

Reflection on April MI Intention

O Immaculata, please intercede that the joy of the Risen Lord may fill our hearts and enable us to transmit His love.

“Then they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce this to his disciples.” (Mt 28:8)*

The Lord Jesus Christ became man out of love for us, walked on this earth and experienced our human condition step after step. In His Sacred Humanity, He lived every reality of our human existence. He did want to become like us in all things, except sin. During this amazing journey, He showed us how to live and to love. The legacy He left us is in fact His own way of life: “Love one another as I have loved you” (Jn 15:12). The Cross is the ultimate word by which He proclaimed this love that overcomes sin and death. In the Risen Lord the path to eternal life and immortality, to which God has predestined us from all eternity, is definitively open for us. Jesus lives on in us and continues His victory over sin and death in us if we respond to His Grace, given to us in Baptism and through the other Sacraments. We carry this unfathomable treasure in our earthen vessels: the very life of Jesus Christ Our Risen Lord.

The Militia of the Immaculata has one great ideal: the conversion and sanctification of all hearts, through prayer, witness and works of evangelization. Lived with joy and dedication in a variety of ways, our total consecration is in fact a new manner of belonging totally to God, in union with Jesus, through the Blessed Virgin Mary. After the founding of the MI, St. Maximilian wrote: “Our main aim is always the conversion and sanctification of souls, that is, winning them over to the Immaculata and the love of every soul” (KW 631).

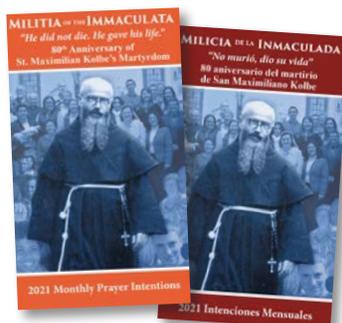
It is wonderful to see how Fr. Kolbe identifies the apostolic goal of the MI with the mission of the Immaculata herself: “The aim of the Militia of the Immaculata is the goal of the Immaculata herself. She,

in fact, as Co-redemptrix, desires to extend to all humanity the fruits of the redemption brought about by her Son; she does all she can to win [all souls] for Christ. The single desire of the Immaculata is to raise the level of our spiritual life to the summits of holiness” (KW 1220).

Moreover, in the same article he emphasized that our total consecration to the Immaculata calls us to dedicate ourselves to the apostolate: “The Immaculata does not intend to realize these projects of apostolic action directly, personally. Rather, she seeks to involve us in this activity” (Ibid.). Our Lady is the Mother of Jesus and ours. She wants to see her children joy-filled, as the women who went to the tomb, early in the morning, then ran with great joy to give the news of the Resurrection to the Apostles (cf. Mt 28:8). St. Maximilian tells us “The source of happiness and peace is not outside, but within us. Let us learn how to profit from everything in order to exercise our souls in patience, humility, obedience, poverty, and the other virtues...” (KW 935).

MI Knights are to evangelize with joy and enthusiasm. We are to walk, fight, resist and face daily crosses with the strength of Jesus Christ. Let us be the aroma of the risen Lord wherever we go (cf. 2 Cor2:15).

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**2021 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.