

Reflection on April MI Intention

O Immaculata, please intercede that we may learn to welcome and to embrace the logic of the Paschal Mystery.

“That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and [the] sharing of His sufferings by being conformed to his death, in the hope that I may attain the resurrection from the dead.”
(Rom 12:12)

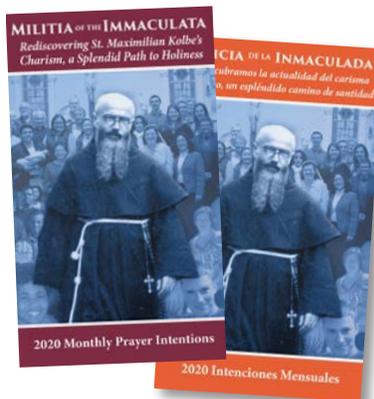
Saint Paul, the Apostle of the Gentiles, expressed his deep longing “to know” the Lord intimately. This knowledge is not simply an intellectual exercise, but an experience that embraces the whole person and changes one’s life completely. This means to live as Christ did, “to know” the Mystery of His life and the glory of His resurrection, adhering to Him in walking through suffering and death. This experience opens for us the hope of our sharing in His resurrection and urges us to mission. To experience this joy is God’s Gift, which makes us already sharers in His divine life. In response, we ought to follow Jesus willingly in our daily life and to live according to His Will.

Saint Maximilian possessed and nourished this joyful hope and exhorted MI members to do so in union with the Immaculata. He wrote, *“The Lord is risen: hundreds of mouths repeat today ‘We too must rise again,’ announces an Easter hymn, but not only after death, because every year the holy Church invites the faithful to rise again, urging them to come to Easter Confession....Even if one had the misfortune to die spiritually, even though Satan had told him he would never rise from the dead, never again, all one needs is sincerely to appeal to the Mediatrix of all graces, to the Immaculata, not only to obtain the grace of resurrection, but also to reach the high steps, very high indeed, of holiness. The closer one approaches her, the more abundantly one draws from the graces of knowledge and of love, of a generous love toward God, Who for our sake mounted the Cross”* (KW 1230).

The boundless love of Jesus for us draws to His Cross and stirs in us the desire to respond to His love unconditionally. We, members of the Militia of the Immaculata, are instruments echoing the paschal joy we have received from our Crucified and Risen Lord, who gave His life so that we may share His joy completely (cf. Jn 17:13).

With the passion Saint Maximilian passed on to us, let us commit ourselves to make Jesus known intimately by everyone. He reminds us that *“We have at our disposition a very easy and reliable means to obtain this: we have the Mediatrix of all graces. It is only necessary that we ourselves really want it, and love her ever more ardently in our temptations, in our difficulties, in our adversities, acknowledging her power, her universal mediation before God, and that we turn to her with all our trust. We too, then, shall be able to do all things, but in Him who strengthens us through the Immaculata”* (KW 1217).

(from the MI International Office)



**2020 MI Intentions leaflets
are available in
English and Spanish**
**Request them from
the MI National Office**

Act of Total Consecration to the Immaculata

(Prayer composed by St. Maximilian Kolbe)

O Immaculata, Queen of Heaven and earth, refuge of sinners and our most loving Mother, God has willed to entrust the entire order of mercy to you. I, (name), a repentant sinner, cast myself at your feet humbly imploring you to take me with all that I am and have, wholly to yourself as your possession and property. Please make of me, of all my powers of soul and body, of my whole life, death and eternity, whatever most pleases you.

If it pleases you, use all that I am and have without reserve, wholly to accomplish what was said of you: “She will crush your head,” and, “You alone have destroyed all heresies in the world.”

Let me be a fit instrument in your immaculate and merciful hands for introducing and increasing your glory to the maximum in all the many strayed and indifferent souls, and thus help extend as far as possible the blessed Kingdom of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. For wherever you enter, you obtain the grace of conversion and growth in holiness, since it is through your hands that all graces come to us from the most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

V. Allow me to praise you, O sacred Virgin.
R. Give me strength against your enemies.