# Knight No. 31 January — March 2023 of the Immaculata



## The Annunciation Jesus comes to a humble heart



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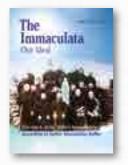
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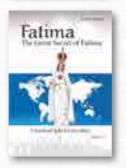
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#### **Books**









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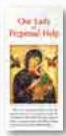












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## Dear Knights of the Immaculata!

Our Lady gave us Jesus.

Mary stands at the wellspring of grace. Jesus Christ, God's gift to man, the source of our life, is Mary's gift also. Over and over in the incidents of the Gospel we are made to understand this law of love of the spiritual life: that Jesus gives Himself through Mary. Hardly had she conceived Him, than she hastened to carry Him to Elizabeth and John the Baptist; she presented Him to the Magi; she revealed Him at Cana. She shows Jesus everywhere. It is one of the most constant laws of grace. "They found the child with Mary His Mother" (Matt. 2:11).

God thought of us. He loved us. He chose and called us. But to what does He call us? To be His children. The incarnate Word is given to us as the model to be contemplated and reproduced:

Whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be made conformable to the image of His Son (Rom. 8:29). That is our supernatural vocation, to grow like Jesus.

But, in the sight of God, Jesus and Mary are inseparable. One cannot be like Him, without being like her. The same eternal act which predestined Jesus to be our Saviour and model predestined Mary to be intimately united with Him in the whole mystery of redemption, and consequently to be, along with Him, the exemplar of our life.

When the Lord forms His elect, He considers them not only in His incarnate Word, but also in her who is worthy to be called mirror of justice, a pure reflection of His holiness: God wills us to become conformable to her image also. Besides, she herself takes pains to impress that image on our soul. She is the first agent of our redemption.

Our Lady has merited grace for us. Our predestination begins to be accomplished through Baptism, which by giving us grace makes us partakers of the intimate life of God. Baptism is our birth into the divine life.

This grace has been merited for us by Mary. We must state clearly, first, that life comes to us from Jesus Christ, the one and only Saviour. If Providence had

so decreed, the incarnate Word would have offered His sacrifice without the cooperation of any creature.

But it pleased God to associate a Co-Redemptress with the Redeemer. "As in Adam all die," says St. Paul, "so also in Christ all shall be made alive" (1 Cor. 15:22). Eve, by her dissent to God's instruction, had cooperated with the first man in our ruin: Mary, by her consent, cooperates with Christ in our salvation. There is an admirable unity in the divine plan.

We well know that the contribution of the new Eve adds nothing to the infinite riches of the sacrifice of the new Adam. Yet, in the Christian tradition, we love to recall that if Our Lord is the principal cause of our salvation, Our Lady is its secondary cause, and that the Mother has merited for us, congruously and through love, what the Son merited for us on strict grounds of justice. Their merit is of one order, since that of Mary depends entirely on that of Jesus. Both are universal - unlimited in the Co-Redemptress as in the Redeemer.

The Church understood this from the first. Saint Bonaventure merely sums up Christian tradition when he writes that: "One never finds Christ but with and through Mary." He adds: "Whoever seeks Christ apart from Mary seeks Him in vain."

Mary's mission is to give us Jesus. She does it always.

"Jesus Christ is the fruit of devotion to Mary", says St. Louis Mary Grignion de Montfort. It is certain that Jesus Christ, for each man individually who possesses Him, is as truly the fruit of Mary's operation as He is for all men in general; so that if a Christian has Jesus Christ formed in his heart, he can boldly say: "Praise and thanks to Mary; what I have is her effort and her fruit, and but for her I should not have it."

In each issue of *Knight of the Immaculata* we desire simply to show that Our Lady give birth and life to Jesus within us; that it is she who gives us the spirit of Jesus; who makes us know Him in His mysteries and in His sacrifices, and who impels us to imitate Him. Through her we fulfil our Christian vocation: we receive the "adoption of children of God through Jesus Christ" (Eph. 1:5).

 $\emph{Fr. Karl Stehlin}$  Warsaw, on the  $21^{st}$  of November, the Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



## St. Maximilian about Lourdes

It has been 165 years since the apparitions of Our Lady at Lourdes. They lasted from the 11<sup>th</sup> of February 1858, when a fourteen-year-old French girl from a poor family, Bernadette Soubirous, first saw the mysterious Lady in a grotto called



Massabielle. A second apparition took place three days later and a third on the 18th of February. At that time, Our Lady asked Bernadette if she could do her a favour and come here for 15 days. The girl humbly complied with this request and from then on, she visited the grotto every day until the 4th of March. Although Our Lady did not say much during this time, the key message seems to be her message of the 24th of February, when she said the word penance three times and added: "Pray to God for the conversion of sinners". These fifteen days were followed by three more apparitions: the 25th of March, 7<sup>th</sup> of April and 16<sup>th</sup> of July. During the first of these, the mysterious Lady folded her hands at breast height, raised her eyes to



the sky and said: "Que soy era Immaculada Councepciou", which can be translated: "I am the Immaculate Conception".

That is all Our Lady communicated to Bernadette. Only so much and as much. Eighteen apparitions and only a few sentences. The Church recognised the veracity of the apparitions quite quickly and canonised Bernadette herself, who died 20 years later as a nun, in 1933. For 165 years, Lourdes has not only attracted countless pilgrims, but has also inspired well-known and lesser-known people of the Church. Among the most well-known — at least in Poland — is St. Maximilian Kolbe, a great devotee of the Mother of God, founder of Niepokalanów, or rather of two Niepokalanów — a Polish one and a Japanese one, bearing there the name Mugenzai no Sono.

It is worth recalling what St. Maximilian wrote about these apparitions.



## Immaculata heals the finger

"I very nearly lost a finger of my right hand. I developed something like an abscess. Despite the care of the college doctor, pus kept forming. At a certain moment the doctor saw that the bone itself was beginning to be infected; a minor surgical curettage of the bone was necessary. After I heard this, I told him that I possessed a better medicine.

In fact, I had received from the Father Rector [Luigi Bondini] a little miraculous water from Lourdes. While he gave it to me, he told me the story of a prodigious cure. At the age of twelve he injured his foot; a bone in the sole of his foot was slowly turning gangrenous and the pain would not let him sleep; sometimes he screamed in pain. It was necessary to amputate the foot. One evening the physicians had to meet for a consultation. His mother, seeing what was happening, in a desperate gesture tried a completely new treatment; she threw away the bandages that covered the foot, washed it with soap, and then rinsed it with the miraculous water of Lourdes.

The Fr. Rector, after all this time, for the first time went to sleep. After 15 minutes he awoke, and he was healed. The miracle was evident, but the doctor, a nonbeliever, tried to explain the fact otherwise. However, a few days later when a piece of rotten bone extruded from the foot, the doctor realized that he was confronted with an extraordinary fact: the bone was



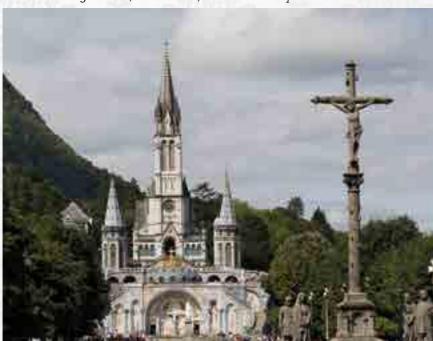
actually turning gangrenous, but had broken off and had miraculously exited the wound. Following this event the doctor converted and undertook to build a church at his own expense.

The Father Rector, after the application of the miraculous water, was healed and was able to walk, but could not wear his shoe because of the swelling that remained.

However, after the bone detached, everything returned to normal. Our doctor, after he knew that I had the water of Lourdes, applied it himself with joy. And what happened? The day after, I was told by the surgeon of the hospital that surgery was no longer necessary. After a few medications it was completely healed. Glory be to the Lord God, and also to the Immaculata."

### **Holy Mass**

"I already celebrated the Holy Mass in the Basilica of Lourdes, but the dearest place is the one illustrated on this postcard. The Basilica is graceful, beautiful, but it was built by the hand of man. In the cave, however, the action of the Immaculata is recognized and here one prays incessantly."





### "Penance, penance, penance."

"Four years after the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, she herself in Lourdes asks for: "Penance, penance, penance, penance." There is the one who wants to proclaim penance to our corrupt world: the Immaculata. We would go too far if we lingered in such cheerful and sweet thoughts, but I cannot help adding something else.

Let her preach to us such penance. Let us open our hearts, let her come in, and let us generously give up our hearts, our souls, our bodies and all to her without any restriction or limitation. Let us devote ourselves to her completely without any limitation, to be her servants, her children, her unconditional possessions and her property, so as to become, somehow, herself living, speaking, acting in this world. In her apparition in Lourdes the Immaculate did not say: "I have been immaculately conceived," but "I am the Immaculate Conception." With that, she determines not only the

fact of the Immaculate Conception, but also the way in which that privilege belongs to her. Therefore, it is not some kind of casual feature, but a part of her very nature. She herself is the Immaculate Conception. As a result, she is such in us as well and transforms us into herself as immaculate beings... She is the Mother of God, and also the Mother of God within us... and makes us gods and mothers of God, who generate Jesus Christ in the souls of men... How sublime!... After we have become her, the whole of our religious life, even, and its sources will be hers and be one with herself. Supernatural obedience because it

is her will; chastity, her virginity; poverty, her detachment from earthly goods. Our soul belongs to her, so she directs our intellect so that we may see her Will in religious obedience and spare no diligent effort in seeking the truth. She also guides our will, so that it may not love anything outside her Will, recognizing in her Will the Will of Jesus Christ. of His Most Sacred Heart, the Will of God. Our body belongs to her, that for her it may be exposed to suffering willingly and withstand all hardships. All our things belong to her, hence perfect poverty and the use of things only as needed and sufficient to reach the goal."





## The Annunciation — Jesus comes to a humble heart

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of March we celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lady.

God, by a free decree of His wisdom, had, from eternity, decided that the mystery of Christ would not be realized without the consent of her who, by her free acceptance, was to be "the helper of the new Adam." Mary entered into that mystery as a co-operator, and truly merited grace for us.

Her answer to God's messenger: Ecce ancilla Domini, fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum, did indeed express obedience, but still more it expressed resolution and authority. Until she had given her consent everything hung in suspense.

The eternal counsels would depend for their fulfilment on the "yes" that she could pronounce or withhold. Once it was spoken, the new supernatural order began. Her humble fiat is mighty, boundless; we may compare it to the fiat of creation. The one made us men, the other makes us members of the incarnate Word, sons by adoption of God.

That fiat of Mary's is the sovereign act of her life. It brings Our Lady into the accomplishment of the divine mysteries.



From now on, the mystery of the Incarnation cannot unfold itself without her: through her, God is about to accomplish His great mystery, the mystery which redounds unto "the praise of the glory of His grace" (Eph. 1:6), the mystery of Christ, namely, Christ in us.

Then God decides to give Himself to creatures, He will do it through Mary, the intermediary between us and the divine life.

The operations of union, of love, the diffusion of grace, will be performed by God through Mary. Mary knew it. A prophetic light showed her the whole mystery of her Son, and she surrendered herself to it unreservedly. She knows, she feels, she sees to what God is drawing, calling, raising her, and she enters into this divine state full of grace, of light, and



of desire to serve God in this high ministry.

No doubt she did not know from that first moment the particular happenings, the secondary circumstances of the life of her Son, but she clearly saw what was essential in it, its principle and its goal. She knew, through the angel's words, not only that He was the "Son of the Most High," and that



she would have the glory of being Mother of God; but that she would call Him "Jesus", that is Saviour, and that she would have to give Him for the salvation of men. The great design of God, the diffusion of divine life through her Son, was apparent to her.

Can we doubt it? The whole of tradition asserts it.

ur Lady assiduously read the Scriptures, the profound things which the Holy Ghost revealed to her. She could not know the great design so often announced by the prophets: the mysterious nuptials that the Lord intended to contract with human nature:

"I have loved thee with an everlasting love," so He spoke through the prophet Jeremias (31:3); "therefore have I drawn thee taking pity on thee." And through Osee (2:19): "I will espouse thee to Me in justice and judgment; and in mercy and in commiserations. And I will espouse thee to Me in faith."

Our Lady penetrated the profound sense of these texts and of many others, and she knew that the Messiah, her Son, would be the bridegroom of that mysterious marriage foretold in the Canticle.

In her heart she already loved with the same love her Son and those with whom He was to be so closely united.

If St. Paul, not long after, recognized so clearly that mystery of the union of Christ with His members, how brilliantly clear it must have been in the mind of Our Lady, who was to play such a decisive part in it! She

saw, and she saw in an incomparably more perfect light, that her Son would be the Head of an immense body, and that the mystery of the Incarnation would not be completed in one instant in her womb, but would be accomplished little by little until the end of time by the formation of Christ's members.

She understood that, as she was called to be the Mother of the Word incarnate, she must conceive Him in His totality, as St. Augustine was to express it,





in the Head and in the members; and that her maternity would not reach its full perfection until she brought forth the whole Christ.

It was to the whole of this mystery that the Archangel, speaking for God, asked her consent, and Our Lady willed the whole of this mystery. At

the same time that she accepted the Motherhood of Jesus, she accepted the Motherhood of the members of Jesus: from that day she was our Mother. "My sweet Son Jesus is not unigenitus, an only Son," said Mary to St. Gertrude; "but primogenitus, my first-born Son, because I conceived Him first in my womb; but after Him, or rather through Him, I conceived you all by adopting you into the innermost core of my Mother-heart, so that you might be at once my children and His brothers "

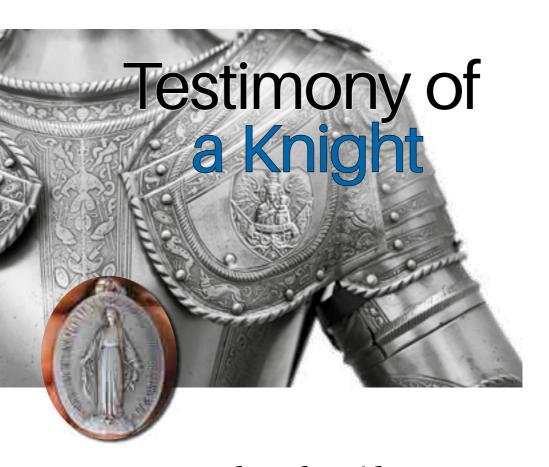
In the womb of His most pure Mother Jesus Christ not only took mortal flesh, He also took a spiritual body, formed of all those who would believe in Him.

ary, bearing the Saviour her womb, bore also all those whose life was included in His.



Therefore, all of us, inasmuch as we are incorporated into Christ, are born of Mary's womb like the body united to

the head... in a spiritual and mystical but real way we are called children of Mary and she is the Mother of us all."



## **Backyard accident**

One November evening, my husband brought some grit on a car trailer and parked it in front of the house. It was already dark and we didn't notice that our  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -year-old son, Alexander, had climbed on to the trail-

er. He so much wanted to help with the unloading. He got his shoe caught on the car and suddenly found himself unnoticed by anyone between the car and the trailer. My husband had just started reversing the car to position the trailer in the right place for unloading.

At the same moment, our 13-year-old son was coming home. He came from the other direction and was the one who saw what was happening. He shouted and then my husband managed to brake and manoeuver the vehicle such that only the child's legs were run over by the wheels.

It was a miracle that our son survived. His legs were all swollen and some tendons were slightly torn, but he did not suffer any fractures or more serious injuries.

We are convinced that Alexander's rescue is due to the trust placed in the Blessed Virgin Mary. For many years our whole family has worn the Miraculous Medal; we pray the Rosary every day, asking the Immaculate Virgin Mary to intercede and the Guardian Angel to protect us.

Alexander's parents



#### Important publications for passers-by

The Public Rosary in Bydgoszcz has been a permanent initiative of the Knights of the Immaculata for a year now. The prayer takes place every last Saturday of the month at Freedom Square in Bydgoszcz.

On this occasion, Knights make available to passers-by the M.I. materials displayed on the table, which they warmly encourage people to pick up or to download at home.







#### Feast of the M.I. in Warsaw

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of December, which is the main feast day of the Militia Immaculatæ, a ceremony was held in the Warsaw church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary to admit new recruits to the M.I.

The ceremony was preceded by a short lecture by the Director of the M.I., Fr. Karl Stehlin, who explained to the candidates what is entailed by participation in this great and important movement, which is the Militia Immaculates.

The meeting was attended by both the candidates to the M.I. and the Knights who renewed their act of consecration to the Immaculata.

The Army of the Immaculata on her feast day was strengthened by 37 Knights.

Let us pray that they may zealously spread devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and be good instruments in leading souls to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the hands of Our Lady.





#### **Christmas Fair**

It has already become a tradition in Warsaw that every Sunday in December, the Knights of the Immaculata organise a Christmas market. During this year's event, beautiful nativity scenes, figurines of the Child Jesus, as well as Christmas cards, Advent wreaths and wreaths made by one of the Knights were offered.

For the faithful, the M.I. table was available before and after each Mass. It was a very good opportunity to talk about the apostolate of the Knights of the Immaculata and to exchange experiences.











#### Fr. Stehlin's conference in the heart of Catholic Poland

On the 5th of October 2022. the faithful of the Catholic Tradition from Czestochowa and the surrounding area had the opportunity to listen to a lecture by Fr. Karl Stehlin. Father had been to Częstochowa many times, but, as he admitted, this was the first time he had given a lecture there at the initiative of the Częstochowa Catholics of the Tradition faithful. He emphasised that Częstochowa is the heart of Catholic Poland, the place most famous for graces in our country, and for this reason he chose the theme of his talk: "Immaculata, the last chance of rescue in the worst crisis of the Church".

Fr. Karl Stehlin began his lecture by presenting the outward symptoms of the crisis in the Church, in order to highlight the purpose and meaning of man's life in this world full of lies.

Later in the lecture he spoke about the role of the Church militant and triumphant, and the remedies that the Lord Jesus gives to people to overcome all difficulties in this, the worst crisis in the world. Despite so many attacks, however, we have the grace to be able to discover the enemy. There is no longer any Christian atmosphere, the Catholic world order has disappeared, no-one thinks of



the Lord God, there is a collapse of the Catholic bastions. In the midst of this chaos, great saints such as St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort, St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori, St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe, St. Therese of the Child Jesus, who all raised the banner of the Catholic faith, emerge. Father Stehlin thus reminded us that "we are called to enter the ranks of the militant Church, taking our place as Knights of Christ and the Immaculate".

It is the Blessed Mother who is our only salvation. It is she who gives us the means we need to fight, illuminates our mind, gives us consolation and helps us to keep the faith. "Poland is a beautiful and best example of how the Mother of God works in the history of Polish nation. Częstochowa — is an outstanding proof of the incredible miraculous work of Our Lady, who needs no one to conquer the enemy of souls." Our duty in these difficult times, then, is to expose the enemy, and the remedy is to return to Catholic Tradition. "Let us carry the banner into the world far away, of the Immaculate Mother of souls" — with the words of the hymn of the Knighthood of the Immaculate, Fr. Karl Stehlin concluded his inspiring lecture.

The lecture ended with questions answered by our invited guest. The stand with publications of the Militia Immaculatæ and the Te Deum publishing house was very popular.

#### The Asian Journey of the M.I. Director

On the eye of the Feast of Christ the King, Father Karl Stehlin — the former District Superior of Asia now the District Superior of Eastern Europe — gave a Militia Immaculatæ recollection at Our Lady of Victories Church, Quezon City. The inclement weather, strong typhoon winds and blowing rain, may have influenced people's plans to come, but the recollection held its course and reached audiences far and wide through live-streaming, due to the great demand of the faithful. Neither storm nor uncertainty could stop people from supporting the recollection.

At the first stroke of the first hour of the rainy afternoon, the church was quiet and full of anticipation as Fr. Stehlin knelt in preparation

in the sanctuary. When he climbed the sermon podium, the echoes of his words rang across the hundreds of pews. The talk revolved around devotion to Mary and observation of the growing godlessness of society since the pandemic lockdowns. In between the conferences, Fr. Stehlin and the faithful prayed the Holy Rosary. Meanwhile, the M.I. volunteers assisted at the back of the church, inviting the enlistment of old and new Knights. A sense of urgency to re-animate each one's disposition towards the Blessed Virgin Mary was palpable. Some recruits were even relatively new to attending the Traditional Latin Mass. Their thirst for truth was evident; the power of Our Lady's intercession was manifest.



Registration for M.I. in Manila



Enrolment ceremony in Manila

"There is one power which makes us never fail, never fall, never go astray — which helps us everywhere and always! This is Our Lady," echoed Fr. Stehlin.

This visit of Fr. Stehlin was his first visit after 4 years and after the launching of Mary's Mission Tour that covered 2000 km of Philippine roads and brought over 35,000 souls to the M.I. This initial movement of the M.I. has been maintained by the Legion of Mary in the Philippines, and by Domus Mariæ, the M.I. house of Community life devoted entirely to the Marian Apostolate.

In Manila, 20 new people joined the M.I. and 51 Knights renewed

their act of consecration to the Immaculate. All received special packages: the new ones a *Welcome Packet* and the existing Knights a *Renewal Packet*.

In the following days, Fr. Karl Stehlin visited the Society Brothers at the Brothers' Novitiate in Santa Barbara Iloilo, giving the Brothers a deep conference on the M.I. in the latter times. From the Novitiate he travelled 20 km to the Society Parish in Jaro, giving an evening Mission to 50 people, some of whom had crossed the seas from a remote mission in heavy rain to avail of the graces of renewal in the M.I. The ceremony took place on Sunday, the 6<sup>th</sup> of November 2022.

#### 

Finally, Fr. Stehlin ended in the Southern-most Priory of the Philippines, Davao City. There, he was extremely happy to visit Domus Mariæ, the M.I. Community Life of Consecrated Apostolate which has 5 ladies dedicating themselves to the work of the Immaculata. These servants of Mary were animated and inspired by Father's spiritual conference on the importance of complete consecration to Mary and the incredible importance of such consecration for the M.I. world-

wide. At the evening Mission of November 2, Fr. Stehlin preached an M.I. Mission to over 80 people. The final tally of Fr. Director's trip was the renewal of 175 Knights in the Militia Immaculatae and the enrolment of 44 new Knights.

The following countries, on the other hand, enriched themselves with many Knights:

- Singapore 62,
- Malaysia: 56 in Kuala Lumpur and 29 in Kota Kinabalu (on the island of Borneo).



Director M.I. and Fr. Pfeiffer with ladies dedicating themselves to the work of the Immaculata from the Domus Mariae

#### Rosary procession with 1,000 people

On Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2022, a large rosary procession took place through Einsiedeln (Switzerland) with flags, brass music, singing and prayers. Despite the sometimes heavy rain, 1,000 people took part in the procession, including many young people and families. The occasion was the Feast of the Rosary and the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The event was spiritually led by H.E. Bishop Vitus Huonder and two priests.

The solemn procession was led by the cross and altar boys, fol-



lowed by a large picture of Our Lady of Einsiedeln, various flags, priests and religious, young people, scouts and families. In the middle of the procession, a large statue of Our Lady of Fatima, decorated with flowers, was carried, accompanied by four Swiss quardsmen. People sang the rosary as well as Marian hymns accompanied by the brass band. Flyers with information about the procession and its background as well as "rosary sets" consisting of a rosary with an explanatory brochure were distributed to passers-by.

## Joint consecration as an expression of devotion

Bishop Huonder explained at the end of the procession at the Frauenbrunnen on the Klosterplatz that "consecration is an act of special and solemn devotion of faith and thus becomes the source of a special blessing". In the case of consecration to the Blessed Mother, he said, it is a profound act of faith in the participation of the Blessed Mother in the redemptive work of her Son Jesus, and thus in God's goodness and mercy. After his address, those



present knelt down and, led by the Bishop, prayed together a consecration prayer composed by Pope Pius XII.

#### Tradition in Einsiedeln

The Feast of the Rosary is celebrated annually on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October in memory of the victory achieved by praying the rosary during the greatest galley battle of mankind, in the Battle of Lepanto on the 7th of October 1571, when the Christians won the sea battle despite being significantly outnumbered.

Last year, the Militia Immaculatæ carried out this national rosary procession for the first time. This year, the organising committee has been expanded to include two Catholic movements: the World Apostolate of Fatima in Switzerland, which was founded in 1952 to spread the message of Fatima, and "Switzerland prays", which prays the rosary together every Wednesday evening at over 140 locations.

The rosary procession will take place again next year, probably on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2023.

#### A series of conferences

In connection with this event, Fr. Karl Stehlin, director of the M.I. gave marian conferences in several cities in Switzerland (Einsiedeln) and Germany (towns: Memmingen, Riedlingen, Wei-

## The recorded conference is available on the German-language M.I. channel:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mfowreC 8s

hungszell). The conferences were attended by more than 500 people.

"The Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Rosary — hope for our time" — was the title of the speech by Fr. Karl Stehlin. This conference was held by Father for the end of the National Rosary Procession in CH-Einsiedeln, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2022. More than 200 people attended the conference, including the bishop Vitus Huonder.

#### **New Knights in Las Vegas**

Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory chapel in Las Vegas, Nevada celebrated their patronal feast with the solemnity of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary on Sunday, October 9th 2022. Since the end of August Fr. James Trummer had been giving Sunday sermons on the Militia Immaculatæ and different truths of Our Lady. On the patronal feast day an enrollment

ceremony for the first degree of the Militia Immaculatæ was held after each of the two Sunday Masses with a total of 65 parishioners becoming Knights of Our Lady. Already, they have zealously distributed hundreds of miraculous medals, and fully know the wonderful work Our Lady is capable of doing to conquer this city of sin and draw souls to Our Lord Jesus



#### Knights from a Novus Ordo parish in Lagos

To the glory of God, 22 Knights of the Immaculata were consecrated one weekend in October 2022 in Lagos most of whom are from a *Novus Ordo* parish.

#### How did this happen?

Just last September, one of our new Knights in Tradition was invited to deliver a talk on Our Lady in the Novus Ordo Parish he used to belong to. This would be a great opportunity to respond to Fr Scott's challenge, who asked "Show our Faith through our works," so he gladly accepted, having decided to tell them about the M.I. as a means to put all he would tell them about the Mother of God into their practice of the Catholic life. The M.I. is

The talk was to be delivered to a group called the Young Catholic Professionals - a group for working class Catholics below 45 years of age. He also told the President of the Legion of Mary who in turn informed the Legionaries.

a guaranteed means to advance quickly in the interior life, and to influence those

around them.

The Knight delivered his talk on Our Lady and eventually launched into the M.I. as the conclusion and practical application. Anything that would make the attainment of sanctity quicker and surer excited them and when they heard they would be consecrated Knights to join Our Blessed Lady in a raging battle against the enemies of Holy Mother Church their interest went right through the roof! They all wanted to wield their spiritual swords against the infernal enemy and to free captive souls from his filthy clutches.

After the Knight's talk, of the 56 persons in attendance 24 filled out the enrolment register, which would serve as the list of those to begin the 13 day preparatory



classes. It would begin immediately — that night, an effective way to take advantage of their fervour. The 13 day exercise was conducted exclusively online via a Telegram video call every night at 10pm with Questions and Answers and a few things to note or announce afterwards.

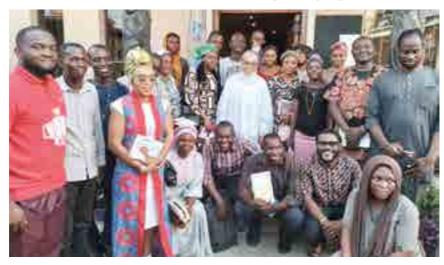
The next phase was to get our brethren to the venue, a 32 km journey from Lagos Island to the chapel on the mainland of Lagos.

Considering the multiple means by which this apostolic endeavour could easily go wrong, we, the old Knights, agreed to commit this mission to Saint Joseph.

Given that our Chaplain Rev. Father Peter Scott had changed his flight schedule in order to be in Lagos a day ahead of time for the M.I. consecrations, Father decided that a half day retreat, including the Holy Mass, a Holy Hour and two conferences before the ceremony would be worthwhile.

The candidates for Knights-in-waiting were in awe at the reverence and piety of the Mass, the dispositions of the faithful within the chapel and the entire ambience—they found it most edifying. After the ceremony, a good number decided they would assist at Mass of all times in the chapel as often as they could.

To the glory of God, the entire 13 day preparatory classes, the setting up of the chapel for the retreat and the consecration ceremony all went perfectly to plan.



The Militia Immaculatæ is an army of Knights of Mary Immaculate which works for the conversion of all men to God, be they Protestants, or Jews, or Muslims, & in particular the Freemasons, and that all become saints, under the patronage and through the mediation of the Immaculate Virgin.

The Militia Immaculatæ was founded by St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1917. Since 1937, Militia Immaculatæ is also called the Knights of the Immaculata.



#### **Original Statutes of the Militia Immaculatæ (by St. Maximilian)**

"She will crush your head." (Genesis 3:15)
"Thou alone hast vanquished all heresies throughout the world."

(from the Roman Breviary)

#### I. Goal of Membership:

To work for the conversion to God of all men, be they sinners, heretics, schismatics, Jews, Moslems etc., in particular the Freemasons; and that all become saints, under the patronage and through the mediation of the Immaculate Virgin.

#### **II. Conditions of Membership:**

- **1.** To consecrate oneself entirely to the Immaculate Virgin, placing oneself freely as a docile and generous instrument in her hands.
  - 2. To wear the Miraculous Medal.

#### **III. Duties of Membership:**

- 1. If possible, to pray the following ejaculatory prayer at least once a day: "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee, and for all those who do not have recourse to thee, especially for the Freemasons and for those who are commended to thy care."
- **2.** To use all other valid and legitimate means for the conversion and sanctification of men, according to one's means, in the different states and conditions of life, as the occasions present themselves; this is entrusted to the zeal and prudence of each one. Particularly recommended, however, is spreading the Miraculous Medal.
- N.B. These means are recommended only as suggestions and not as an obligation; not one of them obliges under pain of sin, not even venial sin. Our principal motive is to help the greatest possible number of souls to be united with the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the mediation of the Immaculata.

If you want to join us, please email: <a href="mailto:info@militia-immaculatae.org">info@militia-immaculatae.org</a> and tell us which country you are from.

## Masses for the M.I. in 2023

We are pleased to announce that Father Dennis McDonald, National Moderator of the M.I. in the U.S., will offer in the year 2023 Holy Masses for the sanctification of the Knights of the Militia Immaculatæ. Father will celebrate these Masses on the most important Feasts of Our Lady.

February 2<sup>nd</sup> — Purification/Presentation

March 25<sup>th</sup> — Annunciation

March 31<sup>st</sup> — Our Lady of Compassion

April 26<sup>th</sup> — Our Lady of Good Counsel

May 31<sup>st</sup> — Queenship of the Blessed Virgin

June 27<sup>th</sup> — Our Lady of Perpetual Help

August 2<sup>nd</sup> — Queen of Angels

August 14<sup>th</sup> — Saint Maximilian Kolbe

September 12<sup>th</sup> — Holy Name of Mary

October 13<sup>th</sup> — Start of the M.I.

November 27<sup>th</sup> — Miraculous Medal

December 10<sup>th</sup> — Our Lady of Loreto



We offer sincere thanks to our benefactors, through whose help we are able to print and distribute good reading materials.

Please support the apostolate of the Militia Immaculatæ www.militia-immaculatae.org/english/donations/

