

Knight of the Immaculata

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Our life with
the Immaculata



Militia Immaculatae Traditional Observance

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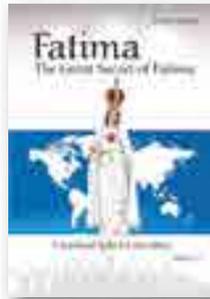
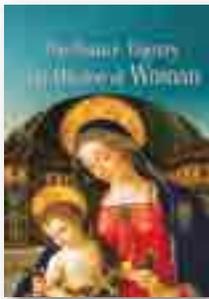
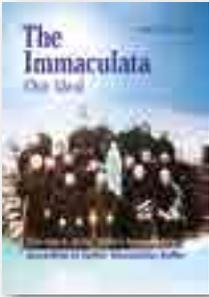


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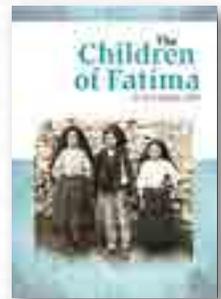
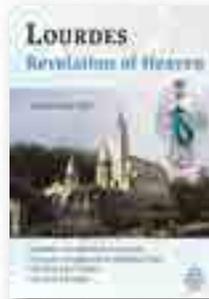
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Dear Knights of the Immaculata!

Eighty years ago, on the 14th of August 1941, Fr. Maximilian Kolbe was executed. He was murdered in the hunger bunker in Auschwitz, where he had been incarcerated, most probably at the end of July, with 9 other condemned men. He died as a victim of love for two reasons: the first is well known — he asked to replace a fellow prisoner who was the father of a family, and offered himself to suffer and die for him. The second reason — he didn't want the other prisoners to die miserably and in despair risking, after a bitter death on earth, to be condemned to eternal death in hell: he wanted to share their sufferings and bring them the consolations of Our Lord and Our Lady.

Father Kolbe's heroic death was the final summit of a 6 months long way of the cross, because he had already been under arrest since the 17th of February 1941, for "agitating" against the invaders. The "agitation" consisted in writing in the "Knight of the Immaculata" that there is only one Truth, and nobody on earth can change that. In fact, his enemies had been waiting for the right occasion to rid themselves of this promoter of Our Lady who, in her name, denounced "all heresies" and fought against those who "do not have recourse to her, especially the freemasons".

During these 6 long months he often had to endure their insults, their spitting, their scourges, and several times he was cruelly beaten to blood, once so much that the soldiers thought he was dead. But there was another agony in his heart which was much more cruel: the knowledge that the Precious Blood of Our Lord and His passion would be rejected by many of those souls, as well as the spiritual crucifixion of not being able to celebrate Holy Mass which was always the very centre of his whole priestly life!

In spite of so much hatred, he kept loving the souls of his enemies for the love of Our Lady. In the notorious death prison of Pawiak, in Warsaw, the chief officer, in his hatred of priests and the Catholic religion, beat Fr. Kolbe cruelly three times, trying unsuccessfully to tear his crucifix away from him, and with each scourge he repeated: "And you believe in this?" Calmly Fr. Kolbe replied: "Indeed I do", at which the *Hauptsturmführer* furiously struck him in the face. To his companions, who asked him how he could bear such hatred so calmly, he answered that it was for his dear heavenly Mother.

What gave him so much courage in this “hell” was were his prayers, especially his burning love for the Immaculata. Many of the prisoners learned from him the spirit of prayer. He never failed to use any opportunity to turn their attention to the holy Virgin, and even to exhort them to “hunt souls” for her: “To be of the Immaculata, to become ever more pure, with an ever purer, immaculate conscience, as she is of Jesus, to the point of becoming like a mother and winning all hearts for Him,” he wrote some months before his last sacrifice.

He showed them by his example how to overcome human fear. For example, he could have stayed in his bed and recited his rosary discreetly — but no, he would kneel at the side of his bed instead, even when his fellow prisoners warned him that he would risk being beaten if a guard saw him. Also, he would sign himself with the sign of the cross before starting a meal, with no thought that he might be struck by a guard for his action: human respect had no power over this other Son of Mary.

The month of May has always been most special in Fr. Kolbe’s life. As he knew, that May of 1941 would be his last in this world, so he multiplied his devotions to Our Lady. More than ever before he encouraged his companions to raise up their spirit to the Mother and Queen with hymns and songs. His most beloved Marian hymn was the French *J’irai la voir un jour* — “I will meet her one day, soon, in Heaven, in my heavenly fatherland” ... and on the 28th of May 1941, he was transferred to his last dwelling in this valley of tears: the concentration camp in Auschwitz.

During these last months of his life Fr. Kolbe fulfilled perfectly the two most important commandments: love of God and love of one’s neighbour, especially one’s enemies, not only his physical persecutors but also of the enemies of his Queen. He knew the hatred that devils inspired in some of the chiefs in the camp towards the Immaculata, he knew from experience how much mankind can lose self control when seeing with anger, bitterness, and hatred the image of his heavenly Mother.

Now in this critical crisis all over the world, no one knows the kind of persecution which awaits and the way that Our Lady will invite us to Calvary, so we have to be ready to obey unto death her least desire. For this purpose, we recommend that the Knights pray a novena in preparation for the anniversary of St. Maximilian’s death, starting from the 5th up to the 13th of August:

www.militia-immaculatae.asia/english/info408.php

Fr. Karl Stehlin

Warsaw, on the 25th of March,

Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



You are hers

by St. Maximilian

1. Let yourself be led by the Immaculata: whatever does not depend on your will, surely she allows for your own good, even if it comes from the ill will of others. And she wants it to happen to you.

2. Cope with a difficulty:

a) By not paying any attention to it, when it is not of help or impediment in achieving the purpose of your approach to her, of your love for her, for Jesus, for the Father; or

b) By taking advantage of it (going along with it), if it is of help; or

c) By fighting it, if it hampers you. She wants you to act thus.

3. Putting her Will into practice, you give proof of a genuine love for her, for Jesus, and for the Father: you become holy.

4. What the Father wants, the Son and the Holy Ghost also want, Jesus and the Immaculata also want; Their Will is never in contradiction.

5. In matters in which neither need nor obedience decide, conduct yourself as you will, trying to please her. Love and do what you want, according to the thought of St. Augustine.

6. Endeavor to keep your conscience pure; pay heed not to fall, but if you were to fall, do not delay to rise up again.

7. She shall preserve you from falling, if you place your trust in her and do not rely on yourself at all but do all you can, with her help, not to fall.

8. The cause of a fall is confidence in one's own strength, whereas the truth is that we by ourselves, are nothing and can do nothing; without her, Mediatrix of all graces, we are not saved from falling.

9. In the event of a lapse, offer yourself immediately to her, together with the whole matter of your fall and implore forgiveness: "Loving Mother, forgive me and implore forgiveness for me from Jesus." Endeavor to perform your next action so as to cause the greatest possible pleasure to her and to Jesus and be confident that this act of love will wipe your guilt completely. In the first confession you take, acknowledge that fall. However, she, Jesus, and the Father will have long ceased to remember it.

10. Love with all your being, with all your will, and with all your feelings, but if you feel arid and unable to arouse feelings of love, do not worry, for it does not belong to the essence of love. If your will

wishes only to do her Will rest assured that you really love her, Jesus, and the Father.

11. Do not forget that holiness consists not in extraordinary deeds, but in performing your duties toward God, toward yourself and toward others well.

12. Nobody, not even in the holiest state of life, ensures the sanctification of your soul, if you neglect the duties deriving from such a state.

In your duties, strive to discern the sure Will of the Immaculata, the fulfilment of which shows your love toward her and, in her and through her, to Jesus and the Father.

Even prayer, penance and works, although good in themselves, are not pleasing to her, if they hinder you in the proper fulfilment of your duties. For in them lies in fact her Will.

13. You may safely use the expressions: "I want to do the Will of the Immaculata," "May the Will of the Immaculata be done," "The Immaculata has arranged it thus," because she wants what Jesus wants, while Jesus wants what the Father wants. Her Will, therefore, does not differ from the Will of the Father and of the Son. Indeed, as you rely unreservedly on her Will, by that very act you proclaim, in addition to your love for the Will of God, also the truth that her Will is so perfect that it differs in nothing from God's Will. Therefore give glory to God, Father and Son, for having created so perfect a creature and for having prepared her to be His Mother.



Our life with the Immaculata

The high place which Mary, as the Mother of God, occupies in the work of our sanctification fully justifies our desire to live intimately with her.

As children love to be near their mother, so we as Christians want to live with Mary, and in order to do this, we use small ways of keeping her in our thoughts. For instance, we may have her picture before us and greet her affectionately every time we look at it.

"May her statue, which oversees each workshop and each room at Niepokalanów, often



remind us during the day of the filial duty to turn to her before our most important actions." — wrote St. Maximilian to brothers in Niepokalanów in 1937.

Then, with a glance of faith, we can go beyond the picture, and reach Mary living in glory, Mary who, by means of the Beatific Vision, sees us, follows us, knows all our needs, and helps us with her maternal aid.

By means of this our faith, our soul remains in continual contact with Mary. Spontaneously throughout the day, we increase our little pious practices in her honour, our prayers and ejaculations; all these combine to intensify our relations with Mary.

Saturdays, the month of May, the several feasts of Mary are for us so many occasions of remembering her especially, of meditating on her prerogatives,

contemplating her beauty, and continually increasing our love for her.

In 1932 St. Maximilian wrote from Japan to Niepokalanów: "We are at last in May, our favourite month, in which the soul is filled with a beauty greater than that which is manifested in nature. In Catholic churches, altars splendidly decorated with statues and holy images of Mary powerfully attract the hearts of many. The faithful, having finished their daily work, gather every evening in a church to open their hearts before Mary. They thank her for the graces they receive unceasingly from God through her intercession. To her they trust their preoccupations, their greatest dilemmas and difficulties, asking to be freed from them, and implore her protection."

In fact, it is impossible to bear the sweet picture of Mary



in our mind and heart without feeling moved to love her, without feeling the need of showing her the reality of our love by trying to please her, that is, by living like true children of hers. In this way the "Marian" life, or the life of intimacy with Mary, can penetrate the whole of our "Christian" life and make us more faithful in the fulfilment of all our duties, for nothing



can please Mary more than to see us accomplishing with love her Son's will.

"One's degree of perfection depends on the union of one's will to the Will of God. The greater the perfection, the closer the union. As the Blessed Mother, with her perfection, surpassed all the angels and saints, so also her will is united and identified most closely with the Will of God. She lives and works sole-

ly in God and through God. Therefore, by fulfilling the Will of the Immaculata we fulfil by that very reason the Will of God." — wrote St. Maximilian in 1938.

Furthermore, Christian life lived under Mary's maternal eye acquires that special gentleness and sweetness which arise spontaneously from the constant companionship of a most loving Mother who lavishes attention on us.

Another aspect of the Marian life is the imitation of Mary. Jesus alone is the "Way" that leads to the Father, He is the only model; but who is more like Jesus than Mary? Of whom can more be said than she has the same thoughts as Christ? "O Lady," exclaims St. Bernard, "God lives in you and you live in Him. You clothe Him with the substance of your flesh, and

He clothes you with the glory of His Majesty." While Jesus dwelt in the Virgin's pure womb, He clothed her with Himself, communicated His infinite perfections to her, filled her with His sentiments, desires, affections, and divine wishes; and Mary, who gave herself up entirely to His action, was completely transformed into Him, so that she became a faithful copy of Him. The liturgy says that "Mary is the most perfect image of Christ, formed truly by the Holy Ghost."

The Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Jesus, took full possession of Mary's pure, gentle soul, and traced in it, very delicately and perfectly, all the features and characteristics of the soul of Jesus. Therefore we can assuredly say that to imitate Mary is to imitate Jesus. This is why we choose her for our model.

"Those, who do not want to have Mary Immaculate as Mother will not have Christ the Lord for their brother either. God the Father will not send them His Son, the Son will not descend unto their soul, the Holy Ghost will not form with His own grace the mystical body after Christ's model, since



that all takes place in Mary Immaculate, full of grace: in Mary only. No other creature is, or will ever be immaculate or full of grace, and so will not be in a condition to be told "the Lord is with you" (cf. Lk 1:28) as closely as He is with the Immaculate Virgin. As it is for the likeness of the firstborn, the God-Man, who was conceived only following the explicit con-

sent of the heavenly Virgin, so also, and not otherwise, is it for other human creatures, who must in all things thoroughly imitate their Prototype." — wrote St. Maximilian in 1919.

We do not love Mary for herself alone, but because she is the Mother of Christ; likewise, we do not imitate Mary for herself, but for Christ, whose most faithful image she is.

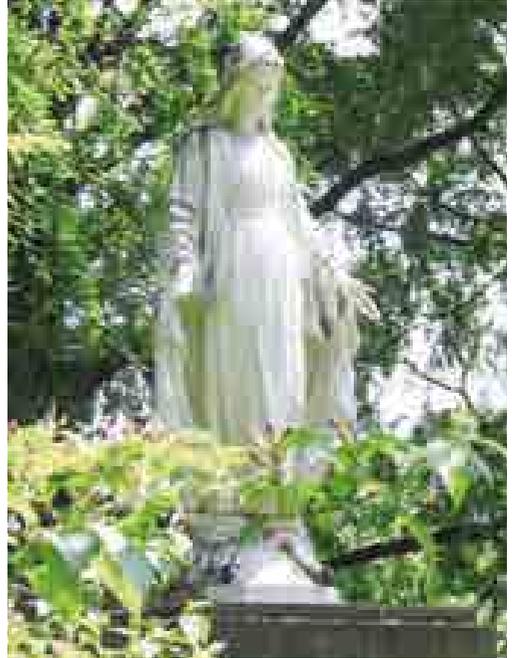


Jesus is the one Way which leads us to the Father, and Mary is the surest and easiest way to reach Jesus.

By incarnating in Himself the perfections of the Father, Jesus made it possible for us to imitate them; by retracing Jesus' perfections in herself, Mary has made them more accessible to us, has brought them within our very reach. None can say as well as she: "Be ye followers of me,

as I also am of Christ" (1 Cor 4:16). Since Jesus came to us through Mary, it is wholly appropriate that we should go to Jesus through her.

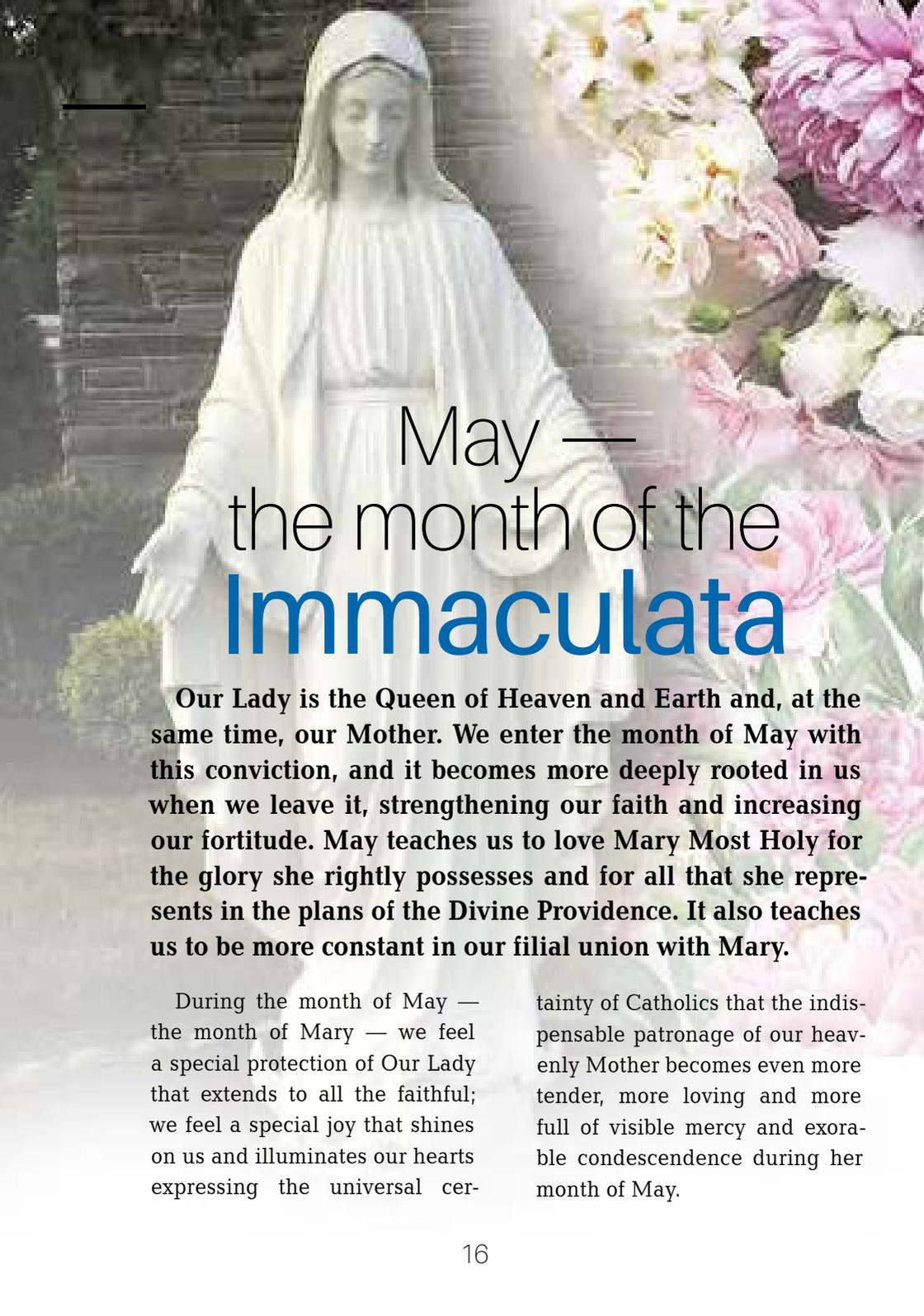
"We will never possibly love her the way Jesus loved her. Well, all our holiness consists in imitating Jesus. Anyone who comes close to her, for that very reason draws close to God, only he does it along a shorter, safer, and easier road." — concluded St. Maximilian in 1940, one year before his martyrdom.



The M.I. — In Mary's womb our soul must be reborn after the form of Jesus Christ. She is bound to feed the soul with the milk of her grace, raise it as lovingly as she nourished, looked after, and raised Jesus.

At her knee the soul must learn to know and love Jesus. From her Heart it must draw love toward Him, or even love Him with her heart and become like Him through love.

St. Maximilian



May — the month of the **Immaculata**

Our Lady is the Queen of Heaven and Earth and, at the same time, our Mother. We enter the month of May with this conviction, and it becomes more deeply rooted in us when we leave it, strengthening our faith and increasing our fortitude. May teaches us to love Mary Most Holy for the glory she rightly possesses and for all that she represents in the plans of the Divine Providence. It also teaches us to be more constant in our filial union with Mary.

During the month of May — the month of Mary — we feel a special protection of Our Lady that extends to all the faithful; we feel a special joy that shines on us and illuminates our hearts expressing the universal cer-

tainity of Catholics that the indispensable patronage of our heavenly Mother becomes even more tender, more loving and more full of visible mercy and exorable condescendence during her month of May.

What St. Maximilian wanted each of the Knights to do during May

The month of May is her month, dedicated in a special way to her veneration.

How can we possibly show our love, then? Shall we confine ourselves to ardent feelings and loving words?

No, we shall not. It would be far too little.

She must be the Queen of every heart. To win over to her the hearts of all and each person individually: that is our task, especially in this her month.

How can we do it?

First of all, by entrusting every task we undertake to her, particularly when it comes to winning souls for her.

What else?

No chance should be wasted in engendering devotion and love toward her and to ensure that as many souls as possible take part with us in the May service, either in church, or for those who live too far away, before small shrines or

before the sacred images placed along the roads.

And what else?

Some small mortification should be suffered for the following intention: that she may reign in the hearts of everyone, but especially of those whose conversion we are now undertaking.

And what else?

Every "Knight" bulletin promotes veneration and love toward the Immaculata.

Let everyone, therefore, endeavour with all his strength to attract in this her month, as many readers as possible for her "Knight" bulletin.

This month is an opportunity for a general offensive aimed at winning souls over to the Immaculata, our most gracious Queen.

Let the house, workshop, office, etc., of each reader become an active, though always humble, outpost for the collection of new and more numerous readers for her "Knight" bulletin.

About the Litany of Loreto

This litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary was composed during the Middle Ages. The place of honour it now holds in the life of the Church is due to its faithful use at the shrine of the Holy House at Loreto. It was definitely approved

by Sixtus V in 1587, and all other Marian litanies were suppressed, at least for public use. Its titles and invocations set before us Mary's exalted privileges, her holiness of life, her amiability and power, her motherly spirit and queenly majesty.

The principle that has been followed in their interpretation is the one enunciated by the same Pius IX: "God enriched her so wonderfully from the treasury of His divinity, far beyond all angels and saints with the abundance of all heavenly gifts, that she should show forth such fullness of innocence and holiness, than which a greater under God is unthinkable and which, beside God, no one can even conceive in thought." Hence, whatever virtue and holiness is found in angels and saints must be present in Mary in an immeasurably higher degree.

Reflection on the titles of the litany will unfold before us the grand picture of our heavenly Mother, even though we know only little about her life. We will also come to see why Mary's example, guidance, and help is the need of the hour.



Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Litany of Loretto)

Lord, <i>have mercy on us.</i>	Virgin most merciful,
Christ, <i>have mercy on us.</i>	Virgin most faithful,
Lord, <i>have mercy on us.</i>	Mirror of justice,
Christ, <i>hear us.</i>	Seat of wisdom,
Christ, <i>graciously hear us.</i>	Cause of our joy,
God, the Father of Heaven,	Spiritual vessel,
<i>have mercy on us.</i>	Vessel of honour,
God, the Son, Redeemer of the	Singular vessel of devotion,
world, <i>have mercy on us.</i>	Mystical rose,
God, the Holy Ghost,	Tower of David,
<i>have mercy on us.</i>	Tower of ivory,
Holy Trinity, one God,	House of gold,
<i>have mercy on us.</i>	Ark of the covenant,
Holy Mary, <i>pray for us.</i>	Gate of Heaven,
Holy Mother of God,	Morning star,
Holy Virgin of virgins,	Health of the sick,
Mother of Christ,	Refuge of sinners,
Mother of the Church,	Comforter of the afflicted,
Mother of Divine grace,	Help of Christians,
Mother most pure,	Queen of Angels,
Mother most chaste,	Queen of Patriarchs,
Mother inviolate,	Queen of Prophets,
Mother undefiled,	Queen of Apostles,
Mother most amiable,	Queen of Martyrs,
Mother most admirable,	Queen of Confessors,
Mother of good counsel,	Queen of Virgins,
Mother of our Creator,	Queen of all Saints,
Mother of our Saviour,	Queen conceived
Virgin most prudent,	without original sin,
Virgin most venerable,	Queen assumed into heaven,
Virgin most renowned,	Queen of the Most Holy Rosary,
Virgin most powerful,	Queen of peace,

pray for us

pray for us

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

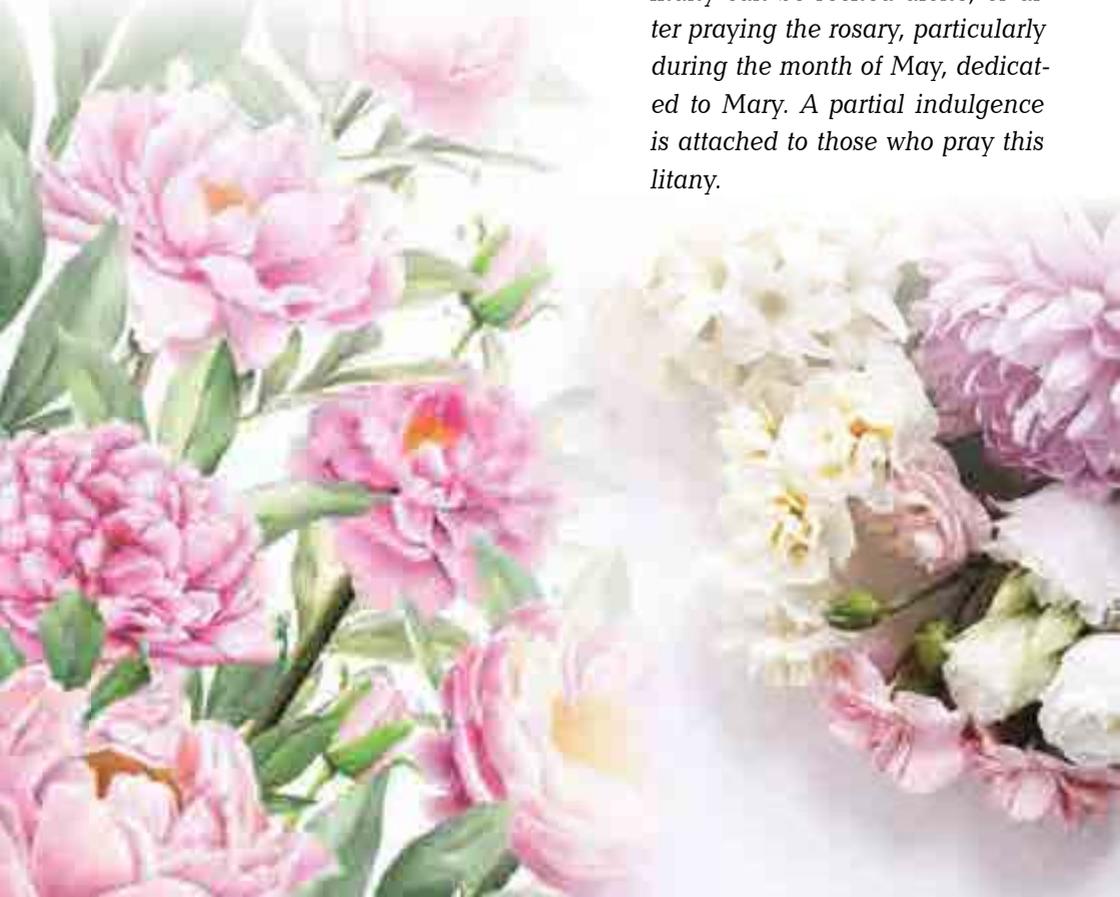
V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

V. Let us pray: Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord God, unto us Thy servants, that we may rejoice in continual health of mind and body; and by the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary ever Virgin, may be delivered from present sadness, and enter into the joy of thine eternal gladness. Through Christ, Our Lord.

R. Amen.

Description: *This beautiful litany can be recited alone, or after praying the rosary, particularly during the month of May, dedicated to Mary. A partial indulgence is attached to those who pray this litany.*



My knightly **Apostolate** (part I)

When I found out about the existence and activities of the M.I. Traditional Observance, by listening to lectures by Fr. Karl Stehlin on the Internet, in my heart I wanted to become a Knight of the Immaculate.

Unfortunately, due to my family situation, I could not join the Knighthood right away. However, I decided to start wearing the Miraculous Medal and saying the inspiring ejaculation prayer: "O Mary conceived without sin..." during the day. I was hoping that the right time would come when I would be able to officially enter the Knighthood without any problems.

The Miraculous Medal as rescue

After 3 years, I managed to write an e-mail to the M.I. The impulse for this decision was the very difficult life situation of my former supervisor. It inspired me to present this poor man with the Miraculous Medal with flyers. I could not de-

cide which leaflet to choose, and since this thought bothered me, I wrote this e-mail to the Headquarters of the M.I. in Warsaw (Poland) asking for help in selecting the flyer. I received a kind reply and some



suggestions very quickly. I put flyers in an envelope with the Miraculous Medal and a short letter from me. I was not able to give the gift directly, so I used a good friend of mine who was very happy to hand over the envelope with its contents. I know the gift has been accepted and I have targeted my prayer around this gentleman. From the M.I. I received an offer of cooperation, which made me very happy. I could help the Immaculate in a very specific way in saving souls!

Beginning of the apostolate...

This is how my apostolate began. The Miraculous Medals, flyers and



brochures sent to me by M.I. can reach the people around me. Indeed, the people to whom I wanted to present Miraculous Medals were right before my eyes. And since it was the initial time of the so-called pandemic, I had an easier way, because the leaflet about the epidemic indicated that the Medal protects against it.

...among the closer family...

First, I gave the medals to my three teenage daughters who immediately started wearing them around their necks. I made the Pompeian Novena for my husband and during it I gave him a Medal. I was afraid of the reactions of my husband and father-in-law that they would not want to wear it because it was "not masculine". But the fears were unfounded. I told my daughters to buy their dad a chain and give it to him along with a Father's Day medal.

They did so, and when we handed out the gifts, we immediately tried to put them on a chain together. My husband was a bit embarrassed and defended himself against wearing it, explaining that he would only wear it on Sundays, because he could break it at work (my husband is a farmer and does a lot of manual

work). Nevertheless, when we all started asking him and his mother-in-law, he relented, and since then he never takes the Medal off, and the chain never breaks.

My other concerns were about my father-in-law, for whom I also bought a chain and my husband and I wanted to give it to him, along with a Medal and leaflets, also on the occasion of Father's Day. When I watched his reactions while giving the gift to my husband, I had the impression that he was sceptical and had an aversion to wearing the Medal. But while making the wishes and giving the gift, when asked to put on the Medal, to my great surprise, he did not resist and, with great emotion and gratitude, allowed himself to be bedecked with it. My mother-in-law had already worn the Miraculous Medal for a long time (I had the impression that my example encouraged her).

...and among the extended family

The next turn was for my siblings and their families. I tried to offer each family the Miraculous Medals for all members and all kinds of flyers I had in my possession. Of course, I tried to remember to pray for the people who were to receive the medals. The family's reactions



were positive and I did not hear any unpleasant comments, only heartfelt thanks. However, not everyone started wearing medals right away, except for my mother, sister, and my mother's brother, who was in her care.

Medal, novena, Mass, and...

Fr. Venance Katarzyniec

About a month after handing over the "ammunition" to the Immaculate, I had the opportunity to learn about family difficulties with my two brothers. Well, I was very surprised when the wife of one of them texted me asking for help, because my brother had a problem with alcohol abuse for a long time. Moreover, he was lazy and indifferent to his duties of state. I was very



concerned about it and I promised to help.

First, however, I prayed a novena to St. Joseph asking for light on what should I do. During the novena, I thought to commission a Tridentine Mass for my brother and his family and to make the Pompeian Novena for them. I also intended to encourage my brother and sister-in-law, mother and the rest of the siblings to make this novena. I also made a decision that we would all commend them to Father Venance Katarzyniec's intercession. Father Venance Katarzyniec is a Polish Franciscan who worked alongside

St. Maximilian. I was going to convince my brother to wear the Miraculous Medal, as well as his relatives.

Additionally, I wanted us to make small sacrifices for their conversion and sanctification. I told my mother and siblings about the whole problem. None of them knew the problem was so big. I asked them to join me in the Pompeian Novena. After the Novena to St. Joseph, I made an appointment with my brother for a private interview.

Earlier I prayed earnestly to the Immaculate, entrusting everything to her. I tried to be as gentle as possible in the conversation with my brother. I bought him a chain and asked him to wear the Miraculous Medal on it.

I forced him a bit by putting the chain around his neck. Unfortunately, my brother declared that he would not wear it anyway, due to his strong sweat. The whole family attended the Mass being offered for his intentions. At my suggestion, my brother and sister-in-law received Holy Communion.

It was the first time for all of them to attend the Traditional Holy Mass. In the evening of that day, my sister-in-law wrote to me that the Holy Mass was a great experience for her.

To be continued

New Knights in Poland

At the end of the Montfort retreat in Warsaw, Fr. Karl Stehlin received 10 new Knights into the M.I. Two days later, 27 people joined the Knighthood of the Immaculate and were received by Fr. Stehlin in Ostrołęka. The event followed a lecture and Holy Mass.

A further 19 Knights also joined in Kraków, and at the end of the Lenten retreat in Szczecin, Fr. Stehlin enrolled 13 new faithful into the M.I. In Augustów — 17 new Knights.

All the Knights received special packets containing all the M.I. folders and some brochures. The contents of this packet constitute the first "ammunition" for the conversion of souls.

At the end of the retreat, there was an M.I. table in the lecture



hall where all the M.I. publications, rosaries and scapulars were available. This offer was enriched by publications in foreign languages, including English, French, Spanish and Russian, which were also very popular.



Public prayer near your home

At a meeting of the circle of M.I. 2 Mary's Kraków (Poland),



one of the knights, proposed growing the apostolate by praying in small groups at the small chapels and crosses in her neighbourhood. Several such groups are already praying together.

Groups of people pray the rosary at crosses and small chapels near their homes.

In Poland, crosses and chapels stand by roads or at crossroads. The praying groups are seen by many passers-by and people driving by in cars.

Scapulars of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

In Poland, Knights of the Immaculata prepare and distribute scapulars of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Scapulars are made of brown wool. On the wool, Knights



have sewn the picture of the Heart of Jesus and the monogram "M" with a crown. The monogram "M" in the ornamentation symbolises Mary.

Additionally, there is a flyer which explains the essence of the

scapular. Both of them (scapular and flyer) are packed in a transparent string bag.

The scapulars were sewn by the Carmelite Sisters of the Child Jesus, who recently came to the Society of St. Pius X.

The M.I. 2 for youth

Two M.I. 2 circles for young people have been established in Warsaw: one for boys, one for girls. Those who, from youth, wish to strive for Christian perfection and to grow in holiness, and work for the salvation of souls, may join either circle.

Both groups have meetings once a month — of course the meetings are different for boys and for girls. During each meeting those present listen to conferences by Father, pray the rosary and do work for the Immaculata. For example, last time, the members of the M.I. 2 girls' group came to the M.I. headquarters where they put together flyers and Miraculous medals into string bags.

This is very important work, because Knights in Poland distribute many of these kits.

Each meeting finishes with supper. The meetings also pro-



vide an opportunity to get to know each other and to form friendships.



New Polish publications

In Poland the Headquarters of the M.I. have prepared and printed a new booklet and new M.I. flyer in the Polish language.

1. The booklet tells how Mary guided St. Ignatius Loyola on his spiritual journey of growth and adherence to the Immaculata. Before he became the first General of the Society of Jesus, Ignatius went through a long journey of surrender to what God required of him.



The fruit of his spiritual transformation is the booklet entitled "Spiritual Exercises". The story of

its creation proves that all the key stages of his journey towards God were linked to Mary. The secret of his holiness and apostolic activity lies in his total self-giving at the disposal of Mary Immaculate.

2. A new edition of the flyer on the Militia Immaculatæ.

The flyer contains information for those who know nothing about the Militia of the Immaculate. It shows who the M.I. is for and who



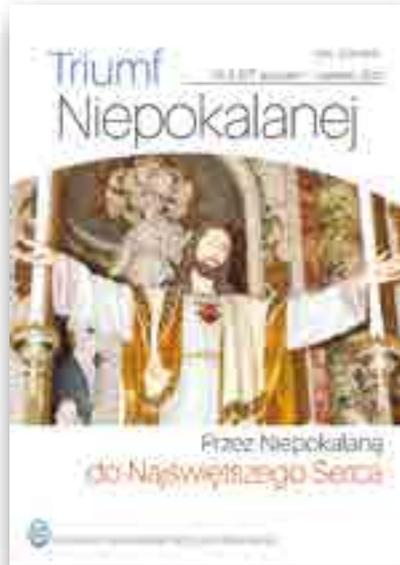
can join it. It clearly shows the aims, ideas and scope of activities of the M.I.

3. The new issue of the "Triumph of the Immaculata" contains the theme of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, or more precisely, through the Immaculata to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

This was the main thought of the founder of the M.I., Fr. Maximilian Kolbe, who, like St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, pointed out that the Immaculata is the fastest way to Jesus. This is the aim of the M.I., to bring everyone to the Heart of the Lord Jesus through the Immaculata.

This issue contains, among other things, an apologetic text and an article on why it is good to pray the little officium in honour of Mary Immaculate.

As always, the issue is completed with news, and events from around the world concerning the activities of the Knights.



Polish M.I. publications

www.militia-immaculatae.org/polski

New Knights in Ireland

The M.I. in Ireland welcomed 6 new Knights in the last 4 months. Some of them weren't parishioners of SSPX chapels but learned about the M.I. from materials and Miraculous Medals given by existing Knights!

After reading about the Knight-hood of the Immaculata of Traditional Observance they contacted the M.I. in Ireland and were advised what to do and where to go to be enrolled!

Miraculous Medals are indeed Our Lady's bullets that reach the hearts of generous souls!



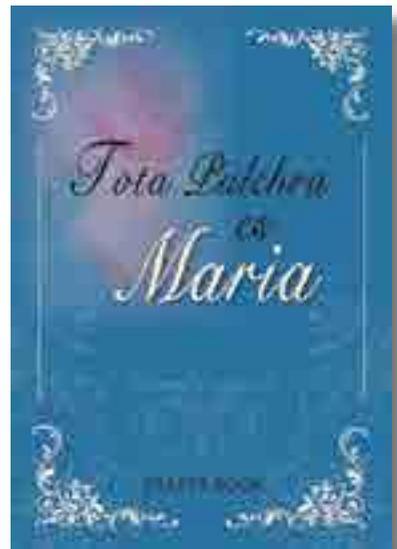
Praying “platform”

The new reality in which we are living has overwhelmed most of us. Sad to say, the same goes for Catholics. Many are discouraged or lost, depressed even.

But we were born in this time and God gives us graces for this exact time!

We often hear about the evils of social media or social platforms — it could be the case that there are many bad things there, but... doesn't St. Maximilian say that we have to use those platforms to do good!!!? He was the one who used printing presses to evangelise the masses, to take them away

from the filth of the mainstream media of his time!





He was planning to establish a radio station to do the same — all to bring more souls to God and take them away from the world. We should learn from St. Maximilian and look around us — it's true that many of us can't travel freely, many can't attend church. Does that mean we should throw up our hands and just complain? No!

We can still pray with our friends using communication platforms; we can even befriend new people from different countries and pray with them! It really is that simple! I and a few of my

friends are doing this already. I'm in three different prayer groups. Some of them are daily prayers, some once a week. It gives great comfort to each member and also breaks the spell of isolation. We are praying for our own intentions but we also pray for others if they ask us to.

If you feel helpless or discouraged, please, reach out to others; you could be surprised and realise that this "difficult time" is a real blessing from God!

Renata Kowalczyk
M.I.-Coordinator in Ireland

Lenten Activities in Chennai (India)

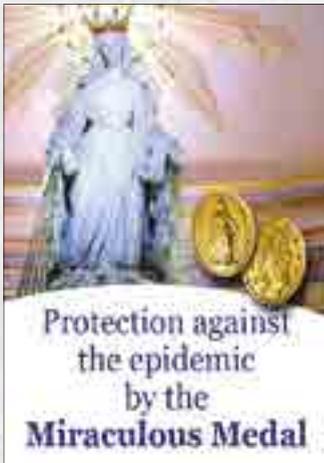
During the past year, due to the lockdown, many Knights were unable to conduct their usual M.I. activities. It was the same in Chennai in India. Knights of the Immaculata couldn't do undertake their Lenten activities as usual.

For this year Knights in Chennai planned to perform Lenten activities. These activities renewed the spirit and the grace of the Immaculata. The Knights in Chennai visited churches, cemeteries and other places of devotion. There were six places — one for each week.



Flyers for order

Wonderful protection in times of an epidemic



In March 1832, while the first Miraculous Medals were being produced, Paris was hit by a terrible cholera epidemic that claimed more than 20,000 lives.

In June, the Daughters of Charity started to distribute the first 2,000 medals, especially to infected people who filled the hospitals.

The healings increased, also the special protection against the disease and the healing of emotional distress. It was overwhelming. The population of Paris began to call the medal "miraculous".

Flyers available in many languages: www.militia-immacolatae.org

Orders: www.kolbepublications.com



Like an army in battle array

Part III

The Means of the Militia Immaculatæ

Marialisation prepares the soldiers for the fight by pledging them irrevocably to her. It requires two conditions of every Knight:

I. To consecrate oneself entirely to the Immaculate Virgin, placing oneself freely as a docile and generous instrument in her hands;

II. To wear the miraculous medal, "a sure sign of [her] affection for us and a constant reminder of our duties toward [her]."

The means of Marialisation are likewise two fold:

I. To pray a short ejaculatory prayer every day;

II. 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.

Conclusion

In January 2021, the number rose to over 121,500 Knights worldwide.

These generous souls love Our Lady and want to save their souls. They have family and friends in need of conversion and want to be instrumental in saving them from hell. This is what the Militia

Immaculatae is all about. It is an easy and effective way to honour Our Lady, sanctify ourselves and save souls. All that's needed is to make the personal consecration to her, wear the miraculous medal and recite the short daily prayer. With these simple means we can join the Immaculata in her fight and her inevitable victory.

Fr. Marcel Ockerse



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.

Masses for the M.I. in 2021

We are pleased to announce that Father Dennis McDonald, National Moderator of the M.I. in the USA, will offer in the year 2021 Holy Masses for the sanctification of the Knights of the Militia Immaculatæ. Father will celebrate these Masses on the most important Feasts of Our Lady.

February 2nd – Purification/Presentation

March 25th – Annunciation

March 26th – Our Lady of Compassion

April 26th – Our Lady of Good Counsel

May 31st – Queenship of the Blessed Virgin

June 27th – Our Lady of Perpetual Help

July 2nd – Visitation of the Blessed Virgin

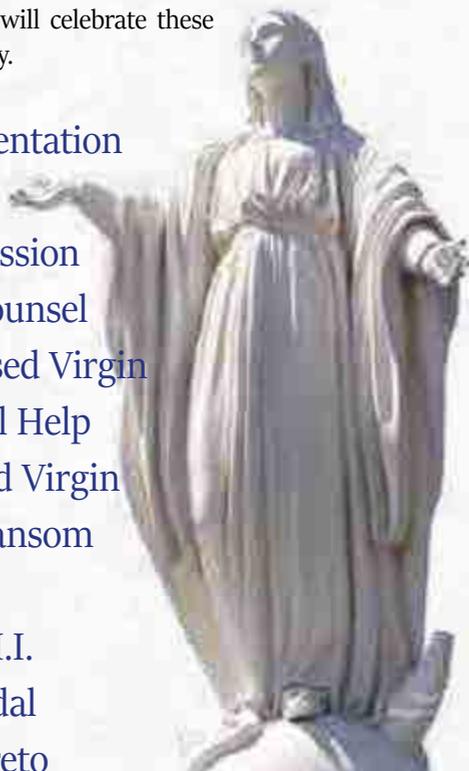
September 24th – Our Lady of Ransom

October 13th – Fatima apparition

October 16th – Founding of the M.I.

November 27th – Miraculous Medal

December 10th – Our Lady of Loreto



We offer sincere thanks to our benefactors, through whose help we are able to print and distribute good reading materials.

Please support the apostolate of the Militia Immaculatæ

www.militia-immaculatae.org/english/donations/

