

# Reflection on May MI Intention

O Immaculata, please intercede that your example may help us to improve our Christian discipleship.

*“His mother kept all these things in her heart.”*  
(Lk 2:51)

In her pilgrimage of faith, Mary learned day after day to welcome the events of life, not so much through a rational process but rather through the experience of meditation. She kept and pondered in her heart everything life presented, what she understood and what she did not, and in doing so she embraced all the events and words, welcoming them even if she did not grasp them completely.

In Our Lady’s disposition, we may discover the secret for being authentic disciples of her Son. She teaches us to be attentive to what we live, to treasure in our hearts every experience we go through in life, to leave the Lord free to fill them with meaning, that is, to see in them His Presence and how He forms and transforms us through them. Nothing we live is meaningless, if we learn to discern the action of God who never abandons us.

Without a doubt, St. Maximilian lived this attitude of Mary in his own life and learned from her the best way to follow Jesus, which does not spare us from difficulties and hardships. He wrote: *“Day after day, hour after hour, moment by moment, in the faithful discharge of our ordinary duties and the commitment to conform to the will of God, she will teach us how to give proof of our love for the Divine Heart: a generous love, through fulfillment of His Will, despite difficulties, sacrifices and crosses”* (KW 1233).

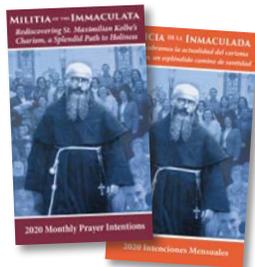
Our Blessed Mother was for him a teacher of the spiritual life, as also St. Paul VI suggested a few years later, *“The faithful at a very early date began to look to Mary and to imitate her in making their lives an act of worship of God and making their worship a commitment of their lives”* (Marialis Cultus, 21).

Our Founder’s life had been dedicated fully to the apostolate but, in wartime, the occupying forces sealed the printing presses, thus causing the missionary activity of the City of the Immaculata to stop. In response to the friars’ despondency and uncertainty, he urged them not to forget love and shared with them how he was pondering every event in his heart: *“Here, the Immaculata lets us see for ourselves her protection. Since our release from captivity, on the day of her Immaculate Conception, she always grants us new graces. If only we were at least able to respond to those graces! ... Like everywhere else right now, tomorrow is uncertain, but without the Will of God nothing can happen. Also, the Immaculata is the Owner and the Lady here, and she may do as she pleases”* (KW 901).

Addressing the friars’ concern about the future of the work of the Militia of the Immaculata, shortly before his final arrest in 1941 he wrote: *“Let us remain peaceful. If the cause of the MI is a work of the Immaculata, we may rest assured that no trouble could possibly be harmful to it; but if it is not, then it might as well collapse. When we do what conscience tells us, we may look to the future with confidence, even in spite of our shortcomings. I commend you to the Immaculata and ask for a prayer”* (KW 942).

In the words of St. Ambrose, let us pray: *“May the heart of Mary be in each of us to proclaim the greatness of the Lord; and her spirit be in everyone to exult in Him!”*

(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.