

# Reflection on July MI Intention

## Act of Total Consecration to the Immaculata

(Prayer composed by St. Maximilian Kolbe)

O Immaculata, please intercede that  
St. Maximilian and you, Mother of Love, may teach us charity to be  
better people and authentic witnesses of Christian virtues.

*“Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah.” (Lk 1:39)*

St. Maximilian Kolbe’s martyrdom of charity would not be so striking if it were not the climax of a whole life of self-giving, which culminated in the sacrificial offering of his life.

When the young Kolbe embraced the challenge to *conquer the whole world for Christ through the Immaculata*, as an instrument in her hands, he was aware that these instruments would have to be ready to suffer various trials in order to be bearers of Divine love.

St. Maximilian truly became a visible sign of this love, of Our Lady’s maternal charity, as illustrated by her eagerness to set out in haste to a town of Judah while already carrying the Christ in her womb. Upon her arrival, her Divine Baby caused Elizabeth to be filled with the Holy Spirit as her child leapt for joy in her womb.

Maximilian allowed Our Lady to continue her visitations throughout his whole life as he reached out to people everywhere and with every possible means. Indeed, his whole life and the apostolic projects he set in motion were imbued with the energy of Divine love that he drew from the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

In one of the first talks he gave, he stated that *“We are instruments in the most loving hands of the Immaculata, and that is the only way we can possibly achieve our ultimate goal: the glory of God, not only a greater glory, but the greatest possible glory. All of our concern, therefore, ought to consist in this: to let ourselves be led, so that nothing is done except what she wants and how she wants it” (KW 1248).*

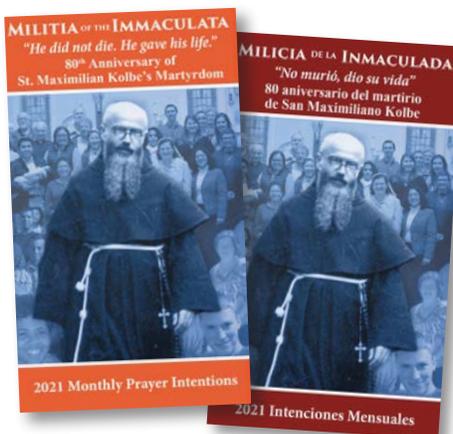
When questioned about how to know the Immaculata’s will, he concluded that she wills always what God wills: *“Only God can be our end. To know God, to love Him, take possession of Him, join Him, somehow be transformed into Him; to be divinized; to become like the Man-God” (KW 1295).*

Let us learn from Our Lady and St. Maximilian to follow the Lord’s way and thus to see our life not confined within the narrow limits of our own plans but rather be open to God’s plan, which aims to lead each of us and whole mankind to eternal communion with Him.

St. Maximilian will always challenge us to keep our gaze on our ultimate goal, to be reached, without a doubt, with the sure help of the Immaculata, our Mother.

Let us journey with Our Lady to the “Elizabeth” who waits for us! There is always someone on our path who is waiting for us to be bearers of the Lord Jesus.

Fr. Sebastiano B. Quaglio, OFM Conv.



**2021 MI Intentions leaflets  
are available in English and Spanish.**

**Request them from  
the MI National Office.**

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.