

# The Marian Apostolate

*"Advise your sons to go by the ladder of My Mother."*



## *St. Anthony & Immaculate Conception Provinces*

*Brother Daniel Geary, OFM Conv.  
12290 Folly Quarter Rd.  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042*

### **Remembering the 70 years since the Martyrdom of St Maximilian Kolbe: 1941-2011**

On June 15, 1941 Fr. Kolbe, Number 16670, wrote:

***"My Dearest Mammusia,***

***At the end of May I was transported to the Auschwitz camp. I'm well. Dearest Mamusia, because our dear God is everywhere and thinks of everyone with great love, don't be concerned about me or my health. Since I don't know how long I'll be here, for the time being it would be best not to write".***

***Kolbe Rajmund***

### **Message of Friar Marco Tasca, Minister General,**

Dearest Brothers,

The observance of the 70th anniversary of the martyrdom of Saint Maximilian Kolbe and the offering of his life in the camp of Auschwitz, this heroic act of love which earned him the title of "Patron of our difficult times," is for us an occasion and invitation to honor his legacy and to continue his mission now entrusted to us.

The Kolbean year that we celebrate should be an answer to the invitation of the servant of God, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński: "Do not extinguish the spirit of Father Maximilian." This invitation maintains its actuality and significance, because the figure of Saint Maximilian must not be forgotten, but rather serve as a font of continual inspiration and as a prophetic spirit directing for us the road to be taken.

The actuality of Saint Maximilian, most of all his witness of life, his Franciscan vocation, and missionary priesthood is relevant to the whole Franciscan Order. Saint Maximilian is great not just because he was a wonderful organizer and a great missionary. Father Kolbe was, above all, a man of great faith in God, one with total trust and abandonment to the Father, and unconditional trust in the Immaculata, Mother and Virgin. He was a true disciple of Saint Francis, a faithful Christian and religious, obedient and overflowing with love for the Church, having in his heart a great concern for the salvation of souls.

His heroic gesture of offering his own life for the salvation of



### **Saint Francis' Prayer Praising Mary the Mother of God**

*Hail, O Lady, Holy Queen,  
Mary, holy Mother of God:  
you are the Virgin made  
Church chosen by the most  
Holy Father in heaven  
whom He consecrated with  
His most holy beloved Son  
and with the Holy Spirit the  
Paraclete, in whom there  
was and is all fullness of  
grace and every good.*

*Hail His Palace!  
Hail His Tabernacle!  
Hail His Dwelling!  
Hail His Robe!  
Hail His Servant!  
Hail His Mother!*

*And hail all you holy virtues  
which are poured into the  
hearts of the faithful  
through the grace and  
enlightenment of the Holy  
Spirit,  
that from being unbelievers,  
you may make them faithful  
to God.*

another man was the consequence of his daily style of life: heroic, virtuous, given wholly to others. The path of holiness, that Saint Maximilian shows us and which he invites us to travel, with his intercession, consists in our daily offering to the Father, in the footsteps of Jesus, and in totally welcoming his mission, with humility, avoiding every compromise and mediocrity.

During this year, in which we remember the martyrdom and death of Saint Maximilian, I wish you to welcome in your hearts, illuminated by the Holy Spirit, the challenges and inspirations that come from him. They will show us how, reading the signs of our time, we can actualize his love for God and his Kingdom, his missionary ardor, his Marian spirituality, and his creative activity.

**Friar Marco Tasca**

General Minister

### **Novices Experience "The Feast"**

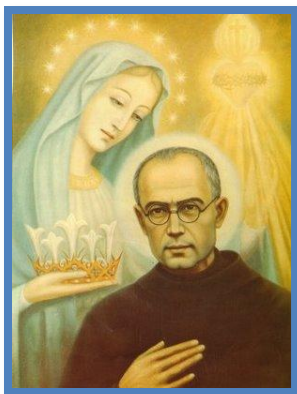
Our seven novices travelled to Cary, Ohio to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation to help for the feast of the Assumption. This special feast draws thousands of pilgrims from Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana every year. The novices saw at first hand the great devotion the Chaldean people have for Our Lady. Many Chaldeans come from the Michigan area. The friars participated in the daily procession, assisted at Liturgies, served, proclaimed the Word of God, prayed over the pilgrims, and manned the Information Booth. For many of the novices, this was a first time experience at a Marian Shrine. All marveled at the faith and devotion of the people.

### ***Pope Benedict's address at World Youth Day (8/18)***

*Dear friends: be prudent and wise, build your lives upon the firm foundation which is Christ. This wisdom and prudence will guide your steps, nothing will make you fear and peace will reign in your hearts. Then you will be blessed and happy and your happiness will influence others. They will wonder what the secret of your life is and they will discover that the rock which underpins the entire building and upon which rests your whole existence is the very person of Christ, your friend, brother and Lord, the Son of God incarnate, who gives meaning to all the universe.*

*He died for us all, rising that we might have life, and now, from the throne of the Father, he accompanies all men and women, watching continually over each one of us.*

*I commend the fruits of this World Youth Day to the most holy Virgin Mary, who said "Yes" to the will of God, and teaches us a unique example of fidelity to her divine son, whom she followed to his death upon the Cross. Let us meditate upon this more deeply in the Stations of the Cross. And let us pray that, like her, our "Yes" to Christ today may also be an unconditional "Yes" to his friendship, both at the end of this Day and throughout our entire lives.*



### **St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe Prayer**

*O Lord Jesus Christ who said, "Greater love than this no man has that a man lay down his life for his friends," through the intercession of St. Maximilian Kolbe, whose life illustrated such love, we beseech You to grant us our petitions.*

*(Mention them here)*

*Grant, O Lord Jesus, that we too may give ourselves entirely without reserve to the love and service of our Heavenly Queen in order to better love and serve our fellowman in imitation of Your humble servant, Maximilian. Amen.*

*(Say 3 Hail Mary's and a Glory Be)*