

33 Days to Morning Glory

Week 2 – St. Maximilian Kolbe

This week, we reflect on the life and teachings of St. Maximilian Kolbe. Maximilian Kolbe was a Polish Catholic priest and Franciscan friar who is best known for his selfless act of sacrifice during World War II. He was arrested by the Nazis and sent to Auschwitz concentration camp, where he offered to take the place of a fellow prisoner who had been condemned to death. Kolbe's deep devotion to his faith and commitment to love and charity drove him to give his life for another, embodying the message of Christ. Prior to his martyrdom, Kolbe was an influential figure in promoting devotion to the Virgin Mary and spreading the Christian message through media, including founding a monastery and a publishing company. He was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 1982, recognized as a martyr and a symbol of heroic faith.

He was born in 1894 into a poor Polish farming family. As a young boy he had many challenges to the point that his mother wondered what would become of him. This had him lean into the heart of Mary. She answered him and here began his deep devotion to our Blessed Mother

While a young boy during prayer Mary appeared to him offering him 2 crowns. One white and one Red, she asked him if he wanted the crowns. He answered YES. This week, we reflect on how we too can choose the path of purity and martyrdom through Marian consecration. As Maximilian Kolbe trusted the

Immaculata to protect him and to assist him in all his needs, we too can trust Mary Immaculate with all our needs.

Some reflection questions:

Spend time pondering both the created Immaculate Conception and the Uncreated Immaculate Conception. Do we understand who the Immaculate Conception is? Have you pondered Mary as the Immaculata who always does the will of God? How does the trinity work in your life? How might we teach others the way to sainthood like Maximilian Kolbe?



Image of Maximilian Kolbe from the internet. <https://www.catechist.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Screen-Shot-2020-06-15-at-5.57.58-PM-1024x773.png>