

## DO NOT FORGET LOVE

### SONG

#### First Moment: FREEDOM

#### Guide:

One or two youth carry before the altar or a cross a sign with the word "Freedom" written on it, expressing the desire to live fully their Christian vocation to become saints.

#### Reading from St. Maximilian Kolbe

Have you ever reflected at times, to find out who you are? Quite rightly, you feel superior to the irrational creatures around you, to stones, even if precious; to flowers, although pretty and attractive; to animals, though very useful. You feel you are master of what is around you, and rightly so. With pride you look at an airplane gliding by, you listen on the radio to music played at the other end of the earth, and you still expect to see many other inventions of human intelligence.

Who are you? You know you are able to reflect on yourself to know who you are, you have the power of reason. You also have the ability to postpone this consideration until a later time: you have freedom, freedom of will.

You are truly great.

KW 1270

We always have free will; neither God nor the Immaculata wants to force our will. So, if we want to, we can leave God at any moment, we can abandon the Immaculata... If we want to.

KW 1265

Silence – with background music playing

#### Listening to the Word

Reader 1:

- Zaccheus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house. (Lk 19:5)

Reader 2:

- Teacher, I beg you to look at my only son; he is my only child. (Lk 9:38)

Reader 1:

- But who do you say that I am? (Lk 9:20)

Reader 2:

- Come see a man who told me everything I have done. (Jn 4:29)

Symbolic gesture:

- The youth bring to the altar some form of identification (or a piece of paper with their name written on it) and a piece of paper with the date of their Baptism and a word that speaks of their adherence to the gift of their faith.

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**Song**

**Second Moment: JUSTICE****Guide:**

One or two youth carry before the altar or a cross a sign with the word “Justice”, offering the desire to live with commitment the Gospel and for the good of others.

**Reading from St. Maximilian Kolbe**

Why do we have so much unemployment? Why are there so many people without a loaf of bread to eat?

I see various magazines, which, in their own way, suggest several causes: “After the liberation of Poland, we have begun to live like rich people, when in fact we are beggars.” “Too many rallies and too little work.” “Too many political parties and too little love of country.” “Frequent theft and in large quantities, especially of public funds.”

Where is the first cause, the “cause of the causes” of our crisis?

It is the lack of honesty. It is the lack of observance of the duties toward God, to ourselves and to others. Everyone, without exception, needs to make a sincere Confession today and begin to live as an authentic Catholic, and immediately the country will begin a rapid recovery, finances will settle, and honest work will abound.

But what to do...? Should one feel discouraged and say: “We are not able?” No, never! That would be a devious and sophisticated kind of pride.

Is she not in a position and does she not desire, perhaps, to help us?

Yes, she, the Immaculata, must *really* take possession of the *whole* of Poland; she must be the object of tender love by everyone, especially the hearts of young people; she must be present in Parliament, and present in the Senate.

By humble, loving and trusting prayer, she herself will tell us what we must do; she herself will guide us. Let us simply pray and be guided by her. KW 1119

Silence – with background music playing

Reader 1:

- Give them some food yourselves. (Lk 9:13)

Reader 2

-Am I my brother’s keeper? (Gn 4:9)

Symbolic gesture:

- The youth receive a puzzle piece that is part of a picture of a house or a city; and together, in silence, seek to put the pieces together.
- In order to build a better world it is just that each person must give before God and others what one has received.

**Song****Third Moment: TRUST****Guide:**

One or two youth carry before the altar or a cross a sign with the word “Trust,” acknowledging the primacy of Christ in their lives.

**Reading from the Writings of St. Maximilian**

Sometimes life is so hard! At times, it seems that there is no way out. It is as if an enormous wall has closed in on us and we feel terribly sad and despairing.

But why? Is it really so awful to live in this world?

Does God perhaps not know everything? Isn't he perhaps all-powerful? (...)

The fact is that even if we were given infinite intelligence and were able to understand all the universal causes and effects, we would prefer for ourselves only what God wants for us, because, since He is infinitely good, He wants and permits only what is useful to our greatest happiness in paradise.

Why then are we sometimes so depressed?

Because we do not see the relationship that exists between our happiness and these circumstances which sadden us; on the contrary, because of our minds' limitation (it has the size of ... a cap or hat), we are unable to grasp everything.

Then what should we do?

*We should trust in God!*

By having faith in God, even without understanding things directly, we can give him great glory, because we acknowledge his wisdom, his goodness and his power. (...)

We are confident that, by trying to do only his will, no real harm can happen to us, even if we lived in more troubled times than the current ones. KW 1264

Silence – with background music playing

**Reader 1:**

- How can this be? (Lk 1:34)

**Reader 2:**

- Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary... (Mt 1:20)

Symbolic gesture:

- The youth receive and kiss the Miraculous Medal.

**Song**

**Fourth Moment: CHARITY**

**Guide:**

One or two youth carry before the altar or a cross a sign with the word "Charity," with the desire to do good to others.

**Reading**

**From the Writings of St. Maximilian**

Finally, love for one's neighbor. Loving our neighbor, not because he is "nice," worthwhile, wealthy, influential, or just because he is grateful...

Genuine love rises above the creature and plunges into God. In Him, for Him and through Him it loves everyone, be they good or bad, friends or foes.

It offers a helping hand, full of love to everyone; it prays for all, suffers for all, wishes good to all, wishes happiness to all, because that is God's will!...

KW 1075

**Auschwitz, June 15, 1941**

*My dearest Mom,*

*Everything is going well with me. Beloved Mom, do not worry about me or about my health, because the good God is everywhere, and with immense love he thinks about all of us and about everything.*

Auschwitz, 1941. The sergeant, a tough professional soldier, has just been fingered by an SS man for one of the cruelest deaths here. He is to be shut up naked in an empty, subterranean cell and left without food or water until he dies. Grown men not too numbed by terror wail and weep at such a sentence. This victim is no exception. He is sobbing over his wife and children, and saying he doesn't want to die.

The SS ignore him.

Suddenly another prisoner, breaking ranks, asks to take the condemned man's place. Even the SS are stunned. (...)

"Who are you?" one SS man asks number 16670.

"A Catholic priest," the prisoner replies. "I have no family," he adds, as though that explains everything.

An undercurrent runs through the camp; "It's Father Kolbe." Even those who are not his friends recognize the name – the famous Franciscan, the editor, publisher, and opinion-molder whose publications were so influential in prewar Poland.

What is he thinking of? (...)

His schoolmates, his Franciscan coworkers, his spiritual children, his prison cell mates, jailers, and concentration camp companions, present us with the laughing, loving, suffering, flesh-and-blood man who gave his life totally to God in service to humanity long before he sealed that gift by bearing the burden of another man's death.

Can a human being really achieve such completeness? Has a man perhaps been lost in myth? Or, if the superhero is real, can we still consider him a member of our so-fallible race?

(Prologue to *A Man for Others, Maximilian Kolbe the Saint of Auschwitz* by Patricia Treece, x-xi)

Silence – with background music playing

### Scripture Reading Cfr. Jn 13:1-5, 12-15

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end. The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over. So, during supper, fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God, he rose from supper and took off his outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist.

So when he had washed their feet (and) put his garments back on and reclined at table again, he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you? You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

Symbolic gesture:

- The young people wash the feet of one another.

### Song

### Fifth Moment: MISSION

#### Guide:

Ask the youth to gather in a circle and to express their communion and support of one another in the faith. Trusting to their friendship their missionary commitment they read together:

*Like Mary,  
you also walk the streets of the world, without fear of loneliness,*

*amongst the difficulties, the trials, because Christ is with you, always!*

*Go out to meet people with a smile and confidence,  
because only faith makes you meet God hidden within them.*

*Remember hope and never tire of seeking the Kingdom of God,  
because only he who seeks will find, to him who knocks it will be opened, to him who asks will be given.*

*Seize every day of your life, that little drop of joy that you have reserved, and reflect upon it often in your memory.  
And if you have to choose between your thoughts, choose the most serene  
because joy is a gift that must be conquered every day.*

*Try to call "friend" even the toughest opponent,  
and you will see that he has a truth to offer.*

*Go to meet life loving her, because it is an adventure,  
a gift of love for you and for others.*

*Learn to call God by the sweet name of Father  
and if you want to be really happy and make happy many others,  
open yourself more and more to the plan of love that He has for you.  
Amen.*

### **Reading from the Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe**

For love of the Immaculata, I gave up my own family  
and the chance for children of my own flesh and blood.  
Yet the Immaculata,  
who never lets herself be outdone in generosity,  
gave me a large number of children.  
All of you who have consecrated  
your entire life and eternity to the Immaculata  
are my spiritual children  
and she has made me your spiritual father.  
And believe me: she has infused me with  
exactly that tenderness and that love toward all of you  
that a father and mother feel towards their beloved child.  
KW 329

### **Closing Song**