for the conversion of all men to God, be they Protestants, or Jews, or Muslims, & in particular the Freemasons, and that all become saints, under the patronage and through the mediation of the Immaculate Virgin.

The Militia Immaculatæ was founded by St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe on the 16th of October 1917. Since 1937, Militia Immaculatæ is also called the Knights of the Immaculata.



Original Statutes of the Militia Immaculatæ (by St. Maximilian)

"She will crush your head." (Genesis 3:15)

"Thou alone hast vanquished all heresies throughout the world."

(from the Roman Breviary)

I. Goal of Membership:

To work for the conversion to God of all men, be they sinners, heretics, schismatics, Jews, Moslems etc., in particular the Freemasons; and that all become saints, under the patronage and through the mediation of the Immaculate Virgin.

II. Conditions of Membership:

1. To consecrate oneself entirely to the Immaculate Virgin, placing oneself freely as a docile and generous instrument in her hands.
2. To wear the Miraculous Medal.

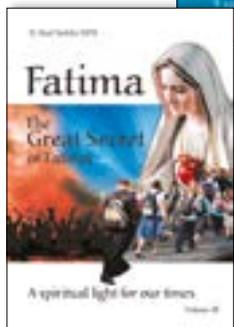
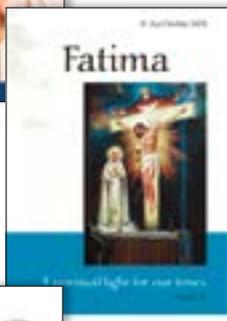
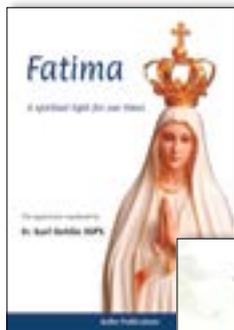
III. Duties of Membership:

1. If possible, to pray the following ejaculatory prayer at least once a day: "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee, and for all those who do not have recourse to thee, especially for the Freemasons and for those who are commended to thy care."
2. To use all other valid and legitimate means for the conversion and sanctification of men, according to one's means, in the different states and conditions of life, as the occasions present themselves; this is entrusted to the zeal and prudence of each one. Particularly recommended, however, is spreading the Miraculous Medal.

N.B. These means are recommended only as suggestions and not as an obligation; not one of them obliges under pain of sin, not even venial sin. Our principal motive is to help the greatest possible number of souls to be united with the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the mediation of the Immaculata.

If you want to join us, please email: info@militia-immaculatae.org
and tell us which country you are from.

Books about Fatima



Fatima — A spiritual light for our times (three volumes)

In the first volume, Fr. Stehlin presents the apparitions of the Angel and the apparitions of Our Lady with very deep meditations.

In the second volume, he writes about an essential part of the message of Fatima: the life and spirituality of the three children who had the privilege of seeing Our Lady.

In the third volume, he presents a deeper reality: Fatima is, with its whole message and all the apparitions of Our Lady, a great Secret of God's mercy, His mysterious plan reserved for the last times of the world.

Orders:

www.kolbepublications.com

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www.militia-immaculatae.org/english/books-about-fatima/

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