

## Chapter II The Kingdom of God

In our lives there are periods of emotional, psychological, spiritual or physical overload and a feeling of dispersion. In my house during such times you hear Missionaries singing, *God knows everything*. Yes, God does know everything. In our religion lessons we have been taught this attribute of God since we were little children and, now that we are adults, we have experienced His all knowing power. The words of St. Paul in his letter to the Romans 8:28 comfort us who are trying to follow the Lord, "We know that in everything God works for good for those who love him."

Having a strong foundation on which to rest our souls during the storms of life saves us from shipwreck. The Word of God and the teachings of the Church are that foundation. Pope John Paul II

wrote in his encyclical *Mission of the Redeemer*,

*Christ is the revelation and incarnation of the Father's mercy.*

*Our salvation consists in believing and accepting the mystery of the Father and of his love, made manifest and freely given in Jesus through the Spirit.*

How then can these words of the mystery of salvation take hold of our lives and transform us?

\* We need to read and hear the Word of God. At Mass the Word of God is proclaimed and, in most churches, the priest or deacon gives a homily to help us in our reflection.

\* We should establish good habits of reading the Word of  $\emptyset$

### *MI Monthly Intention...*

*That the  
Lenten Season  
be an occasion  
for true  
conversion of  
our hearts and  
for helping our  
neighbors in  
their needs.*

### **March 9 Ash Wednesday**

**A Lenten Itinerary\*** Pope Benedict XVI presents to us a **beautiful Lenten itinerary** of the Sunday Gospel readings and of the traditional practices of fasting, almsgiving and prayer, which are an expression of our commitment to conversion. Lent teaches us how to live the love of Christ in an ever more radical way. Read and reflect on Pope Benedict's Lenten message, [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi) and share with others.

\* Time to **invite others for the total consecration** on March 25!



*While in Italy I met a Jew in the train and disputed with him on the subject of the divinity of Jesus Christ. I mustered all the proofs and finally at the very end I heard the question come forth from him: "Do you believe all that?" I replied: "If I did not believe it, I would throw this habit aside and would begin to conquer the world." That sufficed. Nothing more had to be said.*  
2/13/1938

St. Maximilian

God (daily scriptural quotes, the daily Mass readings) and the teachings of the Church. A family I know reads the bible at the table after dinner. (Otherwise they'll never get everyone together again.)  
\* Many people listen to informative CD's in their cars or on their ipods as they commute to and from work.

\* Even if it seems you can access everything but God himself in technology, *The kingdom will grow insofar as every person learns to **turn to God in the intimacy of prayer** as to a Father and strives to do his will.*

It is important to understand that the mystery of salvation is played out in our daily lives whether it be at work, caring for our families, dealing with life and death issues and buying groceries between the kids' baseball or soccer games or dance lessons. Those privileged moments of time that we set aside for our prayer and on-going formation then will be the background music of our busy lives. They will offer us a deposit of truths to dig into when all may seem insane or unmanageable. Our lives become a witness to others, *acknowledging and promoting God's activity, which is present in human history and transforms it.*  
May Mary, the Mother of the Word, accompany you on

your Lenten journey of *believing and accepting the mystery of the Father and of his love* for all.

Ann O'Donnell  
Fr. Kolbe Missionary of the Immaculata  
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Ital ized quotes are from Mission of the Redeemer - Pope John Paul II

### **Reflection:**

Read and reflect on the following **scriptural passages** quoted in Chapter 2 of the encyclical:

***The Old Testament, a covenant with all*** - Gn12:3; 9:1-17; Dt 4:37; 7:6-8; Is 43:1-7; Is 2:2-5; 25:6-8; 60:1-6; Jer 3:17, 16:19

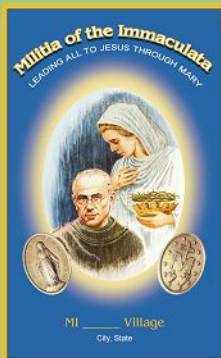
***Jesus, fulfilling God's plan*** - Mk 1:14-15; Mt 4:17; Lk 4:43; Lk 4:14-21

***The Kingdom of God is at hand*** - Mk 1:15; Mt 11:4-5; Mt 12:25-28; Mk 3:13-19; Lk 4:18; Mk 1:15

***Jesus reveals who the Father is*** - Mk 14:36; Lk 15:3-32; Mt 20:1-16; 1Jn 4-8, 16

***God's Kingdom is fulfilled and proclaimed in the Risen Christ*** - Mt 28:18; Acts 2:36; Eph 1:18-21; Acts 8:12; 28:31; Eph 5:5; Rev 11:15; 12:10; 2Pt 1:11.

## MI Village News



**MI Village Banner,** 25"W x 40"H, full color on washable vinyl, can be ordered from the Fr. Kolbe Missionaries. Price is \$75. Call or write to request order form. Custom order with MI Village name, city and state.

### GLENDALE, AZ

#### **MI Women's Village**

Once a month on Thursday to pray the rosary and share.

Mary Barr 623-842-3676

### BALDWIN PARK, CA

**MI Family Village** St. John the Baptist, Parish Hall 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 1-3:00PM

Rik & Judith Hernandez 626-967-0444 or Joe & Edith Venegas 909-627-0327

### ESCONDIDO, CA

**MI Family Village** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 2:00-6:00PM Kit Carson City Park  
**MI Teens** March 20 Teen/Dad Hike. Joe & Sue O'Donnell 760-745-0935

### HESPERIA, CA

**MI Adult Village** Last Friday, 10-11:30 AM  
Joanne Panicko 760-244-7048

### MODESTO, CA

[modestomi@aol.com](mailto:modestomi@aol.com)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 1813 Oakdale Road John Paul II Center  
**MI Prayer Village** 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday after 8:00 AM Mass

One of our newest members, Mary Rose, is going to give a presentation on her own personal conversion and how Our Lady of Grace brought her to our faith and the MI.  
Suzanne Flint 209-521-8299  
**MI Family Village** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Our Spiritual Director Fr Benny will be our main speaker and will instruct us on, "Family as the Domestic Church and Keeping Sunday Holy as Families."

The MI Marian Retreat in February was a tremendous success with almost 200 adults, 94 teens and 66 children. Each group had their own program while focusing on poverty, chastity and obedience.. Mass and rosary were together. John &

Malissa Souza coordinated fifty-nine MI Volunteers who staffed the day.  
John & Malissa Souza 209-531-8126

### RIVERSIDE, CA

**Holy Family MI Village**, 2nd Friday, 8:33 PM  
Thomas & Mari Avalos 951-313-3980

### SAN BERNARDINO, CA

**Holy Cross MI Village**  
2nd Friday, The Coffee Bean, 7:03 pm, 3712 Mission Inn Ave. Riverside, CA  
Fred Solorio [sonofppio@yahoo.com](mailto:sonofppio@yahoo.com)

### SANTA CLARITA, CA

**MI Teens** March 18  
**Women's Rosary** March 16  
Janet Cooke 661-296-5834

### WALNUT, CA

**MI Adult Village** 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 10-11:30am  
Carmen Denning 909-595-1366  
We have a Pilgrim Virgin we bring into homes.

### WEST COVINA, CA

**MI Adult Village** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 10:30-12 pm  
Alice O'Donnell 626-338-1724

### KANSAS CITY, MO

**Ave Maria Village** 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday.  
We are going on a Pilgrimage to Perryville, MO to the National Shrine of the Miraculous Medal the first weekend of April.

We also are planning a celebration for May, to honor and pray for the beatification of Pope John Paul II. I will meet with the two new village leaders in Mound City and Osawatromie, KS to put our heads together for the May meetings.

**Osawatromie, KS** March 23 will be the first total consecration for the people of the parish, St Phillips.  
Christine Rossi

[christinerossi@rocketmail.com](mailto:christinerossi@rocketmail.com)

**MI NATIONAL CENTER**

MARYTOWN  
1600 w Park Ave  
Libertyville, IL  
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**MI national web:**  
www.Consecration.com

**MI NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Fr. Patrick Greenough,  
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**WEST HAVEN, UTAH**

**MI Families of the Immaculata**

St Mary's Catholic Church  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, 12:30-2:00 pm  
With the help of many, we became  
an official link on our parish's  
developing website at  
[www.stmarysutah.org](http://www.stmarysutah.org). We will be  
highlighting the book *A Man for  
Others* during Lent.

The Masek Family 801-898-3821  
[twoimmaculatecrowns@gmail.com](mailto:twoimmaculatecrowns@gmail.com)

**MI FAMILY NEWS**

**Sick and the Suffering: Bro.  
Raphael Ruffolo, ofm conv.** (one of  
the founding members of Mary-  
town) hospitalized with a blood

clot in his lung. All of our **elderly  
and Knights at the Foot of the  
Cross** and loved ones struggling with  
cancer.

***May she rest in peace:***

***Daisy Camanga***, FKM Rumela's  
49 y.o. sister-in-law, died Feb 20<sup>th</sup>  
surrounded by her loved ones after  
they had prayed the rosary, Divine  
Mercy chaplet and sang a favored  
song of St. Maximilian Kolbe of a  
soul longing to see Mary in heaven.  
The family thanks all who prayed for  
Daisy in this last year and a half.  
Torrance, CA

**Let us pray** for *Fr.Greenough* as he  
spreads the MI in Asia this month.

**March 2011**

- 2 MI Spanish Village, 9:30-1 PM**
- 3 Lenten Book Study on St Maximilian Kolbe, A Man for Others, begins.**  
Six week Thursday study/reflection, 7-8:30 PM, \$20 (includes book)  
**Eucharistic Adoration 6-10 PM**
- 4 MI Young Adult Night with Fr. Thomas Czek, OFM Conv 7:00 PM**
- 4-6 MI Women's Silent Retreat, Prince of Peace Abbey,**  
Oceanside, CA
- 12 Mission Today 2011 conference, 9:30-4:00 PM, \$20**  
Fr. Ron Schmidt, SJ, Fr. Hugh Barbour, OPraem, Ann O'Donnell, FKM
- 19 MI Spanish Lenten Retreat**
- 20 MI Village 2-5PM**
- 24 Preparation for Total Consecration 7-9:00 PM – Open to all**
- 26 Act of Total Consecration at 8:30 AM Mass**  
St Christopher Church, West Covina, CA

